

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC  
ADMINISTRATION

+ + + + +

MARINE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2011

+ + + + +

The Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee met at the Florida Keys Eco-Discovery Center, 35 East Quay Road, Key West, Florida, Heather McCarty, Acting Chair, presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- HEATHER D. McCARTY, Acting Chair
- ERIC SCHWAAB, *ex officio* member
- TERRY ALEXANDER
- RANDY CATES
- ANTHONY CHATWIN
- PAUL CLAMPITT
- PAMELLA J. DANA
- BILL DEWEY
- PATRICIA DOERR
- PHILLIP J. DYSKOW
- EDWIN A. EBISUI
- MARTIN FISHER
- CATHERINE L. FOY
- KEN FRANKE
- STEVE JONER
- JULIE MORRIS
- GEORGE C. NARDI
- TOM RAFTICAN
- KEITH RIZZARDI
- VA'AMUA HENRY SESEPASARA

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DAVID H. WALLACE  
CONSULTANTS TO MAFAC:  
JOHN V. O'SHEA

STAFF PRESENT:  
MARK HOLLIDAY, Designated Federal Official  
HEIDI LOVETT  
JOSHUA STOLL  
NICK VALENTINI

ALSO PRESENT:  
BILLY CAUSEY  
SUSAN BUNSICK  
ROBERT FOY  
LORENZO JUAREZ  
EMILY LINDOW  
GARY REISNER  
CRAIG WANOUS  
ROBERT WILLIAMS

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 8:38 a.m.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Good morning. We  
4 are slated to have a tour of this facility  
5 right now.

6 So, rather than get into discussion  
7 about the agenda, which I want to have as soon  
8 as we get back, I think we'll just go ahead  
9 and do that if he's ready for us; is that  
10 right?

11 DR. HOLLIDAYDR. HOLLIDAY: Josh was  
12 just getting ready.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. But just to  
14 foreshadow what I want to talk about when we  
15 come back, we clearly have a number of things  
16 that we have to fit in.

17 Yesterday was a little information-  
18 heavy and we had less opportunity to discuss  
19 how we might wish to make recommendations and  
20 provide guidance.

21 And so, the way that we can do that  
22 is through the subcommittee process. So, I

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1 think we need to fit in that subcommittee that  
2 we didn't fit in yesterday, quite soon in the  
3 day.

4 We talked about putting it as part  
5 of the New Vision 2030 conversation slot. We  
6 can take half of that and do, I think, a  
7 committee meeting.

8 So, when we get back from the tour,  
9 I just want your thoughts on how to sort of  
10 revise the agenda in order to get done what we  
11 need to get done over the next two days.

12 So with that, are they ready for  
13 us?

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: DR. HOLLIDAY: Ready to  
15 go.

16 MR. STOLL: We're ready.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: That's Craig.

18 MR. WANOUS: Well, good morning,  
19 everyone.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Good morning.

21 MR. WANOUS: I've met some of you.

22 My name is Craig Wanous. I manage the center

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1 here. And it's my half hour to give you a  
2 little orientation and maybe take you on a  
3 tour if you'd like to take a quick peek  
4 through the center.

5 By a show of hand, how many have  
6 never been here before?

7 Almost everybody. Well, when I  
8 first got here about four - a little over four  
9 years ago right after the center opened, every  
10 meeting that would come here, I would ask that  
11 same question. And just like you folks, most  
12 people would raise their hand that they've  
13 never been here.

14 And now four years later,  
15 attendance increases every year about anywhere  
16 from 12 to 20 percent.

17 So, now when that group of locals  
18 come in and I ask that question, very few  
19 raise their hands. So, people are getting to  
20 know us, and it's really, really gratifying to  
21 see people.

22 The center is operated by NOAA, is

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1 funded by NOAA, but we have several partners.

2 We have National Park Service, who actually  
3 funds my intern who you may have seen, he's  
4 the tall, young guy running around. They fund  
5 his position on a year-round basis.

6 We have two nonprofit partners.  
7 One operates the Living Reef exhibit, which  
8 we'll go to. That's Mote Marine Laboratories  
9 down in Sarasota. You may be familiar with  
10 them.

11 They maintain the aquariums so I  
12 don't have to worry about feeding things or  
13 anything like that. So, that works out really  
14 well.

15 The other nonprofit operates our  
16 gift shop. Eastern National is a nonprofit  
17 that operates mostly national parks around the  
18 eastern half of the United States. They have  
19 about 200 locations.

20 And they are gracious enough to  
21 operate our gift shop here. And we get a  
22 portion of their profits back here at the

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1 center. Because, as most of you know, the  
2 government just doesn't have a whole lot of  
3 money.

4 So, they actually provide the money  
5 that prints our packets we distribute all  
6 around the Keys and up and down Key West. So,  
7 those two nonprofit partners are really,  
8 really good partners for us.

9 The property that we're on, the  
10 building sits on, used to be U.S. Navy  
11 property. And in World War II, it was part of  
12 a submarine basin.

13 I've got old pictures showing all  
14 kinds of submarines down here in the basin.  
15 And this part of the building was added on,  
16 but the main exhibit hall building was here  
17 during World War II.

18 And when the Navy went through the  
19 BRAC process, the Base Realignment and Closure  
20 thing, they gave about three acres to NOAA.  
21 And that building was there.

22 So, NOAA came in. They put about

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1 four million dollars into this building to  
2 bring it up to standards. It's up to  
3 hurricane standards. The glass is all impact-  
4 resistant to 155-mile-an-hour winds.

5 And then after they got the  
6 building ready, they put two and a half  
7 million dollars into the exhibits.

8 So, I like to tell people it's like  
9 if you just picked up a small wing of the  
10 Smithsonian and flew it down here and dropped  
11 it into tacky Key West.

12 This is really a world-class  
13 visitors' center. It's a great educational  
14 facility. We have lots and lots of school  
15 groups. And if I remember right, tomorrow I  
16 have a group tour coming in, so, the noise  
17 level will probably go up.

18 But it's a great facility for  
19 showing people the need to preserve and  
20 protect the resource here in the Florida Keys  
21 National Marine Sanctuary.

22 And if everybody is ready, we'll go

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1 ahead and take a little tour, if you'd like.

2 (Whereupon, the proceedings went  
3 off the record at 8:43 a.m. and resumed at  
4 9:13 a.m.)

5 CHAIR McCARTY: Again, good morning.

6 We've been up here talking quite a bit about  
7 how we're going to approach the next  
8 discussion. And the next discussion which is  
9 about a new document, potentially new  
10 document: Vision 2030.

11 I'm going to have Mark talk a  
12 little bit about the history of the 2020  
13 document and how it sprang out from this group  
14 and what effect it has had and what the value  
15 of it has been.

16 And so as we get further into the  
17 discussion, it sort of, in a sense, brings in  
18 a number of other issues. One of them is, how  
19 does this group want to proceed with talking  
20 about managing Fisheries 3, the conference  
21 that is being proposed, probably not until  
22 2012. How do we want to participate in that?

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1                   One of the things that Eric and  
2 Mark and I have been talking about is having  
3 the Vision 2030 process take place with  
4 probably a subcommittee, how we did the 2020.

5                   So, that's why I want Mark to talk  
6 about how we did 2020 for those people who  
7 weren't on this group when we did it.

8                   But the sort of other thing that  
9 this brings is, where does MAFAC want to play  
10 a role?

11                   And several people have spoken to  
12 me yesterday and last night, and I know that  
13 some of the more senior members of this group  
14 have been talking about this for a long time.

15                   And I think we're in kind of a  
16 transition right now with MAFAC. Because in  
17 the past, the Chair has been the AA, I  
18 believe, and the sort of coordinator of the  
19 actual people who are on the MAFAC group has  
20 been sort of the person who runs the meetings  
21 and acts as the Chair, but that changed when  
22 we moved to a different system and changed our

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1 charter so that we had our own elected Chair.

2 And that's why we don't have an  
3 election process, because we didn't need it  
4 before, because we didn't actually elect  
5 anybody before.

6 And so, there's a number of  
7 questions that arise when we have a little bit  
8 different structure.

9 And we also have three new members  
10 now. There is going to be at least four or  
11 five of us who are going to be gone next year.

12 So, we're going to have a lot of new members  
13 next year.

14 So, I think it behooves us to sort  
15 of look forward, not only in fisheries issues  
16 and how MAFAC wants to play a role, but how we  
17 actually want to operate and whether our  
18 current agenda structure and meeting structure  
19 works the way we want it to work.

20 And so, I don't want people to feel  
21 constrained in making those kinds of comments,  
22 maybe in this discussion, maybe in a

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1 subsequent discussion.

2 As you know, I hear a lot from the  
3 members, you know, one on one. And that's  
4 really helpful. But it's also helpful to have  
5 those kinds of things discussed a little bit  
6 more broadly by the rest of the group if we're  
7 going to arrive at where we want to be.

8 So, that's kind of what I'm  
9 thinking about. It's what I've been thinking  
10 about for the last 24 hours.

11 And so, I'd like to get people's  
12 thoughts on that and please feel free to speak  
13 your mind on those kinds of issues, people's  
14 impressions and where we think we need to go  
15 and if they think this is all working the way  
16 we want it to work.

17 Mark, could you give us just a  
18 little rundown on the whole 2020 segueing into  
19 2030?

20 And then I think I'd like Eric to  
21 speak a little bit about his vision of where  
22 we might be going and what he would like our

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1 role to be.

2 Mark.

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: On the website, we  
4 had an annotated agenda for this topic, just  
5 to use as a reference point. But the  
6 objective for this morning was to have a  
7 closer discussion focused on revising and  
8 expanding MAFAC's view of the future of U.S.  
9 fisheries.

10 And this is sort of a check-in  
11 point in time for the product that we've  
12 referred to as Vision 2020, which began in  
13 2006 when Bill Hogarth asked, charged or  
14 challenged the MAFAC Committee -- and the  
15 quote's here -- "to prepare a report on the  
16 desired future state of US marine fisheries,  
17 to create a clear, simple, non-jargon language  
18 of stakeholders' consensus," and I'll go into  
19 that in a moment, "on the desired future state  
20 of domestic and international fisheries."

21 The product Vision 2020, the Future  
22 of Marine Fisheries, was MAFAC's response.

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1 And this has been posted on the - if you've  
2 not seen it as a new member, or you can  
3 refresh your memory about what the content is.

4 Just briefly, the report itself --  
5 we'll talk about the product, and then we'll  
6 get back to the process of how we got there -  
7 provided a series of findings, assessments of  
8 what the current state of play was in marine  
9 fisheries, aquaculture, policy issues that  
10 were going to either be expanding in  
11 importance or relevance to NOAA and the  
12 Department of Commerce and the nation, or  
13 those that were sort of new initiatives that  
14 might be coming down the road that we needed  
15 to be prepared for.

16 So, based on these observations and  
17 these findings about what these trends were  
18 and the economy and natural resources and  
19 policy and management, based on those finding  
20 MAFAC came up with a list of recommendations  
21 in the form of advice to NOAA, to the  
22 Secretary and to others about our collective

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1 view as a committee about what the trends were  
2 going to be over the next - the target was the  
3 calendar year 2020.

4 So, many organizations have come  
5 out with reports, you know, future-looking,  
6 and this was our equivalent of that.

