



**DRAFT AGENDA**  
*Version: February 17, 2023*

**194<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council**

Sunday, March 26, 2023  
Executive and Budget Standing Committee

Monday-Tuesday, March 27-28, 2023  
Council Plenary  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Coral Tree Ave.  
Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Wednesday-Thursday, March 30-31, 2023  
Council Plenary  
Micronesia Ballroom  
Guam Hilton  
202 Hilton Road  
Tumon Bay, Guam

*To access the Council Plenary WebEx (audio & visual) click link below:*

<https://tinyurl.com/194CouncilMtg>

*Event number: 2459 032 8940*

*Event password: CM194mtg (26194685 from phones)*

<b>194<sup>th</sup> COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA SUMMARY</b>					
<i><b>Sunday, March 26</b></i>	<i><b>Monday, March 27</b></i>	<i><b>Tuesday, March 28</b></i>	<i><b>Wednesday, March 29</b></i>	<i><b>Thursday, March 30</b></i>	<i><b>Friday, March 31</b></i>
Executive and Budget Standing Committee	Agency Report	Protected Species (cont'd)	Travel Day	Mariana Archipelago – Guam	American Samoa Archipelago
	Mariana Archipelago - CNMI	Hawaii and PRIA Archipelago		Pelagic and International	Administrative Matters
	Protected Species (part 1)			Program Planning	Other Business
	Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items			Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items	
	Fishers Forum			Fishers Forum	

## *Notice to Public*

Please note the actual order and timing of agenda items may vary somewhat from the proposed agenda. For example, items not completed on the scheduled day will be carried over to the next day. Items may be moved to an earlier or later time than shown on this Proposed Agenda or rescheduled for a different time during the week. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, fishery management regulatory actions not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion. However, such issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting, unless they are emergency in nature.

**To present oral testimony or comments in-person at this meeting**, fill-out a comment card, and indicate the agenda item on which you wish to speak. Cards are available at the sign-in desk outside the Council meeting room. **To present oral testimony or comments by WebEx**, request for public comment must be sent through the “chat” function in WebEx to the “Host” prior to the start of the public comment session, and during the comment period verbally indicate the agenda item on which you wish to speak. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes. Please identify yourself and whom you represent at the beginning of your testimony. Public comments on non-agenda items will be taken on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 from 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (ChST) and Thursday, March 30, 2023 from 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. (ChST).

**Written comments on final action items should be received at the Council office by 5 p.m. (HST), Thursday March 23, 2023.** Written comments may be submitted by e-mail to [info@wpcouncil.org](mailto:info@wpcouncil.org), faxed to (808) 522-8226 or mailed to the Council office at 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813. Written public comments on all other agenda items may be submitted for the record by email throughout the duration of the meeting.

Financial interest statements for the appointed Council members are available for inspection at the Council Office at the meeting.

Please note that the evolving public health situation regarding COVID-19 may affect the conduct of the March Council and its associated meetings. At this time, the Council anticipates convening the Standing Committee meetings as an in-person meeting only, and the Council meeting as an in-person meeting for members and public with a web conference attendance option. If public participation options will be modified, the Council will post a notice on its website at [www.wpcouncil.org](http://www.wpcouncil.org).



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## Council Committee Meetings

Sunday, March 26, 2023

Azucena Room, Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
*All times are in Chamorro Standard Time (ChST)*

Executive & Budget Standing Committee

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## 194<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

Monday-Tuesday, March 27-28, 2023

Council Plenary  
Hibiscus Ballroom  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Thursday-Friday, March 30-31, 2023:

Council Plenary  
Micronesia Ballroom  
Guam Hilton Resort  
Tumon Bay, Guam

*To access the Council Plenary WebEx (audio & visual) click link below:*

<https://tinyurl.com/194CouncilMtg>

*Event number: 2459 032 8940*

*Event password: CM194mtg*

Council Meeting

Monday, March 27, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fishers Forum

Monday, March 27, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Council Meeting

Thursday, March 30, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Fishers Forum

Thursday, March 30, 6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Council Meeting

Friday, March 31, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



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## Draft Agenda 194<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Hibiscus Ballroom  
Saipan, CNMI

