

CLIMATE AND COMMUNITIES CORE TEAM ON FUTURE COUNCIL AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Ad Hoc Climate and Communities Core Team (Core Team) met May 30-31, 2019 in Portland, OR, to discuss a scenario planning process in support of the Climate and Communities ecosystem initiative under the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Fishery Ecosystem Plan. The bulk of the meeting was spent on scenario planning process training and facilitation from Mr. Jonathan Star of Scenario Insight. Dr. Caren Braby and Mr. Rich Lincoln agreed to serve as co-chairs of the group. The Core Team is presenting this report under workload planning to advise the Council of its progress to date and on its intent to proceed according to the approach and schedule described below, and thereby allow for any Council discussion about planned next steps.

At its March 2019 meeting, in order to move the Climate and Communities Initiative forward via a scenario planning process, the Council requested that the Core Team:

1. Work with Council staff and outside funders to identify funding for the process
2. Select scenario planning facilitation and advisory support to assist with the process
3. Refine the scenario planning topic, identify data/information, additional expertise needed
4. Develop scenario planning process, which may include workshops/meeting, reports, Council touchpoints, facilitation, community outreach/engagement, etc.
5. Identify scenario planning process participants
6. Define a timeline to complete scenario planning by March 2020
7. Refine desired outcomes of the scenario planning process

Following the Council's March 2019 meeting, Council staff worked with the Core Team to initiate the first two tasks noted above – identifying funding and selecting facilitation support. Additional work is needed to fully secure the funding needed (Task 1), however the second task is now complete. At the meeting, we made some headway on the remaining tasks, which resulted in the draft plan described below and reflects the Core Team's intended steps to proceed with the scenario planning approach to the initiative. We recommend the Council discuss and concur with that plan in order to provide the best likelihood of meeting the Council's intent and timeline.

In brief, scenario planning involves two major stages. The first stage involves crafting the scenarios, while the second stage focuses on facilitating discussion of how the Council, fishing communities, and others might prepare for and react to the events described by the scenarios. Informed by the experience and techniques of Mr. Star, the Core Team proposes the following schedule and approach:

July 2019-August 2019: Early research. The Core Team and the facilitator, Mr. Jonathan Star will proceed with a number of interviews to solicit information on factors worthy of consideration in the scenario planning process. Information gathered will augment information already obtained during March 2018, September 2018, November 2018, and March 2019 Council meetings, as well as the Core Team's May 2019 meeting. This initial scoping step does not generate the scenarios *per se*—that step will happen via workshops.

Rather, this early research will help identify the critical uncertainties and STEEP¹ factors that will provide some bounds on scenario development.

September 2019 Council Meeting: The Core Team will more fully flesh out Tasks 3-7 over the summer and report to the Council in September, including providing the framing questions to guide scenario development. The Council will provide guidance on those and the timeline and future Core Team work, as needed. Council staff will work with management teams and advisory bodies to conduct brief (~ 1 hour) scenario conversations to provide input into drafting scenarios. This input will be made available at a fall/winter Scenario Development Workshop.

Late October-Early November 2019 Scenario Development Workshop: The Core Team will hold a 1-2-day workshop meant to bring together a variety of expertise and viewpoints to use in developing and refining draft scenarios based on established framing questions.

March 2020 Council Meeting: The Core Team will report back to the Council on the results of the Scenario Development Workshop and plans for spring 2020 Strategy Development. The Council may provide additional input on refining the scenarios.

March-May 2020: The Core Team will initiate and conduct the second stage of scenario planning. This will include more focused workshops or focus groups by geography and/or fishery/species groups to brainstorm on potential strategies for addressing the challenges identified in the final scenarios.

June 2020 Council Meeting: The Core Team will provide a final report to the Council, detailing the scenarios developed and strategies identified for its discussion and consideration of any possible follow-up actions it may wish to pursue.

While this plan will be subject to adaptive refinement as the process proceeds, the Core Team believes that it represents a logical approach for beginning to implement next steps. The process plan above also often uses the phrase “the Core Team will” in reference to doing a number of tasks. It’s important to note that work tasks will utilize a flexible number of approaches using the Core Team, subsets of it, assistance of Council staff, and involvement of other individuals and expertise to assist the process as needed. The Core Team will provide oversight throughout the process and refinement of the plan will include additional clarity on human resources that will be used to implement various tasks.

PFMC
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¹ Social, Technological, Economic, Environmental and Political