

**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Headquarters

Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Policy Update

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Dr. Cisco Werner (SWFSC)

On behalf of
Dr. Jason Link (Senior Scientist for
Ecosystem Management)
Heather Sagar (Senior Policy Advisor)

Pacific Fisheries Management Council:
Garden Grove, November 15, 2015

Take Aways

- NOAA Fisheries needs to, can and is committed to doing EBFM
- There are many benefits of doing EBFM
- NOAA Fisheries' aim is to provide a menu of analytical options to address
- Making EBFM operational remains a key challenge, but is one we are up for in partnership with you!

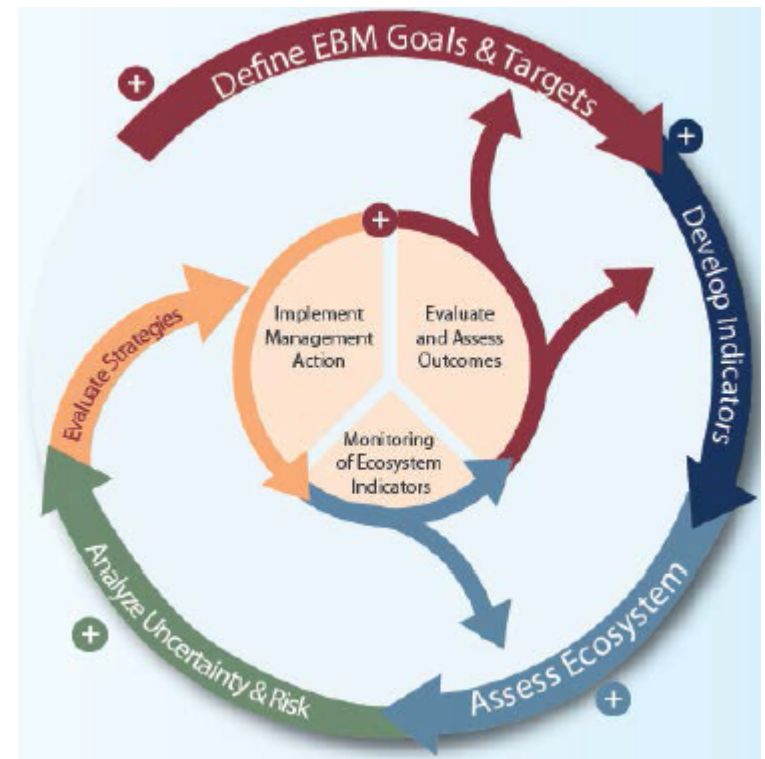
Policy will be open for informal comment through Dec 16, 2015

<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/ecosystems/ebfm/creating-an-ebfm-management-policy>

http://www.pcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/11a_NWFSC_Rpt1_Draft_EBFM_Policy_Nov2015BB.pdf