*Monday, March 27, 2023  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

<b>Time</b>		<b>Agenda Item</b>
9:00 AM	<b>1</b>	Welcome and Introductions
9:15 AM	<b>2</b>	Opening Protocol
9:30 AM	<b>3</b>	Opening Remarks: The Honorable Arnold Palacios, Governor of CNMI
9:45 AM	<b>4</b>	Approval of the 194th CM Agenda
9:50 AM	<b>5</b>	Approval of the 193rd CM Meeting Minutes
9:55 AM	<b>6</b>	Executive Director's Report

*Break 10:05 AM – 10:15 AM*

### **7 Agency Reports**

	7.A	National Marine Fisheries Service
10:15 AM	7.A.1	Pacific Islands Regional Office
10:30 AM	7.A.2	Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
10:45 AM	7.B	NOAA Office of General Counsel Pacific Islands Section
	7.C	Enforcement
11:00 AM	7.C.1	US Coast Guard
11:15 AM	7.C.2	NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
11:30 AM	7.C.3	NOAA Office of General Counsel Enforcement Section
11:45 AM	7.D	US State Department
12:00 PM	7.E	US Fish and Wildlife Service
12:15 PM	7.F	Public Comment
12:25 PM	7.G	Council Discussion and Action

*Lunch Break 12:35 PM – 2:00 PM*

<b>Time</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>8 Mariana Archipelago - CNMI</b>		
2:00 PM	8.A	DLNR & DFW Report
2:15 PM	8.B	Arongol Falú
2:30 PM	8.C	Review of CNMI Marine Conservation Plan ( <b>Action Item</b> )
2:45 PM	8.D	Options for Exploratory Longline Fishing in CNMI
3:05 PM	8.E	Advisory Group Report and Recommendations
	8.E.1	Advisory Panel
	8.E.2	Fishing Industry Advisory Committee
	8.E.3	Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee
	8.E.4	Scientific & Statistical Committee
3:20 PM	8.F	Public Comment
3:30 PM	8.G	Council Discussion and Action

***Break 3:45 PM – 3:55 PM***

**9 Protected Species**

3:55 PM	9.A	EBFM Turtle Model Workshop Report
	9.B	Review of the Hawaii Deep-set and American Samoa Longline Fishery Draft Biological Opinions
4:10 PM	9.B.1	Draft BiOp Overview
4:40 PM	9.B.2	Advisory Group Review of Draft Biological Opinions

***Fishers Forum***

***All About Bottomfish in the Mariana Islands***

***6:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.***

***Crowne Plaza Hotel, Saipan, CNMI***

*Tuesday, March 28, 2023*

*9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

**9 Protected Species (continued)**

	9.C	ESA and MMPA Updates
9:00 AM	9.C.1	Overview of ESA critical habitat designations
9:20 AM	9.C.2	Coral and green turtle critical habitat rulemaking update
9:40 AM	9.C.3	Draft Recovery Plan for oceanic whitetip shark
10:00 AM	9.D	Review of Potential Measures for the False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan Modifications
10:30 AM	9.E	Advisory Group Report and Recommendations
	9.E.1	Advisory Panel
	9.E.2	Fishing Industry Advisory Committee
	9.E.3	Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee
	9.E.4	Scientific & Statistical Committee
10:45 AM	9.F	Public Comment
10:55 AM	9.G	Council Discussion and Action

*Lunch Break 11:15 – 12:45 PM*

**10 Hawai‘i Archipelago & Pacific Remote Island Areas (PRIA)**

12:45 PM	10.A	Moku Pepa
1:05 PM	10.B	DLNR/DAR Report (Legislation, Enforcement)
1:20 PM	10.C	NWHI Fishing Regulations -Native Hawaiian Subsistence Permit and Cost Recovery ( <b>Final Action</b> )
2:05 PM	10.D	MHI Kona Crab Status Determination Criteria ( <b>Initial Action</b> )
2:35 PM	10.E	Gold Coral Management ( <b>Final Action</b> )
2:55 PM	10.F	Review of PRIA Marine Conservation Plan ( <b>Action Item</b> )
3:15 PM	10.G	Advisory Group Report and Recommendations
	10.G.1	Archipelagic Plan Team
	10.G.2	Advisory Panel
	10.G.3	Fishing Industry Advisory Committee
	10.G.4	Scientific & Statistical Committee
3:30 PM	10.H	Public Comment
3:40 PM	10.I	Council Discussion and Action

