

STAFF SUMMARY FOR DECEMBER 9-10, 2015

23A. OTHER ITEMS – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**Today's Item**Information Action

Receive the executive director's report and provide direction to staff.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)**Background*****Commission Priorities and Capacity***

FGC receives a constant deluge of requests for consideration and action, many more than there is time and resources to address. Efforts to prioritize workload have largely focused on urgency and significance; however, this results in important but not urgent issues being left unresolved. Examples of issues that have fallen into the "unresolved and deferred" pit include fishery management plan reviews (squid, nearshore), reviewing and revising existing policies, streamlining routine rulemakings to reduce FGC and DFW staff workload, and restricted species program overhaul. In addition, the current approach is producing taxing meeting agendas, leaving both the public and commissioners with a feeling of being rushed through topics. The sense of hurried discussions led, in part, to the president earlier this year suggesting a limit on the number of agenda topics per meeting. FGC would be well-served to develop a better process for prioritizing and managing FGC workload, especially in light of the current limited staffing capacity.

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation**

Before FGC makes a commitment to a new project, a discussion of expectations, workload, and priorities should be conducted so that commissioners may make a more informed decision regarding the task and how it may affect other important work that is the unique purview of FGC and for which the public depends on FGC to be proactively addressing.

Exhibits (N/A)**Motion/Direction**

Direct FGC staff to work in conjunction with DFW, FGC's key partner in achieving its mandates, to develop a proposed process for better prioritizing and managing FGC workload (Note: this is a new project that will involve a significant amount of work to complete, but is worth the investment).