7 The five main areas of contents;  
8 the demand and supply of seafood products,  
9 commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries,  
10 aquaculture and management and policy process.

11 As you go through the report,  
12 you'll see there are fairly high-level, sort  
13 of strategic recommendations as opposed to  
14 very specific in this fishery do that, or for  
15 that species do this. So, these were very  
16 high-level recommendations that were coming  
17 out of the report.

18 And the report itself was  
19 engineered through a subcommittee process - or  
20 actually, a working group process.

21 So, a number of people who were  
22 interested in pursuing the creation of the

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1 document served on a working group that met  
2 offline through iterative drafts of trying to  
3 produce a product.

4 And I wanted to skip back to that  
5 reference about stakeholders' consensus. The  
6 original idea was to develop this draft and  
7 then circulate it outside the committee for a  
8 broad, public review and input. And there was  
9 talk at one point of holding little  
10 stakeholder sessions or posting it into the  
11 website.

12 So, I think over time that became  
13 less important to the outcome of getting the  
14 document in hand. So, it was - it took about  
15 two years from start to finish for this  
16 product to be completely vetted and approved.

17 We circulated it for limited review  
18 to different stakeholders, but we didn't have  
19 an open, public process of circulating it for  
20 anybody to comment.

21 The process itself, you know, was  
22 supported by staff in the Policy Office or the

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1 equivalent of the Policy Office at that time.

2           There was an interest in trying to  
3 circulate it broadly.       So in terms of  
4 distribution: Who do we receive it to? Who do  
5 we deliver it to?

6           I think one of the more powerful  
7 aspects of this is that we were able to take  
8 this document and use it during the transition  
9 to the new administration.

10           So, we actually produced a two-  
11 page, you know, kind of full-color, glossy  
12 brochure, if you would, and helped shop that  
13 around.

14           We circulated it to all members on  
15 the Hill. We circulated it to the Transition  
16 Team members who were coming into the new  
17 administration.

18           And, in fact, this was one of the  
19 few recent experiences where we had direct  
20 meetings with NOAA leadership, briefing them.

21           So, the Chair and representative of  
22 the 2020 Committee met with NOAA leadership,

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1 briefed them on the content of the document  
2 and showed them what MAFAC was doing in making  
3 these specific recommendations to be prepared  
4 for the next generation of management and  
5 policy decisions.

6 I think there has been very  
7 widespread circulation of the content itself,  
8 you know, after we released it.

9 Those of you who have been on the  
10 Committee, you may recall Paul Doremus from  
11 NOAA's Policy Office has met with us on a  
12 number of occasions in talking about how our  
13 view of the future influenced the Next  
14 Generation Strategic Plan for NOAA.

15 We've had many consultations with  
16 them to help apply the findings and  
17 recommendations into NOAA's document, which it  
18 also informs the Department of Commerce's  
19 Strategic Plan so that there is - has been a  
20 great deal of value seen by NOAA leadership in  
21 the product of developing the product itself.

22 I think it was - I'm not sure

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1 exactly which meeting it was we - I didn't  
2 look it up, but we had talked about updating  
3 2020.

4 In other words, once we finished  
5 the report, we had various ideas about how  
6 often we should update it, whether we should  
7 update it at all.

8 We had a discussion at one point, I  
9 think it was about two years ago, when fuel  
10 prices were jumping and there was, you know, a  
11 really big influence, impact on commercial and  
12 recreational fishing and whether that was not  
13 - that wasn't captured in our view, this  
14 energy perspective.

15 So, there was almost an immediate  
16 demand to revise it to keep up and keep track  
17 of changing circumstances.

18 As a result of that discussion,  
19 MAFAC had voted to look at it every two years.

20 I think Dave had actually proposed that. And  
21 it was voted on as we'll wait - not try to  
22 change it every meeting, but we have an

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1 interval of two years to look at the content  
2 of it, revise it and keep it up to date so  
3 that it would be -- continue to be salient to  
4 people making these policy choices. So, that  
5 kind of leads us to why it's on the agenda  
6 today.

7 There are a number of issues that  
8 are, you know, driving the administration.  
9 We've heard about a number of them yesterday  
10 in terms of developing National Ocean Policy,  
11 these different influences, these strategic  
12 areas of concern, thinking about how we do  
13 business.

14 And, again, MAFAC is a strategic  
15 policy advisory committee of the Department of  
16 Commerce and NOAA, and so these are exactly  
17 the kinds of issues that you can uniquely  
18 bring to the table from an outside group and  
19 derive recommendations, findings to the  
20 Secretary, to NOAA, as NOAA participates in  
21 the federal arena of national policy for the  
22 oceans.

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1           And so, we're looking to say, as  
2 part of this discussion for this agenda item,  
3 was whether and how MAFAC wanted to update  
4 2020 to take it to the next level of extending  
5 it another ten years and seeing what factors,  
6 what drivers, given what we've been hearing  
7 and learning about the circumstances that are  
8 out there, as well as these different  
9 processes for developing strategies,  
10 blueprints for the future, all the things  
11 we've begun to talk about, that MAFAC will  
12 continue to be relevant and use this  
13 opportunity to come up with continuing valid  
14 and relevant recommendations for the Agency.

15           So, that's my shorthand version of  
16 it.

17           CHAIR McCARTY: So generally  
18 speaking, the view, as many of us think, is  
19 the 2020 as being a document that not only has  
20 been useful to the leadership, but also has  
21 raised the visibility of MAFAC, in the sense  
22 that we've been pretty incisive in our

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1 thinking and really focused. And people have  
2 recognized that, essentially, in a kind of a  
3 two-part thing.

4 DR. HOLLIDAYDR. HOLLIDAY: It's been  
5 one of the, if not the most, visible product  
6 and outcome that's been widely circulated  
7 outside of NOAA.

8 So, I think it has generated a lot  
9 of visibility and a lot of relevancy for the  
10 work that MAFAC has done. It's been a very  
11 powerful tool on that.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Vince.

13 MR. O'SHEA: So, two issues that  
14 sort of come to my mind.

15 The first is sort of just a comment  
16 and get a reaction, but I never quite  
17 understood, this public outreach part of the  
18 old 2020, where if I felt that this was a  
19 carefully selected group of people that the  
20 Secretary of Commerce said were experts from  
21 their region's broad cross-section, and I  
22 thought that this group should feel empowered

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1 to give its view of the future exclusively and  
2 not necessarily try to replicate some sort of  
3 public process that goes through in other  
4 venues like the councils and other things,  
5 because I think you get on a slippery slope:  
6 which part is what the public is saying and  
7 which part is what MAFAC is saying? So, I had  
8 that concern before and I'll put it down  
9 again.

10 And my second short comment is I  
11 think one big thing that's changed from the  
12 original 2020 is what the federal budget, what  
13 the federal government is going to fund,  
14 what's it going to look like globally in the  
15 next ten years.

16 We know the states are broke.  
17 States aren't paying for things they were  
18 paying ten years ago, and I don't see that  
19 changing.

20 So, the question is, how does the  
21 fishery world, how does the fishery  
22 management, how does seafood, how does all

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1 that stuff operate under a different funding  
2 model than what we have in the past. Thanks.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Can I ask you,  
4 Vince, did you feel that the 2020 product that  
5 we came up with was not what you thought it  
6 should be in terms of the views of the MAFAC  
7 experts?

8 MR. O'SHEA: No, no, no, not at all.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: You felt it was - it  
10 succeeded in that?

11 MR. O'SHEA: Oh, sure, but I just -  
12 the - I thought the issue of time to go out  
13 and get public comment was a distraction to  
14 what we should have been doing.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: I see. Okay.

16 MR. O'SHEA: Thank you.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. It crosses my  
18 mind quite often when we look at the agenda  
19 and when we take up the topics that we're  
20 taking up, whether it - which way is the  
21 progress moving.

22 Is it coming from here down to us,

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1 or is it coming from us up to here, you know?

2 I've asked myself that question a number of  
3 times during this meeting already.

4 Obviously, you have to focus the  
5 discussion on particular issues. And, again,  
6 it goes back to the idea of where does the  
7 agenda come from, you know?

8 Does it come from the individual  
9 members, which is what we kind of tried to do  
10 this time. So, what are people's concerns?  
11 How do we incorporate it?

12 At the same time, we know there's  
13 these overarching issues coming from this  
14 administration, and from NOAA, from NMFS,  
15 even. And so, we've tried to incorporate that  
16 as well.

17 So, what drives what is really one  
18 of the big questions I always - I'm asking  
19 myself for MAFAC. And I think that's a very  
20 valid point.

21 Randy, you had a comment?

22 MR. CATES: I have a couple comments

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1 on this.

2 The Vision 2020 did a couple  
3 things. It really, in my opinion, made MAFAC  
4 do some soul-searching on what its role is  
5 going to be.

6 But the issue of - and I think it's  
7 a very well-done document. It took a lot of  
8 time and energy to create that. I mean, took  
9 a couple years of pretty much what MAFAC did.  
10 It was very consuming.

11 The discussion I remember vividly  
12 about what to do with the document, and that's  
13 when MAFAC was trying to find what its role  
14 is. And we dove into the charter at that time  
15 whether we should advocate it, send it out to  
16 the public.

17 And it got down to whether we even  
18 had the authority to hand it to our individual  
19 senators and advocate for it.

20 And I remember that we did agree to  
21 send it out only because we were in that  
22 transition period, but our role was to advise

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1 the Secretary of Commerce. And we dove into  
2 that pretty detailed on what does that really  
3 mean.

4 And so the outcome I remember, our  
5 advice is simply to the Secretary of Commerce  
6 is it's in our charter. And it caused us to  
7 even look at ways to change the charter that  
8 some of us, myself included, felt we weren't  
9 fulfilling our duty as written. And so, maybe  
10 we should change the wording on that.

11 We did discuss how often to update  
12 it. I would be concerned about updating it  
13 too often only because of the level of effort  
14 and time it will take. And is that a better  
15 use of MAFAC's time versus individual specific  
16 issues and giving advice?

17 That would be the only concern I  
18 have. Maybe five, ten years, you know, I  
19 could see. But do we really want to consume  
20 two years of this group's time, and then you  
21 put it out there, and then two years goes by  
22 and then you take another two years?

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1                   That's a big question Mark.

2                   CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, yes.

3                   MR. CATES: It does lead to the  
4 discussion which is just a side bar to this of  
5 what is the best way for MAFAC to give its  
6 advice? How do we - that's our job.

7                   And there are times where it feels  
8 like our advice is not really - I wouldn't say  
9 wanted, but it's not to be controlled. And is  
10 that really what this group wants to do?

11                   It's been a concern in the past. I  
12 can tell you that some members have resigned  
13 because of that. And that caused a lot of the  
14 discussion on what MAFAC's role is.

15                   So, I think very timely to put on  
16 the table with a lot of membership of how best  
17 to move MAFAC forward and what's the role in  
18 this, especially during economic times.

19                   CHAIR McCARTY: All right. I think  
20 that's what I was trying to get at in my  
21 opening comments is that it's almost like a  
22 ball, you know. It's not - it doesn't have

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1 edges. There's a lot of associated issues  
2 with this discussion.

3 MR. CATES: There is.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Because it did take  
5 a lot of time and effort, and it was the focus  
6 of MAFAC for a number of years since I've been  
7 on the group.

