



Mike Conroy - President
 SBN - 165335
Mike@wecofm.com
 (562) 761-7176

Please share the following with the AAFA Board and Membership as it recounts items of interest that arose during the month of October of 2018 and looks forward to certain events occurring in upcoming months.

Follow-up on September’s upcoming events:

1. October 11 – 12 – Permanent Advisory Committee to the WCPFC meeting to be held in Honolulu, Hi. Nothing pertaining to the North Pacific albacore fishery!

Federal Register Items of Interest:

In past reports we have highlighted actions taken against Canadian importers and industry by the International Trade Administration of the Department of Commerce and The United States International Trade Commission. The intent was to show how there are some tensions between the two Nations on certain trade issues. We simply list the publication date in the Federal Register, the topic of the publication and provide a link if the reader wishes to learn more about the publication.

Date	Topic	Link
Oct 16	US Intl Trade Commission is preparing a report, after public hearings, which will assess the likely impact of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) on the U.S. economy as a whole, on selected industry sectors, and on U.S. consumer interests. The Commission will submit its report to the President and Congress.	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-10-16/pdf/2018-22672.pdf
Oct 19	Dept of Commerce’s International Trade Administration seeks public comment on any subsidies, including stumpage subsidies, provided by certain countries exporting softwood lumber or softwood lumber products to the United States during the period January 1, 2018, through June 30, 2018. Canada is specifically mentioned as potential country to which this applies.	https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-10-19/pdf/2018-22841.pdf

1. October 19 – BOEM publishes an invitation for the submission of information and nominations for commercial wind leases that would allow a lessee to propose the construction of a wind energy project on the OCS offshore California, and to develop one or more projects, if approved, after further environmental review. The close date to express interest in one or more, or any portion of, the designated areas is January 28, 2019. This is also the date which any public comments re, “site conditions, resources, and multiple uses in close proximity to, or within, the Call Areas that would be relevant to BOEM’s review of the nominations” There are three such areas of California – off Morro Bay, off Diablo Canyon and off Humboldt County.



From -

https://www.boem.gov/uploadedImages/BOEM/Renewable_Energy_Program/State_Activities/CA/CA_Call_Areas_10_16_2018.jpg?n=7732

“These areas include 85 whole OCS blocks and 573 partial blocks in total, and comprise approximately 1,073 square statute miles”. See - <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-10-19/pdf/2018-22879.pdf>.

2. October 23 – USCG publishes notice of the November 15, 2018 meeting of the Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee. Detailed Agenda is available on the link which follows. Written comments can be submitted prior to November 7. See - <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-10-23/pdf/2018-23061.pdf>.
3. October 23 – NMFS publishes its proposed List of Fisheries for 2019. This is required under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and categorizes every US commercial fishery based on the amount and severity of interactions with marine mammals. As you would expect – the “WA/OR/CA albacore surface hook and line/troll” is a Category III fishery with no documented interactions with marine mammals. See - <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-10-23/pdf/2018-23124.pdf>
4. October 23 – NMFS makes a request from the Office of Management and Budget for an extension of a currently approved information collection re vessels with High Seas Fishing Permits. Comments are being requested on the application process and if the information required is necessary to carry out the requirements of the High Seas Fishing Compliance Act. Comments will be taken through November 23. See - <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-10-23/pdf/2018-23075.pdf>
5. October 30 – NMFS issues a notice seeking nominations for the 2019–2022 General Advisory Committee to the US Delegation to the IATTC. Nominations are due no later than November 29, 2018. See - <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-10-30/pdf/2018-23634.pdf>

Other items of interest:

1. October 2 – Commercial fishermen off east coast have their lawsuit over a proposed wind project rejected, primarily on procedural grounds. See - <https://www.wind-watch.org/news/2018/10/03/court-rejects-fishermens-challenge-to-equinors-empire-wind/>
2. October 6 – San Diego Ocean Planning Partnership releases its Draft Preliminary Assessment Report - Review and Outreach. See - <https://www.sdoceanplanning.org/draft-preliminary-assessment-report>
3. October 9 – An email which introduced us to Fyshery. “Fyshery is a technology centric fishing business that will allow you to sell your catch and offset your fishing expenses such as fuel, maintenance and gear.” This has started a number of conversations which are still ongoing as I write this. It is being marketed to recreational fishermen; but it appears the operators of the business will purchase all necessary commercial licenses and permits for participating fishermen.
4. October 10 - Port of San Diego’s Ocean Planning Partnership Open House. This was about the efforts of the State Lands Commission and Port to dip their toes in the world of Marine Spatial Planning. We have been consistently commenting that the goal of this Partnership should be developing tools to help in potential conflict resolution – as opposed to Marine Spatial Planning. Reps from the Port and State Lands were in attendance.
5. October 18 - The Humboldt Fishermen’s Marketing Association and Trinidad Bay Fishermen’s Association sued The Humboldt Bay Harbor Recreation and Conservation District claiming a long list of allegations that include alleged dredging failures and money management issues among other things. See - <https://www.times-standard.com/2018/10/18/fishing-groups-sue-harbor-district/>
6. October 22 – Starkist admits to price fixing tuna prices, could face a \$100 Million fine. See - <https://www.savingseafood.org/news/enforcement/starkist-admits-fixing-tuna-prices-faces-100-million-fine/>
7. October 23 – TriMarine announces it is selling its San Pedro wetfish plant to Silver Bay Seafoods. See - <https://www.undercurrentnews.com/2018/10/23/tri-marine-to-sell-california-wetfish-plant-to-silver-bay/>
8. October 23 – Article recapping recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the San Diego Fishermen’s Working Group and 1HWY1 (developer of the Seaport San Diego redevelopment project). See - <https://inewsourc.org/2018/10/23/seaport-san-diego-fishermen-agreement/>
9. October 25 – The Canadian government released the Final Report of the National Advisory Panel on Marine Protected Area Standards. This report is a set of guidelines and goals for the creation of new marine protected areas in Canada. The linked article does not provide any timelines for when new MPAs may be proposed off the West Coast of Canada. See - <http://www.southernfriedscience.com/canada-announced-new-marine-protected-area-standards-heres-how-science-and-conservation-professionals-reacted/>
10. October 29 – Article recapping recent events at the Federal level re offshore wind energy. See - <https://www.savingseafood.org/news/management-regulation/ocean-wind-has-big-week-fishermen-need-to-step-up/>
11. October 30 – Thought provoking article published by Sustainable Fisheries (an online periodical run by Univ of Washington). See - <https://sustainablefisheries-uw.org/seafood-101/social-environmental-justice-in-seafood/>.

Upcoming items of interest

1. December 9 – 14 – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission meeting in Honolulu, Hi.
2. Sometime in February, 2019. MSE discussion in advance of the MSE workshop re NPA in Japan in early March.
3. March 5 – 7 – MSE Workshop for North Pacific Albacore – Yokohama Japan

Proposed location for offshore wind farm off Northern California.

