SOCIOECONOMIC FRAMEWORK WORKPLAN AND UPDATE

The Decision Making for Stronger Fishing Communities project (Socioeconomic Framework project) is one of three special projects for which the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has received dedicated funding. The goal of the Socioeconomic Framework project is to improve the Council's ability to consider how its proposals and actions affect human well-being in West Coast fishing communities impacted by a changing environment. To meet this goal, the project will focus on the design and development of a decision support framework that: (a) enhances the Council's ability to measure and understand the impacts of its management actions on West Coast fishing communities, and (b) helps the Council identify strategies and steps it can take to improve the resilience of these communities to short- and long-term change. Under this agenda item, Council staff will provide an update on project planning. Council action is to consider this update, as well as any Advisory Body input, and provide guidance on next steps.

Along with one of the Council's other special projects (see Agenda Item C.4, Adaptive Management Workplan and Update), the Socioeconomic Framework project follows up on the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) <u>Climate and Communities Initiative</u> (CCI) by addressing part of that initiative's goal to "develop strategies for increasing the resiliency of our managed stocks and fisheries" in the face of both near-term shifts and long-term environmental changes. This CCI goal is further reflected in Potential Future FEP Initiative 2.6 (*Supporting Fishery and Fishing Community Resilience Initiative*), which the Council added to its FEP <u>Ecosystem Initiatives Appendix</u> in September 2022 and which serves as the foundation for the Socioeconomic Framework project considered under this agenda item.

On February 12, 2025, the Council issued a <u>request for proposals</u> (RFP) on the Council's website, seeking a contractor to assist with building out the Socioeconomic Framework project. The RFP period closed on March 15, and Council staff anticipates identifying a contractor in the coming weeks.

Council Tasks:

- 1. Consider Socioeconomic Framework project updates.
- 2. Provide guidance on next steps.

Reference Materials:

1. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

C.3 Socioeconomic Framework Workplan and Update

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- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. Council Action: Consider Project Updates and Provide Guidance on Next Steps