CLIMATE AND COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE TASKS

In September 2021, the Ad Hoc Climate and Communities Core Team (CCCT) reported its recommendations on actions the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) could take to begin preparing West Coast fish stocks and fisheries for the effects of climate change (Agenda Item H.2.a, CCCT Report 1). The recommendations were based on work under the Climate and Communities Initiative (CCI) and, specifically, the scenario planning exercise conducted as part of the Initiative. Since that time, the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) has encouraged the Council to revisit these follow-up tasks, most recently in September 2023 (Agenda Item H.7.b, Supplemental EWG Report 1). The attached EWG Report presents its revisitation of materials produced during the scenario planning process to produce a more comprehensive list of follow-up tasks. In its report, it also references the possible connections between these potential activities and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funded projects.

The Council submitted three proposals for IRA projects on January 31st and NMFS indicates that the Council should know whether these proposals were funded by the March meeting. Assuming these projects are funded, these efforts will be the focus of climate-related work over the course of the IRA grant period (through 2026, with the opportunity for a one year extension). These efforts will likely assume the Council's capacity for climate-focused work through that time.

This agenda item is an opportunity for the Council to more deliberately prioritize potential tasks emerging from the CCI for future work. In doing so, the Council should consider potential CCI follow-ups in relation to the IRA-funded projects.

Council Action:

Review Climate and Communities Initiative Outcomes and Prioritize Future Actions.

Reference Materials:

- 1. Agenda Item H.3.a, EWG Report 1.
- 2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

H.3 Climate and Communities Initiative Review and Prioritize Tasks

Kit Dahl

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action**: Review Climate and Communities Initiative Outcomes and Prioritize Future Actions

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