8 MR. CATES: And there's a lot of  
9 success in Vision 2020. But at the same time,  
10 there is disappointment.

11 The success was it was a very well-  
12 done document. It celebrated the successes,  
13 in my opinion, of fisheries and fisheries'  
14 management. But also some of the advice,  
15 nothing has happened with it. And so, there  
16 is a disappointment.

17 In particular, aquaculture is a  
18 great example of that. I mean, Tom Billy was  
19 very disappointed in his last meeting that  
20 aquaculture didn't get to where he thought it  
21 should be.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

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1 MR. CATES: But that's life, right?  
2 That's what we get successes, and sometimes  
3 not.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Right. And again it  
5 brings us back to the other concept of every  
6 administration has their own agenda and their  
7 own goals. And that is legitimate, and those  
8 are the things that they want to accomplish.

9 And to me, I'm very torn on this.  
10 That's one of the reasons we have this sort of  
11 open discussion is that, you know, we do have  
12 a different situation now than when we put  
13 2020 together.

14 We have a series of nine themes in  
15 the National Ocean Policy discussion, for  
16 example.

17 And if there's a need to do a new  
18 document, one of the questions in my mind is  
19 do we center our thoughts and our writing  
20 around those themes, for example.

21 Would that be more appropriate to  
22 respond to what we know this administration is

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1 organizing itself around? Do we do the same  
2 thing?

3 Again, which way is it going? Is  
4 it coming from this way or this way? And I  
5 think the answer probably is it's kind of a  
6 combination of both.

7 And I know Dave wants to speak, and  
8 I want to hear from Dave. And then Eric has  
9 agreed to speak a little bit about some of his  
10 thoughts on this.

11 So, Dave and then Eric.

12 MR. WALLACE: Well, I agree with  
13 Randy in that 2020 was a significant success,  
14 from my perspective.

15 Did the administration take all of  
16 our recommendations? The answer is no.

17 They were our recommendations, you  
18 know, and they were nothing more than a group  
19 of compromises of knowledgeable members to get  
20 a consensus to create the document.

21 Because the world changes so fast,  
22 we have to make - if this is going to be a

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1 living document, then we have to address those  
2 things that we can envision. Otherwise, it  
3 becomes an irrelevant document.

4 And so, do you need to update it?  
5 I feel the world is changing so fast that it's  
6 all most of us can do just to stay abreast of  
7 what's going on.

8 And so much of it is completely  
9 unforeseen and unanticipated. So, you can't  
10 adjust, you know, you're right. It's like a  
11 ball. It's a crystal ball. And we're rubbing  
12 the crystal ball and we're looking into it and  
13 we say what do we see?

14 That's the best thing we can do  
15 with - because we are a unique group in that  
16 we have many different perspectives and many  
17 different expertise.

18 And so, we can pull all this  
19 information together and then come up with the  
20 best vision of the crystal ball possible.

21 And should we look out further than  
22 20 years? I - and my answer was, yes, we

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1 should probably look out more than 25 or 30  
2 years in a very general way. And every two  
3 years in a more focused way, addressing the  
4 current issues; fuel, 2020, ocean renewable  
5 energy.

6 Now, we are to the point where we  
7 have ended over-fishing. So, the concept of  
8 how fisheries management is going to operate  
9 from rebuilding -- or stocking, over-fishing,  
10 then rebuilding the stocks.

11 And then how do you really manage  
12 rebuilt stocks, you know? And that becomes -  
13 if you all have -- if you have individual  
14 transferable quotas for every stock, that's  
15 pretty easy.

16 And so what's going to happen is  
17 how do you get past the notion of as we build  
18 stocks, then why can't other people come in?

19 And that's going to be just a  
20 gigantic issue coming down the track really  
21 fast.

22 And so, we need to address those in

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1 an overarching way, in my opinion. So, I  
2 think that what we decided to do on, you know,  
3 updating 2020 is a good idea. And move it out  
4 even further.

5 CHAIR McCARTY: So, the allocation  
6 of rebuilt resources is a huge issue. You  
7 brought it up, Paul, already with me, and it's  
8 on the agenda because it is a big issue.

9 I recognized that at the CCC  
10 meetings that I've going to. And I know that  
11 we're going to talk about that later.

12 But, Eric, would you like to talk a  
13 little bit about what your thoughts are?

14 MR. SCHWAAB: Sure. Thank you.

15 So, first of all, as I think I  
16 alluded to yesterday, MAFAC seems to me to be  
17 at its best when it is dealing with the big,  
18 longer-term strategic issues.

19 I mean, that's the place where the  
20 diverse makeup of this group really helps  
21 thoughts to most effectively formulate views  
22 and positions and plans.

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1           And I think personally, that the  
2 2020 document was a great example of that.  
3 And so, I was on the Committee when we worked  
4 on the 2020 document.

5           I agree that not everything that  
6 was envisioned in the 2020 document or that  
7 was perhaps recommended in the context of the  
8 2020 document was fully adopted by the  
9 Department, but I also believe that some of  
10 the big successes, and Mark alluded to two, of  
11 recent years in many ways have their - can be  
12 traced back to some of the really strong input  
13 from MAFAC around some of those issues.

14           And, you know, despite the fact  
15 that Tom might have been frustrated with our  
16 pace on aquaculture, I mean, at that time it  
17 was both in the 2020 document and  
18 independently MAFAC, that was incredibly  
19 influential in putting the Agency on a much -  
20 I think a much stronger pathway with respect  
21 to pursuing aquaculture needs and  
22 opportunities.

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1           And so while, you know, it's been a  
2 long, slow process, there was first the  
3 development of the - of the original policy,  
4 and then now it has come into a second  
5 iteration of the policy, and I think we really  
6 are despite the slow pace, going to be with  
7 the release of the new policy, in a position I  
8 think to move the ball on the ground much more  
9 - much more effectively and aggressively.

10           So, I would say first that, you  
11 know, we're going to continue to look heavily  
12 to this group to help us inform some of those  
13 and to help probe some thinking around some of  
14 the big, strategic, longer-planning term  
15 horizon issues, you know.

16           That's not to say that, you know,  
17 there aren't significant - there aren't  
18 significant needs and significant  
19 opportunities with respect to single topical  
20 areas.

21           I just think that this organization  
22 has to be really selective about the way that

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1 we pursue what those things are because it's  
2 really easy to get - to spin off into, you  
3 know, some kind of a side channel that eats up  
4 a lot of time that's never really going to go  
5 anywhere.

6 And I think it's hard for the, you  
7 know, it's hard to sort of maintain the right  
8 balance there.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: But I think that's  
11 something that you all have to hold yourselves  
12 accountable to.

13 Okay. This is the place where - I  
14 mean, I heard a little bit of that yesterday  
15 afternoon with some of the climate discussion.

16 Okay. Is this a place where we're  
17 really going - are we going to get anywhere by  
18 going down this road and trying to - we're not  
19 going to come perhaps to some consensus  
20 agreement on aspects of that challenge.

21 Well, let's just be open about, you  
22 know, as I think Heather was yesterday in what

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1 our prospects are.

2 That's not to say that that  
3 precludes discussion of that topic or it  
4 precludes some acknowledgment that that topic  
5 is important in relation to a lot of things  
6 we're doing. But let's be sort of clear and  
7 strategic about the way that we select and  
8 scope particular elements of what's out there.

9 You know, I think that so there are  
10 those big, strategic, long-range issues.  
11 There are selective, I think, opportunities  
12 and needs to really delve into more specific  
13 topical areas. And we just need to be  
14 strategic about those and be open in  
15 discussing what those are.

16 I also think we shouldn't forget,  
17 and I think it's been an important role of the  
18 Committee as a FACA chartered group, to be a  
19 group that can help manage some additional  
20 input.

21 So, the best example of that is  
22 recently is what we've done with the

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1 recreational action agenda. And that's been -  
2 that's been very valuable to the Agency.

3 And I think that, again, you know,  
4 it's up to the Committee to say yes or no, we  
5 will take on that responsibility.

6 And for those of you who maybe were  
7 around then, some of you weren't -- I actually  
8 dealt with this from both sides as I  
9 transitioned from -

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

11 MR. SCHWAAB: -- managing the  
12 Recreational Work Group to heading up the  
13 Agency.

14 But it was the Agency that came to  
15 us when I was still on the Committee, and  
16 said, you know, we need this input.

17 And MAFAC as, you know, as the  
18 right FACA chartered group, can effectively  
19 manage that for us.

20 And there was good, healthy debate  
21 around this table as to whether that was a  
22 role that the Committee wanted to take on.

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1 Ultimately, the Committee agreed to take that  
2 on.

3 From where I sit now, that  
4 continues to be a very positive contribution  
5 of the Committee.

6 Now again, you know, it's all a  
7 question of time budgets and willingness on  
8 the part of each of you to, you know, accept  
9 that or any other charge like that as a part  
10 of your, you know, as a part of your venue.

11 But that's a role I think we should  
12 discretely not forget as something that is of  
13 value.

14 You know, I think that there is, I  
15 think, another interesting question in the  
16 context of sort of some of those big,  
17 strategic questions that sort of run the  
18 spectrum from sort of introspection into the  
19 Agency.

20 Here's something that the Agency is  
21 doing or is not doing that is consistent with  
22 what we see as sort of the longer-term

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1 strategic needs and opportunities versus how  
2 do we more effectively position the Agency in  
3 the bigger world. So, there's sort of that  
4 looking in versus looking out tension as well.

5 And so, I think when we think about  
6 things like ocean policy and all the  
7 opportunities associated with engagements  
8 under the umbrella of National Ocean Policy,  
9 these nine strategic areas are very fertile  
10 opportunities.

11 It's something that we within the  
12 Agency are asking ourselves constantly in each  
13 of these - as these strategic action plans,  
14 these priority areas under the National Ocean  
15 Policy umbrella, you know.

16 Which of those do we engage in and  
17 try to leverage our engagement in a way that  
18 you have to benefit to the things that matter  
19 to us, and which of those do we, you know, do  
20 we participate in, but not invest a lot of  
21 energy?

22 And so the opportunities there are,

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1 you know, as we look in - as we look outside  
2 of the Agency to things that have influence  
3 over achieving the outcomes we seek to  
4 achieve, how do we most effectively leverage  
5 what those opportunities are?

6 And so - and I think by extension,  
7 I would ask the Committee to think in those  
8 kind of same terms.

9 So, I think that probably it's  
10 right to think about particularly National  
11 Ocean Policy and these nine strategic action  
12 plans that are being developed, as a place for  
13 investment of some time and energy.

14 So, the last thing I would say, and  
15 I think it is particularly important now as we  
16 sit with three new members and I think  
17 somewhere in the neighborhood of likely five  
18 more by early next year, to think a lot about  
19 the - sort of managing the, you know, self-  
20 maintenance of the Committee and managing the  
21 culture of the committee.

22 So, you know, the Committee has

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1 grown in I think very effective ways in recent  
2 years. And it's important to openly  
3 acknowledge the way in which it's grown, the  
4 challenges that it has faced in the growth  
5 process so that as we have these, you know, as  
6 we have this fairly significant turnover, we  
7 don't put ourselves in the position of  
8 reinventing the wheel.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: So, it's those of you  
11 that have sort of lived through that  
12 transition that I think are going to be most  
13 important in providing that leadership and  
14 providing that historical perspective and  
15 providing that sort of foundation as we, you  
16 know, look, for lack of I guess a better term,  
17 manage sort of the culture of the Committee  
18 going forward.

