

The Monachus Guardian

Cover Story

PLUNDERING THE PACIFIC

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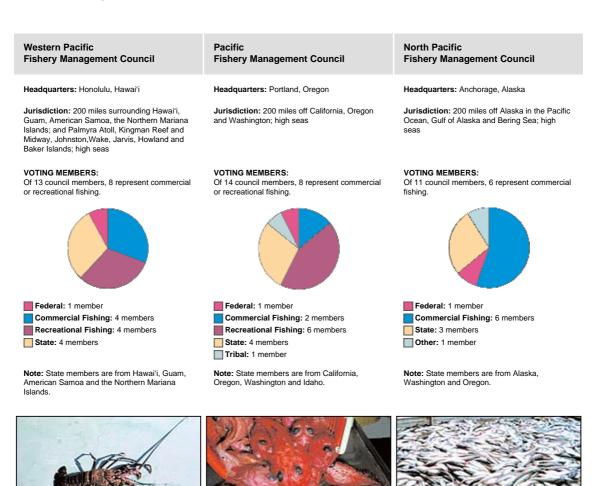
Editor of Cascadia Times

The cats who run the fishhouse Who runs the Pacific Ocean? Western Pacific council pushes plan to quash historic coral reserve Marine animal casualties How to speak "fisheries" Science Friction

Who runs the Pacific Ocean?

The 1996 Magnuson-Stevens Act established eight regional councils, including three in the Pacific, comprised of "individuals who, by reason of their occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, are knowledgeable regarding conservation and management, or the commercial or recreational harvest, of the fishery resources of the geographical area concerned."

Among the 38 members of the three councils that govern the Pacific, 22 represent commercial or recreational fishing interests, or about 58 percent. Another 15 represent state, federal or tribal agencies. The law does not require any of the members to represent conservation interests, and none do.



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