

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM
REPORT ON CLIMATE AND COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) discussed one particular recommendation in the Climate and Communities Core Team's (CCCT) report ([Agenda Item H.2.a, CCCT Report 1](#)) and offers some context and relevant information. First, the HMSMT notes there are currently efforts underway in the Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) arena to address climate change impacts. To inform the Council, the HMSMT provides links below to relevant documents regarding efforts of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) to address climate change.

Pacific RFMO Efforts to Address Climate Change

- IATTC is working with the Fisheries and Climate Toolkit ([FaCeT](#)), as noted in the IATTC [staff activities and research plan](#) (see pages 93-96).
- The WCPFC adopted [Resolution 2019-01](#) to consider climate change impacts on fisheries of the WCPFC.

Should the Council consider the CCCT recommendations under section 2.b ([Agenda Item H.2.a, CCCT Report 1](#)) as a Fishery Ecosystem Plan initiative, the HMSMT offers revisions to the recommended text that may capture the intent behind the recommendation while also accounting for the customary roles and responsibilities of work units in RFMO processes. The italicized text indicates where the HMSMT suggests revisions to the original language (additions are indicated in underline and deletions in strikethrough).

Recommended Text Revisions to Paragraph 2.b

The Council could *work with NMFS' Secretariats to the U.S. Delegations to the RFMOs to* plan a future workshop involving members of the Council family that engage with regional fishery management organizations and other international forums that have management responsibility for West Coast fish stocks. *Conveners of the workshop should endeavor to either coordinate with or include the participation of* ~~Participation should include~~ the Council's non-voting member from the U.S. Department of State and staff from the NOAA Fisheries Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection. The workshop ~~would~~ *could* develop recommendations to address adapting to and mitigating for the effects of climate change on fish stocks and fisheries at the international level. A second topic could be the identification of measures to improve current transboundary coordination to prepare for shifts in the distribution of managed fish stocks. Workshop outcomes would be communicated to relevant U.S. delegations as ~~priorities~~ *considerations* for the development of U.S. positions.