19 And so, there is a big self-  
20 maintenance component to this that we  
21 shouldn't lose sight of as an explicit - as an  
22 explicit activity.

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1           And then let me say one more thing  
2           which is to emphasize something that I talked  
3           about yesterday, we're going to talk about  
4           again today, is that all of this is going to  
5           take place in the context of a much different  
6           budget plan for the Agency, which is going to  
7           have very real - very real implications for,  
8           you know, what we can spend time on, the kind  
9           of investment choices that we make.

10           And it's going to force us to think  
11           much more carefully about prioritization and  
12           bring more discipline to those discussions  
13           within the Agency.

14           And I think by extension, we're  
15           going to ask you to also keep that thought in  
16           mind going forward.

17           You know, I still think this is a  
18           great venue. This is a great team. You all  
19           have a lot to offer us and we look forward to  
20           working through this.

21           CHAIR McCARTY: All right. Thank  
22           you. That's very, very helpful. Very

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1 helpful.

2 I think we lose track of the fact  
3 we're looking for our position in the Agency,  
4 and the Agency is actually looking for their  
5 position in the rest of the administration on  
6 a broader scale.

7 I think that came home to me during  
8 the previous discussion. It's like, gosh,  
9 that makes coastal and marine spatial planning  
10 look really good, you know. We've got bigger  
11 dangers out there than the ones we see right  
12 now.

13 I've got Keith, and then Martin,  
14 and I see Randy wants to comment as well.

15 Do you want to comment specifically  
16 on something that Eric said?

17 MR. CATES: Yes.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Why don't you go  
19 ahead, and then Keith.

20 MR. CATES: Eric brought up a point  
21 that I've been thinking about. And just for  
22 history to me, MAFAC at its best was when I

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1 first came on several years ago.

2 There was less content, in my  
3 opinion, of the meetings, more discussion and  
4 an outcome.

5 And I and others felt that over  
6 time, it's changed into almost an overload of  
7 information where we don't have the time to  
8 discuss the issue and then give advice.

9 And then it's sort of like, well,  
10 we discussed it at MAFAC, so we're moving on  
11 to another subject.

12 And I think my recommendation is to  
13 back up and maybe put less content on the  
14 agenda.

15 Yesterday was a perfect example of  
16 that. Clearly climate change was an issue  
17 that many did not want to have here. It's an  
18 issue that has been requested by others on  
19 MAFAC to be briefed on. And there was -  
20 seemed to be a bit of resistance.

21 And I, from a personal level, don't  
22 like when it's sort of, well, we all agree on

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1 this issue. And as a group, we've never  
2 vetted out that issue.

3 And so, my advice is housekeeping,  
4 maybe, whatever the issues are, who chooses  
5 the issues, for maybe a little bit less and  
6 more discussions.

7 And my first experience was this  
8 was more like a think tank. That has changed  
9 where we just don't really - we don't bring  
10 the perspectives.

11 I mean, we've got this great wealth  
12 of knowledge here, but are we really drawing  
13 from it?

14 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, I have to  
15 agree with you, Randy. My goal for this  
16 meeting was to sort of go back to the more of  
17 a discussion format and product.

18 You and I talked about this before.

19 A number of the older members have talked  
20 about it before, you know, how do we get back  
21 to that sort of format?

22 That's one of the reasons I wanted

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1 to put the meeting structure on our own  
2 agenda, because I think it's important.

3 But, yes, yesterday was way too  
4 full. I was real frustrated by that. But,  
5 you know, sometimes that happens.

6 Keith, and then Martin.

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Thank you, Ms. Chair.

8 I think we're having a very healthy  
9 discussion. And, Eric, thank you especially  
10 for the big picture perspective.

11 I'm going to try to steer a vision  
12 I think assembles a lot of the dialogue we've  
13 had. And, I mean, the whole conversation  
14 reminds me of the saying about how you eat an  
15 elephant, you know, one bite at a time.

16 Dave made a good point about beware  
17 of rubbing the crystal ball. And, Eric,  
18 you're making the point that we're really good  
19 when we focus specifically on a big issue.

20 So, it leaves me thinking, well,  
21 maybe the way you get there is be a little bit  
22 more selective with our Vision document, and

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1 do our Vision document a bite at a time.

2 Do a vision for aquaculture, do a  
3 vision for commercial fisheries, do a vision  
4 for recreational fisheries, do a vision for  
5 protective resources, a vision for ocean  
6 energy, and have it be a continuous, ongoing,  
7 rotating work product.

8 And if we need to change which  
9 piece of vision is coming out, we can change  
10 it to reflect the priorities of the  
11 administration or the ongoing events.

12 In that way, it can be something  
13 that's not quite as massive. It's more  
14 discrete. It's more focused on the things  
15 that are relevant and timely.

16 If we took that approach, it would  
17 eliminate the debate over how often do we do  
18 it. It would become an ongoing product. It's  
19 not something that's done every ten years.  
20 It's not something done every five. It's done  
21 relevant to the needs of the time. But I also  
22 think it's important that we take a look at

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1 our Vision document for how we manage  
2 ourselves.

3 In the past, the document has been  
4 focused on outward looking at the resources  
5 and the issues we're worried about, but I  
6 think we also need to think about what's the  
7 vision for MAFAC itself.

8 How do we as an organization  
9 function? And that ties in with the concept  
10 of casting.

11 Just if we develop a more focused  
12 document, then we as an entity become more  
13 relevant. We engage in the relevant dialogue.

14 We produce something that can be sent to the  
15 policymakers and have influence in.

16 Just the way yesterday I was  
17 advocating that the committees take a specific  
18 issue, try to write something up and be able  
19 to go to the meetings when they're seeking  
20 public input, the Vision document would lend  
21 itself to that kind of public participation  
22 product in giving MAFAC some relevance.

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1 I also think it's important for  
2 everybody to keep in mind as we do this work  
3 product, it comes down to individuals doing  
4 it, you know.

5 There's a lot of us here at the  
6 table. And collectively as a group, we're  
7 really only as good as the work product of the  
8 individuals.

9 At the end of the day, somebody's  
10 got to write it. Somebody's got to do it.  
11 There's going to be one or two people who are  
12 initially going to step up as experts in a  
13 given area.

14 And then what happens is that -  
15 those people go back to the group, get that  
16 peer review from everybody else, get that  
17 feedback.

18 And the benefit of MAFAC is the  
19 work of a couple individuals. It's vetted by  
20 some knowledgeable people to produce an end  
21 product that represents all of our collective  
22 thinking.

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1           But at the end, each of us has to  
2 step up individually on some piece of this.  
3 So, within our own expertise.

4           Bottom line, my suggestion is just  
5 break up Vision 2020 and - or Vision 2030 into  
6 smaller bites that we can all handle.

7           CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. We kind of  
8 did that the first time, but we ended up with  
9 one document with those pieces in it.

10          You know, you can break it up in  
11 time, if that's what you're suggesting.

12          MR. RIZZARDI: That's what I'm  
13 suggesting.

14          CHAIR McCARTY: So, choose one theme  
15 and do that first and do it sequentially,  
16 rather than all at once.

17          Is that what you're suggesting -

18          MR. RIZZARDI: Yes.

19          CHAIR McCARTY: -- in terms of  
20 breaking it up?

21          MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, ma'am.

22          CHAIR McCARTY: That's a pretty good

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1 idea.

2 In terms of these visuals, you  
3 know, I have to say that the last time around  
4 the staff did a huge amount of the work.

5 There were a few of us who did a  
6 lot of work, too, but it was the staff where  
7 the burden fell, to be honest. They're the  
8 ones that pulled it all together and redid it  
9 and redid it and redid it and redid it. I  
10 mean, that was a huge burden for them, as well  
11 as for the members.

12 So, I think we're going to go to  
13 Martin, and then to Bill Dewey, and then to  
14 Tom Raftican.

15 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Madam Chair.

16 I want to key off of what Eric was  
17 saying one of the aspects of one topic. I  
18 wanted to talk about the gestalt of MAFAC.

19 And I went through the list, and if  
20 the class of '11 which includes me and Ed,  
21 Dave Wallace, Patty Doerr and who else? And  
22 Paul Clampitt. There's five of us.

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1           If we get reappointed, what's going  
2 to happen after Heather's last meeting, in  
3 other words, the first meeting of 2012,  
4 roughly 40 percent of MAFAC will be first term  
5 appointed in '11 because we're going to be  
6 losing - I mean, there's going to be five more  
7 people appointed in 2012. But in essence,  
8 they're going to be in their first year, and  
9 we have two new members today.

10           So, the senior member is going to  
11 be Randy Cates.

12           MR. CATES: Oh, my God.

13           (Laughter.)

14           MR. FISHER: And, you know, one of  
15 the things I've noticed about this group is  
16 when I came on, there was, you know, MAFAC  
17 goes through this cycle. And every - I  
18 haven't actually charted the timeline, but  
19 probably every five or six years MAFAC becomes  
20 young again.

21           And not that the ones of us that  
22 have been here for three years don't have

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1 expertise and perspective, but we don't have  
2 five years of expertise and perspective. We  
3 don't have five years of experience dealing  
4 with the administration, dealing with this  
5 meeting.

6 So, what I'm getting at is it's  
7 going to be a really interesting MAFAC year  
8 2012, because we're going to be a young MAFAC.

9 And I just, you know, I think it's  
10 going to be exciting, but it's also going to  
11 be challenging because some of what happens in  
12 this committee is almost like a tribal story.

13 It's handed down from the elders to the ones  
14 coming up.

15 And you're going to be the man,  
16 you're going to be the man with the story. I  
17 mean, you're the man with the jokes all the  
18 time. So, now the burden is going to be on  
19 you -

20 (Laughter.)

21 MR. CATES: Can I comment on that?

22 I'm sincere that I have all the

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1 faith that if MAFAC addresses the big picture  
2 issues, the outcomes are going to be very  
3 similar.

4 I'm not concerned that the advice  
5 is going to be really different ten years from  
6 now. Because if MAFAC seriously draws from  
7 the experience, the solutions to our problems  
8 of our fisheries are recognizable.

9 Aquaculture is a perfect example.  
10 When I came on MAFAC I thought, oh, my God,  
11 this is going to be another group, I'm going  
12 to get attacked. And what I found was the  
13 complete opposite.

14 That if you look at the nation's  
15 seafood production and what are the solutions  
16 to producing more seafood in the United  
17 States, you could be the biggest environmental  
18 anti-aquaculture person, but the outcome was  
19 the same. There aren't that many other  
20 options.

21 If that's the question how we're  
22 going to produce more seafood, or how are we

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1 going to manage our fisheries in a more  
2 responsible manner, the outcome is going to  
3 be, I think, a good one, in my opinion.

4 So, being young is not a scary  
5 thing, in my opinion. I think it's a healthy  
6 thing.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Martin wants  
8 to speak. Back to you.

9 MR. FISHER: I think you're  
10 absolutely correct, but I think there also is  
11 the danger of reinventing the wheel as Eric  
12 cautioned us not to do.

