

SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM REPORT ON REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STRATEGY

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the implementation of the National Marine Fisheries Service's draft Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) strategy.

The STT considers the implementation of the EEJ Strategy into Council processes and its advisory bodies to be of substantial importance. We recognize that the EEJ strategy is an ongoing and iterative process, and our implementation of it within the STT can be flexible to Council guidance, experience, and training. After internal discussion, we acknowledge the following:

[1] The actions of the Council and its advisory bodies have far-reaching impacts on many groups whose representation on the Council and/or its advisory bodies may not adequately reflect their multi-faceted and nuanced perspectives and values.

[2] There may be barriers to equitable participation of underrepresented groups in the Council process.

[3] There is opportunity to expand the Council and advisory bodies' capacity to incorporate traditional and local ecological knowledge.

Given the acknowledgements above, we encourage the Council to consider investing resources in independent review from experts in Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion to provide recommendations for improving organizational structure and equitable policies, programs, and practices.

PFMC
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