



**Summary of the June 22-25, 2015 CCC Meeting
Outcome Statements and Recommendations**

Issue	Action	Response	Comments/Outcomes
Budget	The CCC received an update on 2015 funding and 2016 budget issues from NMFS including an update on Electronic Monitoring/Electronic Reporting and the SK Grant Awards.	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	N/A
National Observer Funding Allocation	The CCC received a presentation on the apportionment of National Observer Program budgets among the different observer programs.	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	N/A
Joint Enforcement Agreements	The CCC received a brief history of the Joint Enforcement Program including the JEA process and funding by Council.	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	N/A
MSA Reauthorization Legislative Update and Council Discussion	The CCC received an update on H.R. 1335 - Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act; S. 1403 - Florida Fisheries Improvement Act; a House Appropriations bill that states no funds can be used to enforce Amendment 40 in the Gulf; and a Senate Bill that NOAA cannot use any funding for managing fisheries in the Gulf unless they are subject to a seaward boundary of nine nautical miles.	NOAA General Counsel advised that Councils should focus comments on these bills by discussing how they would impact the resource and Council process versus supporting/opposing proposed legislation. The CCC discussed the major provisions of H.R. 1335 and S. 1403 and decided to reserve the rest of its discussion until after the NEPA Working Group Report.	A legislative Committee was formed and includes: Dan Hull, Rick Robbins, Dorothy Lowman, Tom Nies, Don McIsaac, Doug Gregory, and Kitty Simonds.
NEPA Working Group Report	The CCC had a brief discussion about its NEPA White Paper, then heard a NOAA presentation on the revised NEPA procedures to improve integration with MSA.	The CCC discussed reviewing NEPA again after more progress has been made on the MSA Reauthorization and formed a Legislative Committee.	
Council Member Recusal Interpretations	The CCC discussed recent recusal interpretations and whether there is an opportunity to develop a more logical and appropriate interpretation of the regulations or change the regulations.	NOAA advised they would explore the issue and that there is potentially an opportunity for change through regulatory action.	N/A

Bycatch Strategy	The CCC received an update on the status of NOAA's updated Bycatch Strategy and was asked for input on the priorities and strategies for the next decade.	The CCC discussed various aspects of the strategy, but no action was taken.	Individual Council's will comment on the Bycatch Strategy by the July 10 deadline.
Presidential Task Force on IUU	The CCC received an update on the Presidential Task Force on IUU and the implementation of its recommendations. The action plan is currently being implemented by working groups.	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	NOAA will publish draft principles and species at risk by end of July. In February 2016, NOAA will publish a FRN seeking comments on a Trusted Trader Program.
Recreational Fishery Policy	The CCC received an update on the National Recreational Fishing Policy and the National Recreational Fishing Implementation Plan.	CCC members expressed the following concerns: Data Poor Stocks, Promoting Access, Timing and Council Involvement, Collaboration with the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.	N/A
Marine Recreational Information Program	The CCC received an update on the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP). The presentation focused primarily on the private recreational fishing estimation process.	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	N/A
National Standard 1	The CCC received an update on the key provisions of the proposed changes to the NS1 guidelines.	The CCC took no action on the information presented but commented on the changes.	Individual Council comments have been or will be submitted by the June 30 deadline. Comments already submitted are posted in the CCC agenda backup.
Cooperative Research and Management White Paper	NOAA presented a white paper that examines the use of cooperative research and cooperative management.	The CCC took no action on the information presented but provided comments on the white paper.	Individual Councils will submit comments by the extended July 10, 2015 deadline.
Operational Guidelines	The CCC received a brief update on the Status of the Operational Guidelines.	CCC members provided comments.	Individual Councils will submit comments by the July 10, 2015 deadline.
Allocation Working Group Report	The CCC received a briefing on the Allocation Working Group report.	The CCC discussed the issue at length and approved the following motion: Motion: To approve the Criteria for Initiating Fisheries Reviews document, amended to include a recommended timeframe of three years, or as soon as practicable, to establish criteria for triggering allocation reviews.	

Presentations:			
AFS MREP Social Scientists in RFM	The Council heard presentations from the American Fisheries Society; Marine Resource Education Program; and the Social Scientists in Regional Fisheries Management	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	N/A
SK Funding Update	NOAA announced \$25 million in SK Funds for 88 projects under the 2014-15 combined grant program. NOTE: This announcement was preliminary.	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	N/A
Habitat Working Group Report	The CCC received a report from the Habitat Working Group on the plans for the EFH summit.	The CCC had a lengthy discussion and expressed concerns about: Number of people and appropriate expertise for participation in the Summit; Terms of Reference; Scope of the Conference; Integration of habitat and EBFM and its impact on the size of the workshop; Best Practices; Potential FTE Time; Integrating EBFM into management.	TORs will be circulated by NMFS for CCC review.
Assessment Prioritization Update	The CCC received an update on Stock Assessment Prioritization	CCC members raised several issues but took no action on the information presented.	N/A
International Affairs/Seafood Inspection	The CCC received a briefing on the combined Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection	The CCC took no action on the information presented.	N/A
SSC Issues	The CCC received a briefing on the National SSC workshop held in Honolulu February 23-25, 2015. Recommendations from the workshop will be finalized and disseminated by the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council.	The CCC agreed that the National SSC should not meet every year and that the next meeting is scheduled for early 2017.	The Pacific Fishery Management Council agreed to host the meeting.
2016 CCC Meeting	Miguel Rolon provided the CCC with an update on the 2016 CCC meeting.	The 2016 CCC meeting is scheduled for May 23-27 in St. Thomas at the Frenchman's Reef (subject to change). The interim CCC meeting will be the week of February 22, 2016 in Washington, D.C.	N/A
Other Business			
NSI CCC Comments	CCC had a brief discussion regarding whether to submit comments as a CCC or individually, given the pending comment period.	CCC agreed that submitting separate letters would be the best approach.	Councils will submit separate comment letters.
Comanagement and Cooperative Research	The Western Pacific Council highlighted some examples of comanagement and cooperative research that have worked in that region.	The CCC took no action on this item.	The WPFMC will provide a written summary of those successes to NOAA Fisheries.

Status of CCC Workgroups	A request was made for an update on the status of the various CCC Work Groups	Legislative Work Group will convene in the very near future.	Allocation Work Group and NEPA Work Group - GMFMC will confirm these two work groups have completed their work.
		Habitat Work Group is ongoing	Work Group Chairs are requested to provide CCC members with email updates.
Coral Reef Task Force	Request to have observer status on the Coral Reef Task Force	CCC Agreed to send a letter to the task force co-chairs.	GMFMC will work with NOAA to get contact information and draft a letter for CCC review.