13 So, I just wanted to throw that out  
14 on the table because I don't know how many  
15 people actually examine the list of members  
16 and look around the table and see who we're  
17 going to lose.

18 I mean, we're going to lose some  
19 pretty cool people. And we're also going to  
20 gain some pretty cool people, whoever they  
21 are.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: All right. Okay.

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1 So, we're going to do Bill. But, Bill, don't  
2 mention Randy's name, okay? Because then  
3 he'll want to talk again.

4 MR. DEWEY: Okay.

5 (Laughter.)

6 MR. DEWEY: I'm one of the old  
7 members here that will retire after the end of  
8 the year, but it's been - I've appreciated  
9 Eric's comments, and Mark's as well, to get  
10 perspective on how the 2020 has been useful.

11 That's encouraging because I'm one  
12 who's kind of a skeptic when it comes to  
13 planning and seeing plans fall on the shelf  
14 and having limited value. So, it is nice to  
15 know that 2020 was useful.

16 That said, based on Eric's input,  
17 it would seem to me that MAFAC's probably  
18 better to focus our energy and time on some of  
19 the individual high-profile priority issues  
20 rather than trying to update and do a new 2030  
21 plan at least right now.

22 I think that, you know, the NOP,

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1 SATs, you know, for example, are a place, as  
2 Eric suggested, that we should put some  
3 energy.

4 I personally with the release of  
5 the updated aquaculture policy that we're  
6 going to hear about later today, I'd like to  
7 see the Committee focus some energy on  
8 updating the ten-year plan for marine  
9 aquaculture and putting some specific action  
10 goals in there. I'm looking forward to  
11 working with NOAA to do that.

12 Mark emailed the Committee on the  
13 climate issue and this National Fish and  
14 Wildlife plants climate adaptation strategy  
15 may be another area that the Committee wants  
16 to put some energy into, as well as continuing  
17 input into the recreational action agenda.

18 You know, I think there's a lot of  
19 areas that we can engage that are high-  
20 priority issues for the Agency. And our time  
21 would be better spent on those rather than  
22 updating the 2013.

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1           Although, I do kind of like, you  
2 know, Keith's suggestion of, you know, keeping  
3 a living document and keeping it current, you  
4 know, biting a chapter at a time at a meeting  
5 or every other meeting or something.

6           I'm involved with another strategic  
7 plan as far as shellfish research priorities,  
8 and that's how we do it. It has ten chapters.

9           And periodically as things get stale, we'll  
10 pick them up and update a chapter and keep the  
11 document alive and current in that regard.

12           So, I'm not opposed to that  
13 approach, but I'm also wondering if maybe a  
14 good time to take on the 2020 and update it  
15 might be after - are you calling it  
16 Sustainable Fisheries 3?

17           CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, Managing Our  
18 Nation's Fisheries 3.

19           MR. DEWEY: Yes, you know, after  
20 that you'll have your new class of MAFACers  
21 in. And you'll have a lot of new information  
22 from that effort that maybe that's the time to

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1 let the new MAFACers put their fingerprint on  
2 NOAA's future and update and go to 2030 at  
3 that point or 2035 or whatever the update is.

4 That might be a more appropriate time.

5 Those are my comments. Thanks.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: So, let me just ask  
7 you a couple things.

8 When you talked about taking these  
9 subject areas like aquaculture, ten-year plan,  
10 the NOP, priorities of the NOP, subject areas,  
11 it is a little bit like taking a piece of 2030  
12 at a time in a sense that when you're going to  
13 do - if you do a 2030 document, you're going  
14 to be talking about those, certainly.

15 I don't see how you can avoid  
16 talking about those things, recreational  
17 fisheries and so on.

18 So, perhaps you're talking about  
19 the same thing, in a sense.

20 MR. DEWEY: Well, I am in a sense,  
21 but I also see - I think it's important for  
22 MAFAC. Because as Randy said, we put a lot of

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1 time and thought into that document.

2 I was just going back on the - I  
3 was just reading the aquaculture section here  
4 as we started our discussion on it. And, you  
5 know, it's still current, what we said, and  
6 it's still very relevant.

7 And I think we should - I think the  
8 existing MAFAC, the new class included, should  
9 be using that as a guiding document.

10 As we take on the NOP and these  
11 other high-priority issues, we should be  
12 referring back to that to guide our thinking  
13 and our input on those different subject  
14 areas.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Thank you,  
16 Bill.

17 Tom Raftican and then Paul  
18 Clampitt. And then I'd kind of like to draw  
19 this to a close after that because we would  
20 have used up an hour or so, take a break, and  
21 then talk a little bit about how we want to go  
22 with our subcommittee meetings.

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1                   MR. RAFTICAN: And subcommittee  
2 meetings is kind of where I was going.

3                   You know, the whole discussion here  
4 is how to - do we make short-term  
5 recommendations to NOAA, or do we take a long-  
6 term look at it and clearly, we go around the  
7 room, this is exactly what Bill was saying is  
8 basically both, and how do you manage that.

9                   I think there are probably ways to  
10 better utilize our subcommittees, because  
11 that's really where your short-term  
12 recommendations come out of.

13                   The problem I have with  
14 subcommittees is a timing issue. We take on  
15 things within subcommittees, we deal with  
16 them, we get hopefully the people that are  
17 more expert in those specific areas, we deal  
18 with the questions that are open to anybody,  
19 but we take care of it, and then you bring it  
20 back to the parent body.

21                   If I would remember one thing  
22 overwhelming of all my MAFAC meetings, is

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1 committee recommendations come in at 4:45 p.m.  
2 on a final day.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Exactly.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: And people are  
5 heading out of the room. And, you know,  
6 there's ways of organizing meetings to get  
7 done what you want to get done. And I say  
8 this as, you know, isn't done particularly,  
9 but the thing is it would be a lot better if  
10 you could bring some of - I mean, it's hard  
11 because NOAA does a very good job of bringing  
12 in expertise and using that in the  
13 subcommittee meetings.

14 But the thing is if they are the  
15 final thing on the agenda, I'm not sure that  
16 we get the best insight of the entire MAFAC in  
17 the things that we vote on.

18 Like I said, if I could remember  
19 one trouble spot down the line, it's that -  
20 and in particular recreational fishing. We  
21 tend to hung out one time late on a Thursday  
22 afternoon, but we've got to find that it would

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1 be fortuitous to find better ways how to deal  
2 with recommendations from the subcommittee.

3 They are important to the entire  
4 MAFAC, but to get to these knock-down drag-  
5 outs as people heading out of the room, the  
6 best intention doesn't get there.

7 And perhaps one of the ways we get  
8 better input going in there is looking at 2020  
9 or the 2030, the new class that will be  
10 joining us, and use that as the basis of the  
11 subcommittee meeting.

12 Let's send out the chapters on that  
13 to our subcommittee members in advance so that  
14 that becomes part of the basis of the meeting  
15 going in.

16 All right. Here's where we came  
17 from. There are new things on the horizon.  
18 Here's where we go.

19 And then the other thing is short-  
20 term, long-term. The other thing that comes  
21 up here are we've got a change in  
22 administration. So, our changes - priorities

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1 have changed in the way we approach things. I  
2 don't even want to get into that right now.

3 And then the other thing that gets  
4 up here is we have catastrophic events like  
5 Deep Water Horizon absolutely change the  
6 entire horizon that we're looking at.

7 I don't know how you integrate  
8 those two things, but those are probably good  
9 problems for the next class.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Tom, I am so glad  
11 you brought that up, the order of events on  
12 the agenda. I agree with you completely.

13 I think I signaled at the beginning  
14 of the meeting that I wanted to do something  
15 about that at this meeting. I haven't quite  
16 figured it out yet, but we're going to sit  
17 down and figure out something so that we don't  
18 have the 4:15 blues, you know.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: One more sentence to  
20 kind of finish up on this. I think it's a  
21 really good thing in politics right now, but  
22 we're getting you as acting chair or hopefully

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1 whoever chair will be.

2 As everybody can see, there's a  
3 change going on. And it's very, very  
4 important that the handoff is done with some  
5 existing expertise still out there.

6 And probably with a co-chair coming  
7 in to get that transition in place.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Roger, I agree. I  
9 believe in that too. Thank you, too.

10 Mr. Clampitt.

11 MR. CLAMPITT: Madam Chair, I just  
12 have a simple question, you know.

13 This new document 2030 is going to  
14 take quite a bit of effort and time, and I'm  
15 kind of curious, with just two meetings a  
16 year, I'm wondering if the administration is  
17 going to put any more resources in this. In  
18 other words, is there going to be another  
19 meeting, or are we going to put this together  
20 at our desks at home, or how is that going to  
21 go about?

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, that's a good

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1 question and it leads us to the decision that  
2 we need to make, which is do we want to do a  
3 2030? Do we want to do a 2030 in pieces as  
4 Keith was talking about? And when do we want  
5 to do it? Do we want to do it now, or do we  
6 want to do it later?

7 I think those are big decisions.  
8 So, you know, and to answer your direct  
9 question, last time we did it, we did a lot of  
10 it ourselves at our desks at home. And the  
11 staff did a lot of work in between meetings  
12 and sent out version after version.

13 And a lot of it was done  
14 electronically back and forth through email,  
15 and then we also had teleconferences.  
16 Substantial number of teleconferences which  
17 were long. And we were all, you know, online  
18 and we had all our documents out and marking  
19 things up and stuff.

20 It was difficult to do that way  
21 rather than doing it face to face, but it was  
22 the only way we could do it, really.

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1                   We may have had one extra meeting.

2           Mark, did we have an extra meeting?   During  
3   that time in one of the years, I think we may  
4   have.

5                   DR. HOLLIDAY: No.

6                   CHAIR McCARTY: No?

7                   DR. HOLLIDAY: Not a meeting -

8                   CHAIR McCARTY: Not a formal face-  
9   to-face meeting.

10                  No, it - that's really true.   And  
11   so I see that Tony would like to speak.   And,  
12   Eric, if you want to answer Paul's question, I  
13   don't want to put you on the spot, but -

14                  MR. SCHWAAB: Well, I think you  
15   partially answered it, which is in part it was  
16   the members committing to participate in  
17   conference calls.   In part it was staff  
18   support to, you know, get, to organize new  
19   information and drafts and the like in between  
20   conference calls and meetings.

21                  And I just think like, I mean, the  
22   short answer is like everything else that

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1 we're dealing with, it's just a question of  
2 prioritization.

3 So, new resources probably  
4 unlikely. Prioritization of existing  
5 resources toward this effort, you know,  
6 certainly a desirable outcome.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes. Okay. Just  
8 to speak to what I think maybe we should  
9 consider, is that, you know, if we look at the  
10 annotated agenda -- perhaps you could move it  
11 up to the bottom.

12 If you look at the potential  
13 options that Mark has laid out, I think to  
14 answer the first question, Vision 2020 is  
15 still relevant as it is written.

16 I think it's still relevant, but I  
17 tend to think that Number 2 is probably true  
18 that it probably needs some updated.

19 And my first instinct is to update  
20 something that's irrelevant and to make sure  
21 that it's not irrelevant at least.

22 And so what I would suggest is that

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1 we do appoint a very small committee of two or  
2 three people to go through the document and to  
3 suggest updates to the individual parts of it  
4 to keep it relevant, to keep it a living  
5 document.

