

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

Update to MAFAC

September 2024

- Hawaii has signed legislation to join PSMFC. We expect the Governor to sign the compact this fall and begin the selection process for the Commissioners and advisors. Hawaii expects to have a full contingent at our annual meeting in Idaho in 2025. PSMFC will now encompass 6 states, 4 NMFS Fishery Science Centers and 3 NMFS Regions.
- We completed our Hill engagement work this spring, emphasizing our priorities focused on Data Acquisition, Data Modernization, Crab/Whale Entanglements, Sea Lion Management and Klamath Restoration and Monitoring.
- We completed our most recent [annual report](#).
- We continue to process fisheries disasters. We are processing invoices for the large West Coast tribal disaster, and are in the application process for the Alaska crab and salmon disasters. Payments should go out in the fall for the two AK disasters, with several more in line for fall and winter 2024/2025.
- Working through the whale entanglement issues on the West Coast continues to take a lot of time and resources. PSMFC is actively engaged with getting vessel loggers on vessels across all 3 states and is working with NGO's on efficient ways to switch to marked lines.
- We have continued to conduct meetings between the State Directors and NMFS Leadership. At the end of July, we met with NMFS Region and Center leadership and on Nov. 13th are scheduled to meet with NMFS HQ leadership. These meetings are focused on aligning priorities between the Commission and NMFS.
- We have several grants in the works related to Inflation Reduction Act funding in the areas of CEFI, Data Modernization, Social and Economic Research and Pacific Salmon.
- The Commission remains concerned at the prioritization of NMFS internal programs and staffing over baseline cooperative programs with states.
- Our annual meeting is occurring this week Sept. 8-11. In addition to our regular State and NMFS updates, we will also have sessions on highly migratory species, habitat, and nearshore issues.

After our 2024 annual meeting we will shift our focus to the FY2026 appropriations process, disaster funding distribution, and implementing our active resolutions.