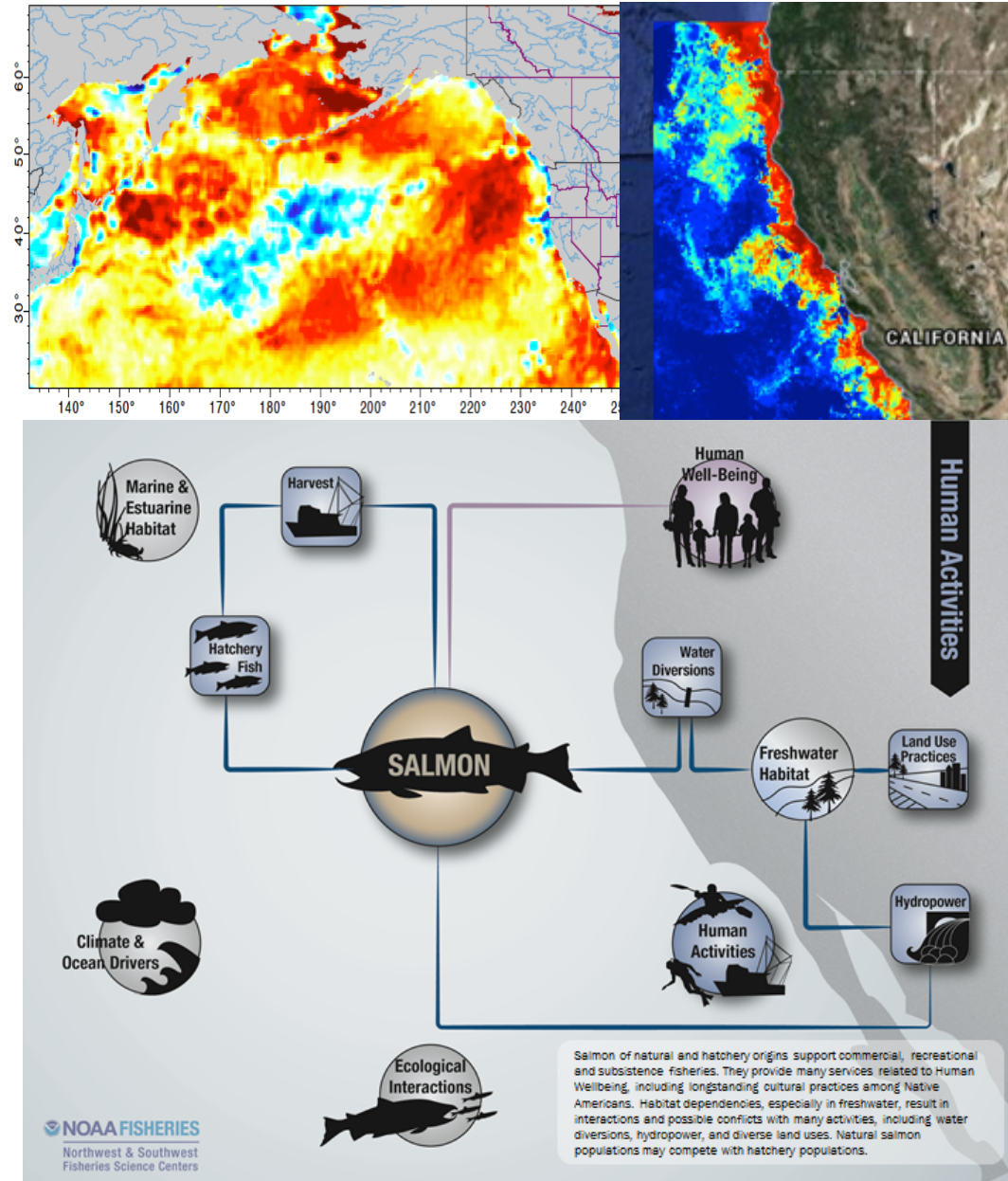
Evolving West Coast Science and Policy

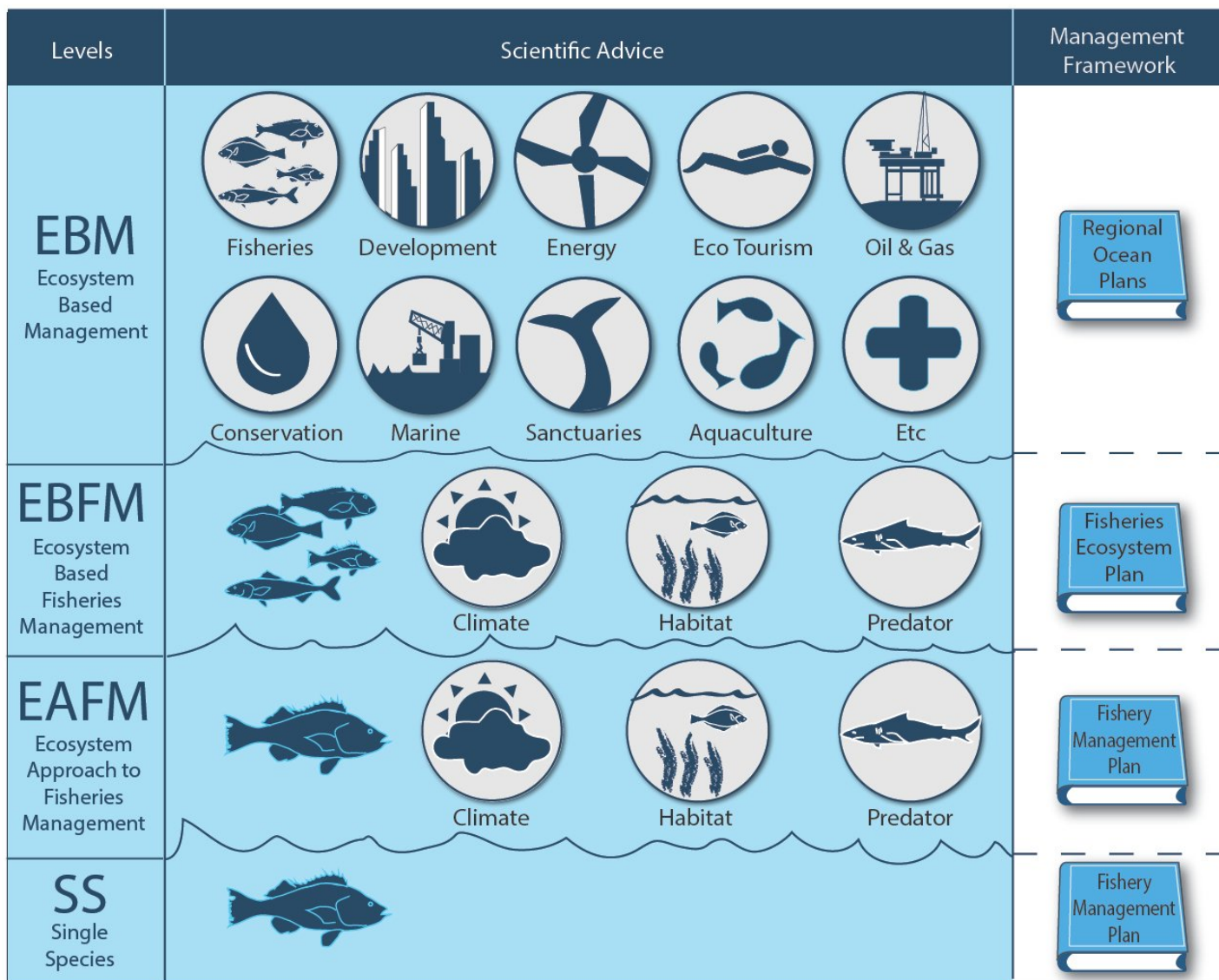
- Maturing California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CC-IEA)
- 4th annual California Current Ecosystem status report to PFMC in March 2016
- Status report's indicators to undergo Council and public review with Fishery Ecosystem Plan initiative process



Evolving West Coast Science and Policy

- El Niño, warm conditions, HABs