6           Because I think like Dave, that  
7 that's important. Not talking about a 2030  
8 going out further than 2020 necessarily, but  
9 just to update the document to keep it -- and  
10 not have it be in the drawer somewhere.

11           And then the idea of the new  
12 issues, the NOP priorities, the ongoing  
13 discussion about aquaculture, climate,  
14 adaptation and so on, I do think we have to  
15 keep current with those as well.

16           And where it's appropriate to  
17 update the document to include the new stuff,  
18 if you will, then that's the thing to do.

19           Beyond that I think that these  
20 single issues or groups of issues should be  
21 addressed in kind of a piece-by-piece way  
22 similar to what Keith was suggesting that

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1 others have said, you know, that we can focus  
2 on the NOP 9 and help NOAA, NMFS reach their  
3 full potential in that national discussion.

4 Because I think it's like super  
5 important that we support them in that, for  
6 example. And so, those are my thoughts just  
7 going into this discussion.

8 Tony, I hope you have some thoughts  
9 on that.

10 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, and thank you.

11 I agree with the direction that you  
12 just laid out. I think what Keith and Bill  
13 are discussing about focusing our efforts on  
14 important tasks at hand and then having those  
15 will lead to an eventual document however it's  
16 prioritized.

17 I also just want to voice my  
18 preference to keeping the eye on 2020 as  
19 opposed to 2030 because we still have nine  
20 calendar years or eight and a half.

21 So 2020, that's plenty far in the  
22 future. And we have - given that NOAA is

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1 working now on the budget for 2013, there  
2 still will be several budget cycles where we  
3 can help further some of the goals and the  
4 items that are in the current document updated  
5 or not.

6 So, going out to 2030 to me, it  
7 just seems way too far. And thinking of MAFAC  
8 as a body, it kind of sets us in the trend of  
9 every three years we'll develop - three or  
10 four years we'll develop a plan that will  
11 extend another decade out.

12 And so, the next MAFAC three years  
13 from now would be looking at 2040.

14 So, let's stick to the 2020 until  
15 we're getting towards it as data has  
16 suggested.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: So, you think the  
18 refining of what we have, and then keeping  
19 doing that as we go is a good way to go rather  
20 than stepping further into the future each  
21 time?

22 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, and it's just a

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1 personal thing. I think Vision documents  
2 should be broad by definition, and that they  
3 should reflect the core values of the group,  
4 and that they should have our advice, focus on  
5 implementing those values.

6 So, I think that's - rather than  
7 having all the details in the Vision document.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: And did you like  
9 Tom's idea, which I thought was pretty good,  
10 to provide that sort of Vision section to the  
11 subcommittees and to the new members as they  
12 come in and say, this is kind of where we're  
13 at, and go from there?

14 I like that.

15 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, and I just - when  
16 Tom was speaking, I was thinking of my  
17 experience on the MPA FAC and how we had the  
18 same issue with running out of time to get the  
19 recommendations finalized.

20 So, what we did was make sure that  
21 the first day of the meeting we came with the  
22 draft recommendations.

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1           We - each subcommittee reported out  
2           on the work that had been done, solicited  
3           feedback, and then the subcommittee trying to  
4           join the meeting was used to incorporate the  
5           feedback from the committee as a whole.

6           So that on the last day, you would  
7           have a discussion about whether or not that  
8           language, the writing incorporated the  
9           feedback.

10           And that was a way to make sure  
11           that when we left, we would have enough time  
12           to vet and accommodate.

13           CHAIR McCARTY: So, Tony, in that  
14           sort of scenario, you would have the agenda  
15           agreed on quite ahead of the meeting so that  
16           the subcommittees would be prepared to take up  
17           the issues that they knew were going to be on  
18           the agenda.

19           DR. CHATWIN: Well -

20           CHAIR McCARTY: Is that how you did  
21           it, or was it -

22           DR. CHATWIN: We had the

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1 subcommittee times identified ahead of time.  
2 The content - we had a mixture of  
3 subcommittees and presentations like here.  
4 And I generally like that, because we get an  
5 opportunity to get information that we don't  
6 necessarily get otherwise.

7 But this morning, there would be an  
8 hour and a half for the subcommittee to be  
9 able to present what they had developed  
10 between meetings.

11 CHAIR McCARTY: That's the part that  
12 I was asking about.

13 DR. CHATWIN: Yes.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: How did they develop  
15 it?

16 They must have known that those  
17 subjects were going to be on the agenda.

18 DR. CHATWIN: Right, because we  
19 would identify an issue that was important.  
20 An issue where the Agency wanted our feedback  
21 on.

22 And we'd say, okay, we're going to

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1 develop this over a two-week meeting. And we  
2 will vote on it at the third meeting.

3 So, we would be a meeting. If you  
4 decided that's something you want to work on,  
5 you know that you have one meeting where it  
6 would be a working meeting. And then the  
7 third meeting would be decision time.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, I see.

9 DR. CHATWIN: And that is sort of  
10 planning to use the subcommittee time  
11 effectively.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, I like that.

13 CR. CHATWIN: But it does require  
14 people working between meetings.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, and I think  
16 people are willing to do that as long as they  
17 know what direction they have. And as long as  
18 they know that they're going to do is going to  
19 be worthwhile.

20 I think people are very willing to  
21 do that kind of stuff. It's just that we have  
22 to set up that plan so that we know what's to

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1 be on the agenda. Otherwise, the  
2 subcommittees can't meet, you know.

3 So, we have to have that  
4 understanding at the end. When we leave this  
5 meeting, for example, we know that we have  
6 this on the agenda for the next meeting. So,  
7 the subcommittee can meet, they know what  
8 they're talking about, and we know what  
9 they're talking about.

10 DR. CHATWIN: And there was a - the  
11 Agency did play a very important role in  
12 saying these are the things that we think we  
13 would benefit from your advice on as part of  
14 defining what we would be working on.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Looking a  
16 little bit further into the future than we  
17 have been doing essentially from meeting to  
18 meeting.

19 DR. CHATWIN: Except with the  
20 recreational part.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Right. Okay. We  
22 have Randy, Cathy and then Bill Dewey. I

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1 think that was the order.

2 MR. CATES: One thing that happened  
3 with the last Vision 2020, the rollout  
4 occurred right before the election. And so,  
5 maybe there's an opportunity that we review  
6 and revamp this document every four years and  
7 then - because - definitely every eight years.

8 Because when you have a new  
9 administration, you get a change coming. And  
10 you have a fresh document you can hand over  
11 and say this is relevant, this is fresh, this  
12 is - and it was a real asset, I thought. The  
13 timing of it was perfect.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

15 MR. CATES: So, that's something  
16 maybe we should incorporate every four years,  
17 but you want to have it done, vetted out  
18 prior, maybe six months.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: That's a really good  
20 point. It was good timing, and we knew it. I  
21 mean, we consciously -

22 MR. CATES: We knew it, and we used

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1 that.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: -- did that, yes.  
3 Absolutely.

4 MR. JONER: Could I just make a  
5 comment on that?

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Okay.

7 MR. JONER: I was going to say that  
8 exact thing.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

10 MR. JONER: Only we need to do it  
11 in preparation. And then once the new  
12 administration is established and these new  
13 policies for catch shares and ocean policy and  
14 so on, then we need to revisit it and refine  
15 it, tailor it to those specific, new ideas,  
16 new items so that we've given our advice on  
17 how to proceed.

18 Once the changes are made by the  
19 new administration, then we're going to have  
20 to modify what we've said because it's a  
21 different landscape.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, or not.

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1 MR. JONER: Well, most likely it is.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes. Again, is it  
3 this way, or this way?

4 MR. JONER: Yes.

5 CHAIR McCARTY: Which direction are  
6 we going here?

7 Cathy.

8 MS. FOY: Randy pretty much said  
9 what I was going to say, the timing with the  
10 political cycle, but I'd also like to support  
11 Tony's comments about the - how we as a  
12 committee have a culture that we need to  
13 perhaps tweak a little bit to optimize our  
14 effectiveness.

15 And to that point as well, I'd like  
16 to suggest that when new members come on, that  
17 maybe they arrive a half day ahead of time and  
18 they are briefed by the Chair on committee  
19 culture, and the purpose is open it up to  
20 questions for them.

21 I think we could - there's a steep  
22 learning curve in this committee. And maybe

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1 we could provide them with a little bit of a  
2 better start. We could let them know ahead of  
3 time what's going on.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: I think that's a  
5 really good idea and a necessary thing. I  
6 don't know how the new members feel about  
7 that. Might be interesting to hear from them  
8 at some point. Don't want to put them on the  
9 spot, but it is tough when you're new and you  
10 don't know quite what is going on right from  
11 the very beginning.

12 MR. FISHER: It's like turbulence.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Henry, I'll put you  
14 on the list after Bill.

15 MR. DEWEY: So, I just wanted to  
16 echo that the last three comments were really  
17 excellent. They were comments that were  
18 formulating in my mind as well.

19 And as I said in my earlier  
20 comment, I like to plan the plan. I like to  
21 know that our recommendations are being acted  
22 on.

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1                   And so as part of our agenda  
2 following Tony's suggestion you want to do  
3 more towards the beginning of the meeting, the  
4 interim work that the committee reported out  
5 on so it sort of frames our discussion for the  
6 meeting.

7                   I'd also like to hear a report from  
8 NOAA, and Mark is maintaining the spreadsheet  
9 of their actions on our recommendations.

10                  So, if we could include as a  
11 regular agenda item early on to hear a report  
12 from NOAA on what they did on our  
13 recommendations from the prior meeting, I  
14 think that would help frame.

15                  And also maybe release some  
16 flexibility in their agenda so if we learn  
17 that something is not being acted on, we can  
18 focus on that.

19                  CHAIR McCARTY: Yes. Again, it goes  
20 back to the sort of transitional situation  
21 that the Committee is in because we've been  
22 sort of now given a little bit more autonomy,

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1 is the way I look at it.

2 And with that, we need to examine  
3 how we do business. And so, that's - I'm  
4 really glad that people are bringing forward  
5 those thoughts because that's exactly what we  
6 need to do. Thank you.

7 Steve, after Henry.

8 MR. SESEPASARA: Thank you. You  
9 might have to excuse the new kid on the block  
10 here. I'm a little bit confused. So, I had a  
11 question for clarification here.

12 I'm listening here and I'm hearing  
13 two documents, the 2020 and the 2030. Are we  
14 looking at the 2030 as a brand new document  
15 that we want to work on it, or are we looking  
16 at it as an update of the 2020?

17 Because I kind of go along with  
18 what Tony was asking here. It seems like  
19 every two or four years we're going to go with  
20 the 2040 and so forth.

21 Are we talking about the 2030 as an  
22 updated version of the 2040?

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, thank you for  
2 asking. And we are actually making that  
3 decision now.

4 And so it was suggested as an  
5 agenda item, that we discuss whether we want  
6 to do a 2030.

7 And I think more than the date, it  
8 was more of a suggestion that we look at what  
9 we have, which is the 2020 document, and  
10 discuss whether we needed to change it, update  
11 it, revise it, redo it, and on what schedule  
12 is really what we're asking ourselves.