*4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

*(approximate time; remaining agenda items for the day may shift)*

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

*Wednesday, March 29, 2023*

**TRAVEL DAY**



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## Draft Agenda 194<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

Guam Hilton Resort  
Micronesian Ballroom  
Tumon Bay, Guam

*Thursday, March 30, 2023*  
*9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

<b>Time</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
9:00 AM	<b>11</b>	Welcome and Introductions
	11.A	Guam Opening Protocol
	11.B	Opening Remarks: The Honorable Lou Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam
<b>12 Mariana Archipelago - Guam</b>		
9:45 AM	12.A	Isla Informe
10:00 AM	12.B	DoA/DAWR
10:15 AM	12.C	Review of Guam Marine Conservation Plan ( <b>Action Item</b> )
10:35 AM	12.D	Report of the Guam Bottomfish Data Workshop
10:55 AM	12.E	Advisory Group Report and Recommendations
	12.E.1	Advisory Panel
	12.E.2	Fishing Industry Advisory Committee
	12.E.3	Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee
	12.E.4	Scientific & Statistical Committee
11:10 AM	12.F	Public Comment
11:20 AM	12.G	Council Discussion and Action

*Lunch Break 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.*

### **13 Pelagic & International Fisheries**

	13.A	2022 Longline Reports
12:30 PM	13.A.1	Hawaii Longline Fishery
1:00 PM	13.A.2	American Samoa Longline Fishery
1:15 PM	13.B	Multi-Year Territorial Bigeye Tuna Catch & Allocation Specifications <b>(Initial Action)</b>
	13.C	International Fisheries Issues
1:45 PM	13.C.1	WCPO Longline Management Workshop
2:05 PM	13.D	Advisory Group Report and Recommendations
	13.D.1	Advisory Panel
	13.D.2	Fishing Industry Advisory Committee
	13.D.3	Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committees
	13.D.4	Scientific & Statistical Committee
2:20 PM	13.E	Public Comment
2:30 PM	13.F	Council Discussion and Action

***Break 2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.***

<b>Time</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
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### **14 Program Planning and Research**

3:00 PM	14.A	National Legislative Report
3:15 PM	14.B	Territorial Bottomfish Management Unit Species Revision Status Update
3:30 PM	14.C	Updates on the NOAA Fisheries Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy
3:45 PM	14.D	Regional Communications & Outreach Report
4:05 PM	14.E	Council Program Planning Report
	14.F	Regional Coordination Meeting Reports
4:20 PM	14.F.1	Council-PIRO
4:30 PM	14.F.2	Council-PIFSC
4:40 PM	14.F.3	Council-State of Hawaii
4:50 PM	14.G	Advisory Group Report and Recommendations
	14.G.1	Advisory Panel
	14.G.2	Fishing Industry Advisory Committee
	14.G.3	Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committees
	14.G.4	Archipelagic Plan Team
	14.G.5	Scientific & Statistical Committee
5:00 PM	14.H	Public Comment
5:10 PM	14.I	Council Discussion and Action

***4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.***

*(approximate time; remaining agenda items for the day may shift)*

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

***Fishers Forum***

***All About Bottomfish in the Mariana Islands***

***6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.***

***Guam Museum, Hagatna, Guam***



*Friday, March 31, 2023*  
*9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

**15 American Samoa Archipelago**

9:00 AM	15.A	Motu Lipoti
9:15 AM	15.B	DMWR Report
9:35 AM	15.C	Update on American Samoa Bottomfish Stock Assessment and Review
9:45 AM	15.D	Advisory Group Report and Recommendations
	15.D.1	Advisory Panel
	15.D.2	Fishing Industry Advisory Committee
	15.D.3	Scientific & Statistical Committee
9:45 AM	15.E	Public Comment
9:55 AM	15.F	Council Discussion and Action

**16 Administrative Matters**

10:05 AM	16.A	Financial Reports
10:15 AM	16.B	Administrative Reports
10:25 AM	16.C	Council Family Changes
10:35 AM	16.D	Meetings and Workshops
10:45 AM	16.E	Executive and Budget Standing Committee Report
10:55 AM	16.F	Public Comment
11:00 AM	16.G	Council Discussion and Action

**17 Other Business**

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