- California drought, warming salmon streams, western wildfires
- Short- and long-term effects on fisheries harvest management

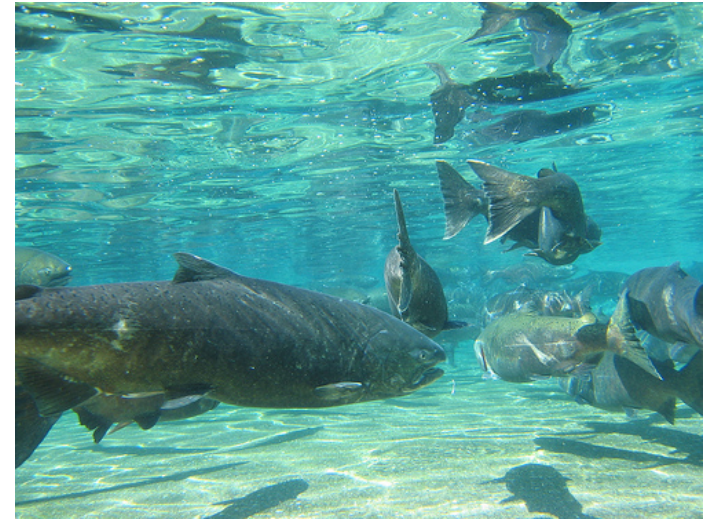




<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/ecosystems/ebfm/index>

EBFM Policy Components

- Policy Statement
- Background
- Purpose of and Need for Policy
- Definition of EBFM
- Context of EBFM
- Benefits
- Guiding Principles
- Legal Authorities and Mandates
- NOAA Fisheries Responsibilities