13 And what I'm hearing from the  
14 group, and I really, really want you to  
15 correct me if I'm wrong in this, is that we do  
16 not want to do a 2030 at this point, number  
17 one.

18 We would like to update Vision 2020  
19 as needed. And we would potentially do that  
20 with the help of a very small group of people  
21 reviewing the document - it's really not that  
22 big - and looking at what may need to be

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1 changed and updated and made new.

2 So, Henry, I think that's where  
3 we're at. And I'm looking - I'm hearing nods.

4 Please let me know if I'm not there.

5 And then as we go forward if we see  
6 - and I think we do see some big topic areas  
7 that we want to go further than this sort of  
8 broad Vision document, that we take those on  
9 as individual items for our discussion and  
10 perhaps development of opinions, advice,  
11 support, which we have done.

12 We've been doing that all along.  
13 We've been doing the individual areas such as  
14 aquaculture, such as recreational fisheries  
15 materials. We do both of those as we go.

16 But I think what we're hearing is  
17 we want to keep doing it that way. But mixed  
18 in with all of this is also a discussion of  
19 how we want to operate as a committee, which  
20 is exactly what I wanted to hear as well.

21 So, you're seeing us in kind of a  
22 decision mode right now. And I think that

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1 we've had a good discussion on some of those  
2 things.

3 Does that help?

4 MR. SESEPASARA: Yes, thank you.

5 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Thank you.

6 We've got Vince and - well, we have  
7 Steve first, and then Vince, and then somebody  
8 else over here.

9 MR. JONER: I apologize for actually  
10 stepping ahead.

11 So, there's two or three things  
12 we've talked about here. And Cathy's  
13 suggestion of having a new member orientation,  
14 that's great. Because, you know, we all  
15 remember our first day.

16 Us old timers, it was in Fort  
17 Lauderdale. And, you know, you did all right,  
18 but, you know, I'm kind of a country boy. So,  
19 I was kind of lost.

20 (Laughter.)

21 MR. JONER: And I thought it would  
22 have been nice to have a little bit of

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1 orientation rather than just walking in  
2 totally cold.

3 We knew some of the people there,  
4 but - I know the councils have new member  
5 orientation, and yet I doubt that there's much  
6 - there are many council members that are just  
7 off the street like we are.

8 Somebody that's appointed to  
9 council has been involved in the process for  
10 years and knows it inside out.

11 CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

12 MR. JONER: So, that's a great  
13 suggestion and I support that.

14 And Tom's mention of the timing of  
15 the agenda over the last year, last two or  
16 three meetings if you look at the agenda, I  
17 have the last word.

18 But unfortunately, about a third of  
19 the members are gone by then.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

21 MR. JONER: And everybody is looking  
22 at the clock and I feel like I've got to talk

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1 faster.

2 CHAIR McCARTY; Right.

3 MR. JONER: And to add to that,  
4 aquaculture has been the major topic. And I  
5 know aquaculture people think that that's the  
6 redheaded stepchild, you know.

7 So, I'm sitting between redheads  
8 here and I feel like, you know, we walk away  
9 like that didn't go very well. Everybody is  
10 thinking about their flight home and, you  
11 know, where we're going to meet next.

12 So, you know, I - as the one who's  
13 been the very, very last on the agenda, I'd  
14 like to see that moved up a little bit just so  
15 that we can get people with consideration of  
16 all the other problems.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: I'm hearing you.  
18 And Mark and Eric and I will sit and talk  
19 about the last day's agenda for this meeting,  
20 and then do different next time hopefully. I  
21 think what you bring up is really relevant.

22 Vince.

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1 MR. O'SHEA: Thank you.

2 I was reacting to your rephrasing  
3 or summarizing where we were.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes.

5 MR. O'SHEA: And one part that I've  
6 been thinking about is what Eric said saying  
7 that MAFAC's at its best when it's sort of  
8 helping NOAA think strategically.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes.

10 MR. O'SHEA: And, you know,  
11 strategic planning is - I find it really hard  
12 work to do to stay out of the details, to stay  
13 up at the 30,000 foot level.

14 And when you were revisiting  
15 different steps, I think one of the things,  
16 the advantages - it's hard work, but one of  
17 the advantages of staying at the 30,000 foot  
18 level, I think, is your advice or your  
19 direction has more staying power the higher up  
20 it is.

21 And it doesn't, you know, if you  
22 pick the right level, it doesn't have to be

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1 updated every year because there's - it  
2 describes how the different factors relate to  
3 each other.

4 And as those factors change, then  
5 it helps you more easily draw conclusions  
6 about how the world is going to change and how  
7 the organization needs to react to that.

8 So in rephrasing, I would - and one  
9 of the struggles we had when we drafted, I was  
10 on one of the earlier drafting groups, and we  
11 had, I thought, great difficulty trying to get  
12 up at the strategic level.

13 It wasn't really quite frankly  
14 until Dr. Holliday got involved in it, he's  
15 done a lot of strategic planning that helped  
16 push that group up to where it needed to be.

17 And I think that as a committee,  
18 you want to do what Eric said which is to  
19 provide strategic advice, you need to include  
20 that in the formula or whatever we produce.  
21 It's the discipline to stay up in the clouds  
22 rather than down in the weeds.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Consider that  
2 part of my summary.

3 MR. O'SHEA: Thanks. Good.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: I think that's a  
5 really good point. That's a really good  
6 point.

7 You know, I'd like to bring this to  
8 a close and say that we've made that decision  
9 or that set of decisions, and I hope it's  
10 clear to everybody. If it's not, we can come  
11 back and revisit it.

12 What we need to do now is have a  
13 short break. And then the subcommittee  
14 meeting that we didn't have yesterday of the  
15 Ecosystem Committee under the leadership of  
16 Tom Raftican, and the Strategic Planning  
17 Budget and Program Management Subcommittee  
18 which is my subcommittee.

19 I had a volunteer in the person of  
20 Cathy Foy, who is one of the old-timers, I  
21 guess. Old-timer, new mother. I think she  
22 will be very qualified to take that

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1 subcommittee duties.

2 I don't want to do the subcommittee  
3 and this job because that's too much. I need  
4 to be able to bring things together rather  
5 than focus on specifics.

6 So, that group will meet now. And  
7 with the rest of the time we have, which isn't  
8 very long, I was going to ask - the next thing  
9 on the agenda is the budget briefing at 11:15.  
10 And that's Gary Reisner.

11 Gary.

12 MR. REISNER: Here.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Are you okay with  
14 coming at 11:30 instead of 11:15?

15 MR. REISNER: Yes, whenever you  
16 want.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: You keep saying  
18 that.

19 MR. REISNER: Yes.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: You told me that.  
21 I'm not taking you seriously.

22 MR. REISNER: I can come whenever

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1 you'd like.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. So, Mark, do  
3 we have any separate rooms or any other  
4 arrangements where we need to do, or can we  
5 just do it right here?

6 Sometimes we've had breakout rooms  
7 or whatever. I don't know what you've got  
8 going here.

9 DR. HOLLIDAYDR. HOLLIDAY: We don't  
10 have - we'll do it right here because there's  
11 not any other committee meeting.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. That's what I  
13 figured.

14 So, let's have a short break. And  
15 then the people on that committee and  
16 everybody else who might want to be there, but  
17 I don't know if anybody else wants to be there  
18 -

19 MR. CATES: Since the topics is  
20 going to be the Gulf Coast Task Force  
21 restoration plan, I'd like to suggest that we  
22 just leave it open in plenary since everybody

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1 is going to have to pitch in on that dialog  
2 anyway.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Absolutely. And I  
4 just said anybody can come that wants, but  
5 don't feel compelled to come, is the point,  
6 you know, if you want to not sit in on the  
7 discussion.

8 There are several things that we  
9 need to discuss in the subcommittee. I don't  
10 know whether we're going to get it all done in  
11 this meeting.

12 One of them is the Gulf Coast  
13 Restoration. The other one is the NOP stuff.

14 And, Tom, do you have other things on your  
15 list? And people need to tell us if we've not  
16 got everything on the list.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, well, it's going  
18 to be a short subcommittee meeting we're going  
19 to be doing National Ocean Policy, coastal  
20 marine spatial planning, ocean energy --

21 (Laughter.)

22 MR. RAFTICAN: -- ecosystem-based

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1 approach to the gulf restoration, changes in  
2 climate adaption, and then getting into  
3 economic strategies.

4 (All speaking.)

5 CHAIR McCARTY: Problem solved.  
6 Okay. So, let's break for a short break, and  
7 then come back to that subcommittee meeting.

8 (Whereupon, the proceedings went  
9 off the record at 10:38 a.m. for a brief  
10 recess and went back on the record at 10:56  
11 a.m.)

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. This meeting  
13 of the subcommittee, also along with Strategic  
14 Planning Subcommittee.

15 And Cathy has graciously agreed to  
16 come in and help out on this to give Heather a  
17 little bit of breathing room on this.

18 We - anyhow, there are an  
19 incredible array of topics that we've got in  
20 front of us on the Ecosystem Subcommittee.  
21 And we've been sitting around trying to figure  
22 some way to get through some of this in a

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1 reasonable, fairly organized manner.

2 And one of the suggestions was  
3 we've got Cathy's Protected Resources  
4 Subcommittee meeting this afternoon with a  
5 much broader time slot in it.

6 MS. FOY: That's 2:45 to 3:45.  
7 We've got an hour, which means that we are  
8 still going to have to move right along.

9 I would like to suggest that we,  
10 since there are not a lot of topics on the  
11 Protected Resources agenda, that my  
12 subcommittee meets pretty much by email. All  
13 we're doing is coming up with agenda items for  
14 the next meeting.

15 So, we've kind of moved that off  
16 the agenda for now, and we right now talk  
17 about the specific topics, what actions we  
18 need to come up with at this meeting. But  
19 motions need to be made, recommendations to  
20 NOAA.

21 We assigned specific people to deal  
22 with specific topics that we can come back and

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1 stick strawman up at 2:45 to 3:45. So, that  
2 gives you lunch to talk about things, get  
3 things written, and then you come back.

4 So, right now we're going to be  
5 going through the main topics that -

6 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, let's run  
7 through a quick run through of the topics.  
8 Let's see if anybody wants to take any of  
9 those off this afternoon's agenda. And let's  
10 also see if anybody wants to put anything else  
11 on the agenda.

12 And then I go very much along with  
13 what Cathy said if this sounds like the topics  
14 that we're looking to deal with, let's see if  
15 we can get volunteers to put together a  
16 strawman for a position on where we're at  
17 right now.

18 Does that sound like a reasonable  
19 way to approach?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. RAFTICAN: No opposition.

22 National Ocean Policy, I mean, this

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1 is something we're going to have to put  
2 together comments on within the next 45 days.

3 I think it's important. It should be head of  
4 the agenda this afternoon.

5 Tony, have you thought about  
6 comments on the National Ocean Policy?

7 DR. CHATWIN: Have I thought about  
8 them?

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Could you put  
10 together sort of a strawman of MAFAC's point  
11 of view on National Ocean Policy?

12 DR. CHATWIN: By when?

13 MS. FOY: This afternoon.

14 DR. CHATWIN: I think we can have a  
15 discussion about by this afternoon.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

17 DR. CHATWIN: And that could focus  
18 the strawman.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. I know this is  
20 kind of - obviously, a very late - well, has  
21 anybody else developed any comments directly  
22 on National Ocean Policy?

