

PROPOSAL FOR AD HOC COMMITTEE AND ITS SCOPE AND PROCESS TO DEVELOP
GUIDANCE FOR ECOSYSTEM WORKGROUP ON
CLIMATE AND COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE UNDER FISHERIES ECOSYSTEM PLAN

During the discussion of the Climate and Communities Initiative (Agenda Item G.3, September 2018), the Council received recommendations from advisory bodies and public comment for the Council to conduct scenario planning under the Climate and Communities Initiative (Initiative). The Council Chair selected Council members from California (John Ugoretz), Oregon (Caren Braby), and Washington (Rich Lincoln) to bring forward recommendations on how to consider scenario planning and ongoing Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) efforts to advance the Fisheries Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Initiative process. The small group (“Climate Scenarios Investigation” or CSI) provides this proposal for actions between now and November 2019. We recommend the Council establish the CSI as an ad hoc committee.

CSI Subcommittee goals:

- Provide further framing and guidance for the EWG, for Council review and approval at its November 2018 meeting and in consultation with Management/Technical Teams (MTs), to compile proposed scenarios for Council consideration in March 2019.
- Provide guidance and a framework for EWG development of a more detailed description of activities that would occur under a scenario planning exercise, and a process and timeline for completion.

Scenario Planning Process Refinement:

1. Climate Scenarios Investigation Subcommittee:

- a. Will meet by phone prior to the November 2018 Council meeting to develop proposed guidance.
 - i. CSI Subcommittee will consider existing advisory body reports, The Nature Conservancy report from May 2018 workshop, and public comment from the September 2018 Council meeting (Agenda G.3.).
- b. Will develop and submit a report for consideration by the Council at its November 2018 meeting, recommending:
 - i. FRAMING of EWG’s scenario exploration discussions relative to issues raised at September 2018 meeting, including but not necessarily limited to:
 - Portfolio fishing (diversity vs. state-Federal interactions)
 - Regional vs. local scale
 - Single-species vs. species groups within Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) vs. across-FMPs
 - Short-term climate variability, or ocean acidification, vs. longer-term climate change as driver
 - How to approach vulnerability and risk in scenario selection.

- ii. APPROACHES for the EWG to consider in describing a potential scenario planning process(es) and timeline(s), for selection of scenarios, including funding needs and potential outside sources to support the process developed.
- 2. EWG:
 - a. Prior to the March 2019 Council meeting, review and recommend existing Fishery Management Plan measures that could be used or updated to increase fisheries resilience to oceanographic changes and create flexibility for fisheries consistent with conservation objectives, in coordination with appropriate MTs.
- 3. November 2018 Council:
 - a. Consider the recommendations from CSI Subcommittee.
 - b. Consider advice from the EWG, as appropriate, on FMP evaluation (2a. above)
 - c. Provide final guidance to the EWG for preparing recommended scenarios for Council selection
- 4. November 2018 – March 2019 EWG/MT action:
 - a. Develop a list of potential scenarios for Council consideration at the March 2019 meeting.
 - i. Each potential scenario will include rationale and an assessment of potential benefit to Council management if selected for further analysis.
- 5. March – August 2019 – EWG
 - a. Proceed with planning for the scenario(s), chosen by the Council, for full scenario development and analysis to present to the Council at the September 2019 Council meeting.

PFMC
09/11/18