



NPFC-2026-COM10-OP04

Pew and DSCC are pleased to invite delegates to the NPFC annual meeting to a lunchtime side event on April 15th in the main meeting room, (lunch will be provided)

Ocean governance is increasingly multi-layered. This moderated lunchtime event will provide an overview of the evolving ocean governance landscape with a focus on the BBNJ Agreement, WTO fisheries subsidies disciplines, and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) seamounts resolution. The discussion will explore their implications for the North Pacific Ocean and the work of the NPFC and how coordination can reduce duplication, close gaps, and support sustainable fisheries. Panelists will share relevant scientific updates related to vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) and explore how these ocean governance regimes offer a comprehensive and complementary set of tools to support VME conservation. The event will also create an informal space for NPFC managers, scientists, and other stakeholders to ask questions and engage directly with invited experts.

There will be a panel facilitated by Pew and then there will be time for Q and A after the presentations. Speakers on the panel will cover the following issues

- **BBNJ Agreement:** Links between the BBNJ Agreement and NPFC work in the North Pacific, including opportunities to support BBNJ implementation through science inputs and institutional preparedness.
- **WTO Fisheries Subsidies:** Role of RFMO science and stock status information in WTO fisheries subsidy disciplines and implications for sustainable fisheries.
- **CMS Seamounts Resolution:** Update on scientific advances on seamounts, connectivity, and VMEs, and implications for the CMS seamounts resolution.

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