The NMFS Policy Directive Defines EBFM as:

A systematic approach to fisheries management in a geographically specified area that:

- ensures the resilience and sustainability of the ecosystem;
- recognizes the physical, biological, economic, and social interactions among the affected components of the ecosystem, including humans; and
- seeks to optimize benefits among a diverse set of societal goals.

EBFM Policy Statement

NOAA Fisheries strongly supports the implementation of Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM), to:

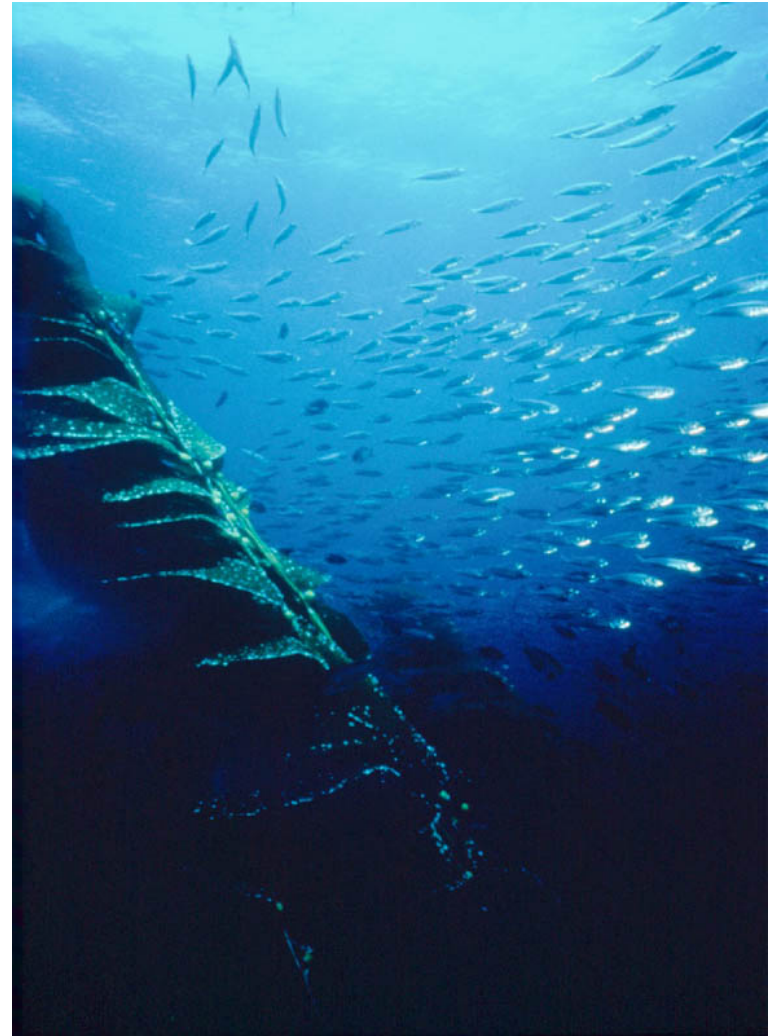
- better inform decisions and help achieve and optimize the benefits from marine fisheries,
- by evaluating trade-offs among and between fisheries (commercial, recreational, and subsistence), aquaculture, protected species, biodiversity, and habitats,
- while maintaining resilient and productive ecosystems.

