

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT ON
 THE WEST COAST GEOGRAPHIC STRATEGIC PLAN

NOAA Fisheries released the [NOAA Fisheries Strategic Plan for 2022–2025](#) in December, 2022. The plan sets out NOAA Fisheries’ strategic goals and key strategies and informs the public about our work. The goals of the plan are focused on key statutes and the priorities of this Administration and include:

- Adaptively manage fisheries for sustainability and economic competitiveness
- Safeguard protected species and propel their recovery
- Diversify our workforce, promote equity and environmental justice, and improve our mission performance through organizational excellence

As with the last NOAA Fisheries Strategic Plan (2019-2022), each NOAA Fisheries region across the U.S. will commence developing a geographic strategic plan that aligns regional work with the national strategic plan goals and strategies. The NOAA Fisheries West Coast is comprised of the West Coast Regional Office, Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers, Office of Law Enforcement, and the Office of Habitat’s Restoration Center and will work through a collaborative process that includes engaging with the Council, Tribes, and others to update the [West Coast Geographic Strategic Plan \(2020-2023\)](#). The West Coast Geographic Strategic Plan (GSP) 2023-2026 will describe how we will implement the NOAA Fisheries strategic goals and key strategies along the west coast, many of which are relevant to the Council.

The NOAA Fisheries West Coast team will begin drafting the GSP in April 2023, and anticipates finalizing it in late-fall 2023. The proposed timeline is shown in the table below. We would like to solicit input and feedback on the draft between the summer and early-fall 2023, and in particular, we would like to hear about:

- Opportunities for improving the state of west coast fisheries
- Challenges and risks facing west coast fisheries
- Potential solutions for addressing these challenges and risks
- Opportunities and recommendations to address equity and environmental justice in fisheries management decisions

Table 1. West Coast Geographic Strategic Plan Timeline.

WEST COAST GEOGRAPHIC STRATEGIC PLAN (GSP) TIMELINE (2023)	
April	Inform the Council, Tribes, and partners about the GSP process.
April - June	Draft GSP
June - September	Provide draft GSP to the Council, Tribes, and partners and receive feedback.
October - November	Finalize West Coast GSP