

ECOSYSTEM-BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT ROADMAP

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published Policy Directive 01-120 on May 23, 2016, describing the agency's implementation of ecosystem-based fishery management (EBFM) (Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1). According to the overarching policy statement EBFM implementation will "...better inform and enable better decisions regarding trade-offs among and between fisheries (commercial, recreational, and subsistence), aquaculture, protected species, biodiversity, and habitats." This will help maintain resilient and productive ecosystems in the face of change.

To facilitate implementation of this EBFM policy, NMFS prepared a Roadmap document. A draft of this document was made available at the May 2016 Council Coordinating Committee meeting for informal review by the regional fishery management councils with a deadline of July 10, 2016. Unfortunately, the Pacific Council was not able to participate in advance review. NMFS has now released the EBFM Roadmap for public review, with a comment deadline of October 15, 2016 (Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 2), offering an additional opportunity for the Council to weigh in. The Roadmap is intended to guide the implementation of the EBFM Policy over the next five years. It includes a detailed list of actions to address the guiding principles enumerated in the Policy Directive. Within 18 months of its release, NMFS regions will complete regional EBFM implementation plans with specific milestones. These implementation plans will integrate aspects of other regional action plans, such as the National Climate Science Strategy (NCSS) Western Regional Action Plan (WRAP) (presented to the Council at its June 2016 meeting, [Agenda Item F.2](#)).

Ms. Heather Sagar, Senior Policy Advisor, NOAA Fisheries, will brief the Council on the EBFM Roadmap.

Council Action:

Review and Provide Comments on the NMFS Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management Roadmap.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1: NMFS Policy Directive 01-120, Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Policy.
2. Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 2: NMFS Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management Road Map.

Agenda Order:

- D.2 Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management Roadmap
- a. NMFS Report
 - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Review and Provide Comments on the NMFS Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management Roadmap
- Kit Dahl
Heather Sagar