EBFM Guiding Principles

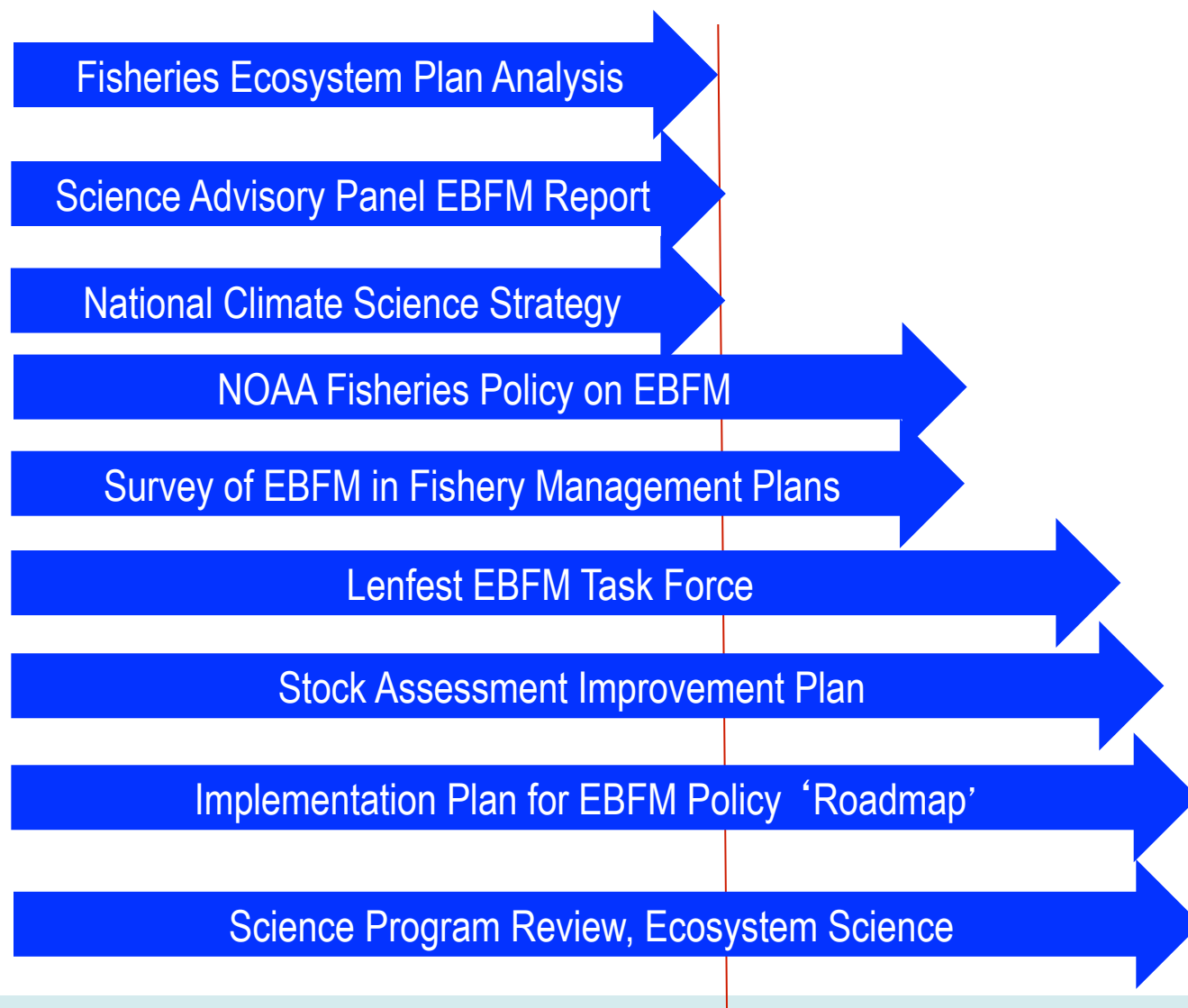


Next Steps for EBFM Policy

- Will be open for informal comment through Dec 16, 2015
- Comments to Heather Sagar and Jason Link
- Developing associated EBFM Road Map to answer the “what’s next” question
- Hope to finalize in early 2016



Ecosystem-related Efforts



Questions?

<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/ecosystems/ebfm/creating-an-ebfm-management-policy>