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1 I'm just looking for ways to try  
2 and make it easier to debate this afternoon.  
3 If you've got something on the board where  
4 we're going, you can add or subtract. There's  
5 a lot of reasonable time to put the thing up  
6 in the first place.

7 Patty.

8 MS. DOERR: Can I just ask a  
9 clarifying question?

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

11 MS. DOERR: We commented on the  
12 National Ocean Policy before and Marine  
13 Spatial Planning in general.

14 MR. RAFTICAN: Two years ago, yes.

15 MS. DOERR: Yes. Would it make  
16 sense to kind of work on that?

17 MS. FOY: Mark, would you say this  
18 to the Committee? As far as the actions  
19 needed on the National Ocean Policy, where  
20 we're going, I was asking Mark what would be  
21 helpful to NMFS coming from our Committee.

22 So, if you would let everybody

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1 know, that gives us kind of a target.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. So, the first  
3 item I thought would be useful is that the  
4 strategic level, the strategic action plans  
5 that are being developed for those nine themes  
6 we heard about yesterday, will be open for  
7 public comment beginning June 1st. Be open  
8 for public comment for 30 days.

9 This is the outline of these  
10 different strategies. I think NOAA would like  
11 to receive back from the Committee their  
12 perspective on the content of those outlines.

13 And in an annotated agenda, we had listed  
14 some of the trigger questions.

15 And in that email I had sent out a  
16 week ago, there were some trigger questions  
17 about are these the right ideas? Do these  
18 complete, you know, et cetera, et cetera?

19 Coming out of this meeting, I think  
20 it would be helpful - my recommendation would  
21 be to have an organizational agreement on -  
22 after June 1, what group of people at MAFAC

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1 will take the lead on looking at those and  
2 collating comments from individuals to develop  
3 a strawman set of comments that would then be  
4 submitted by MAFAC.

5           And in the process between the 1st  
6 of June and the end of June, we'd have a  
7 conference call where those ideas drafted by  
8 this working group would be vetted by the  
9 whole group so that there could be an  
10 opportunity to review them.

11           In advance of the call, bring any  
12 concerns and modifications so we can develop  
13 as we have done for the Aquaculture Policy,  
14 bring them forward on behalf as a MAFAC  
15 perspective on those strategic action plans.

16           That's one valuable outcome of  
17 MAFAC's contribution to the National Ocean  
18 Policy that's very candid.

19           MS. FOY: So with that in mind, Tom,  
20 I think what we're asking for is volunteers to  
21 spearhead that effort.

22           Boy, everybody is avoiding eye

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1 contact.

2 MR. CLAMPITT: I have a comment. I  
3 mean, I have some deep concerns about the  
4 National Ocean Policy. So, I don't think I  
5 would be the person that would be, you know,  
6 appropriate for that.

7 But I definitely have some strong,  
8 heavy opinions about it.

9 MS. FOY: Well, on the contrary I  
10 would say that if you have concerns, that you  
11 ought to be more engaged.

12 MR. CLAMPITT: Well, that's a  
13 question, you know.

14 (Laughter.)

15 MR. CLAMPITT: You know, the fact is  
16 I think, you know, I keep hearing about some  
17 model of management, but I don't see it that  
18 way.

19 It seems to me it came from the  
20 president, number one.

21 Number two, people from my part of  
22 the country are concerned that the National

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1 Ocean Policy is a way to usurp the management  
2 of their regional council and get around it.

3 And then that's the fear. I'm not  
4 saying it's true, but that's the fear.

5 MS. FOY: Okay.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: I think that's a good  
7 point.

8 Tony.

9 DR. CHATWIN: I was just going to  
10 say that it's important for those of you to be  
11 part of the discussion. The person who  
12 volunteers to spearhead it should have as  
13 their goal to try to bring together all the  
14 different views and come up with  
15 recommendations that are sort of consensus-  
16 based.

17 I would - normally I would be happy  
18 to volunteer for that. It's a topic that I'm  
19 interested in.

20 However, the second half of June  
21 I'm going to be gone on vacation with my  
22 family. So, I can't really commit to -

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1 MS. FOY: To spearheading it.

2 DR. CHATWIN: Yes.

3 MS. FOY: Can we get you to comment  
4 on -

5 DR. CHATWIN: Yeah, I'll just state  
6 -

7 MS. FOY: Okay. Good. So, we'll  
8 put you on the list, Tony. You're going to  
9 have notes.

10 I will organize, and you'll  
11 participate, Dave?

12 MR. WALLACE: Right.

13 MS. FOY: Patty is in there.

14 MR. WALLACE: I will, too.

15 MS. FOY: Martin?

16 MR. FISHER: I also have family  
17 obligations in June, but I'd be happy to  
18 participate if you need me.

19 MS. FOY: Good. Good. Well, I  
20 would like to - yes, Tony.

21 DR. CHATWIN: Why don't we suggest a  
22 date for the call?

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1 MS. FOY: That's a good idea.

2 DR. CHATWIN: Because we have a  
3 couple people who already have family  
4 commitments. We could put in June 15th or  
5 something as a -

6 MR. WALLACE: - just not June 21st.

7 MS. FOY: Okay.

8 MR. WALLACE: I have too many things  
9 on that day that I'm supposed to do.

10 MS. FOY: Okay. That's good.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: June 15th was thrown  
12 out. Martin can't make it, but if it's going  
13 to be either Tony does or I don't, I'd rather  
14 have Tony be there.

15 DR. CHATWIN: The 15th works. It's  
16 a Wednesday.

17 MS. FOY: It works for Mark.

18 MR. RAFTICAN: No? Pick another day  
19 that week.

20 DR. CHATWIN: The 17th I'm  
21 available. The following week I'm available  
22 on the 24th.

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1 MS. FOY: Can we move earlier, Dave?

2 MR. WALLACE: The 13th I'll be  
3 traveling, but I might be able to -

4 MR. RAFTICAN: So, if we schedule it  
5 when you're changing planes, we can do that?

6 MS. FOY: So, if you cannot, please  
7 email comments.

8 MR. WALLACE: Okay. Let's set it  
9 tentatively for June 13<sup>th</sup>. I'm available all -  
10 the week of the 6th right at the moment, I  
11 have meetings that I can move around.

12 MS. FOY: Okay.

13 MR. WALLACE: 10th I can do.

14 MS. FOY: We've only got limited  
15 time, so let's move along. We've got another  
16 topic.

17 MR. WALLACE: Okay.

18 MR. CLAMPITT: So, what was the date  
19 on it?

20 MS. DOERR: The 10th or the 13th.

21 MS. FOY: The 10th or the 13th.  
22 Let's just leave it at that and see where we

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1 go.

2 MS. DOERR: Okay.

3 MS. FOY: We'll set up a final time  
4 by email.

5 MR. JONER: I'm on a plane on the  
6 10th. I don't know what time it is.

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: So, just for point of  
8 information so if we're going to then take the  
9 recommendations from this group, allow the  
10 entire committee to look at them, then we have  
11 to convene the Committee prior to the  
12 deadline, I guess the last day of the month.

13 MS. FOY: Right.

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: So, we need to set  
15 the date for a conference call, because we  
16 have to notice that.

17 MS. FOY: Oh.

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: For the full  
19 Committee to at least have an opportunity for  
20 the public to understand that we're --

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Let's notice the --  
22 we don't need to go to the next meeting to set

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1 the date for the conference call. We just  
2 need -- as long as we get the meeting taken  
3 care of in between.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. But if we're  
5 picking dates where somebody is going to lead  
6 a conference call of the entire group from  
7 this working group, to present and gain - and  
8 comment and input -

9 MR. RAFTICAN: 7/28, 29, something  
10 like that?

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yeah, I would say  
12 early in that week. Because if we need to  
13 change the document as a result of the  
14 conference call, you can still get it in by -  
15 Thursday of that week is the deadline.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: All right. So, we're  
17 also asking for a scheduled MAFAC conference  
18 call meeting.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: We can set it, you  
20 know, tentatively and make sure, but I wanted  
21 to make sure that you -

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Tentatively the 27th.

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1 MR. WALLACE: The 27th, a Monday?

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

3 MR. WALLACE: I'm out.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. It's a tough  
5 time of year for, you know, we're not going to  
6 get everybody. But if we can get -

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's not an all-day -

8 MR. RAFTICAN: And if we can get  
9 somebody else to chair, you know. We can get  
10 you through in a preceding call to make sure  
11 that you're represented, okay.

12 We now have Samoa. So, it's going  
13 to be really interesting on the timing.

14 MS. LOVETT: We're a seven-hour  
15 difference to east coast.

16 MR. CLAMPITT: We're meeting on the  
17 10th or the 13th.

18 MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

19 MS. LOVETT: Right.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: And these are all  
21 tentative dates, but fairly close.

22 MS. LOVETT: Right.

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: National Ocean Policy  
2 - Coastal Marine Spatial Planning really kind  
3 of falls under National Ocean Policy, I think.

4 Do we want to roll it in there, or  
5 do you want anything else specifically on  
6 that?

7 MS. LOVETT: We can roll it in.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Let me roll that in,  
9 okay.

10 MS. DOERR: Yeah, I mean, I'm sorry.  
11 Another clarifying question.

12 So, when I think of National Ocean  
13 Policy, I'm thinking of strategic action  
14 plans. And one of them is Marine Spatial  
15 Planning, right?

16 MS. FOY: Right.

17 MS. DOERR: So, it's all kind of -

18 MR. DYSKOW: It's basically nine  
19 objectives.

20 MS. DOERR: Yeah, I just want to  
21 make sure that we're all on the same page.

22 MR. DYSKOW: If it would be useful

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1 to you, I just sat through with seven  
2 different recreational organizations, a direct  
3 response to the National Ocean Policy sent to  
4 Nancy Sutley and John Holdren from the  
5 American Sportfishing Association, the CCC,  
6 CCA, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation,  
7 National Marine Manufacturers Association and  
8 the Billfish Foundation.

9 We basically came up with a comment  
10 on each of the nine priority objectives.

11 I'm not suggesting that it be  
12 something that you use, but it's certainly  
13 something you could use in -

14 MR. RAFTICAN: If you could get that  
15 around to us, I think that that helps us abate  
16 the -

17 MR. DYSKOW: If we had a copy  
18 machine here, I could just give you a copy of  
19 it.

20 MS. MORRIS: I've already seen it.  
21 I think you sent it to everybody.

22 MR. DYSKOW: Sorry?

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1 MS. MORRIS: Didn't you send it?  
2 Somebody sent it to me.

3 MR. DYSKOW: Okay. I'm not saying  
4 this is what you want to do. But it might  
5 create some talking points, because --

6 MR. RAFTICAN: Absolutely.

7 MR. DYSKOW: -- there are issues  
8 that relate to any aspect of either commercial  
9 or sport fishing that we would certainly want  
10 to comment on.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Excellent.  
12 Excellent.

13 MS. FOY: Good. Please do so.

14 MR. DYSKOW: And is it the intent,  
15 Tom, that this gets forwarded up through  
16 NOAA's chain of command where it can get a  
17 direct response?

18 MR. RAFTICAN: The recommendations  
19 that would come out of here will go to instead  
20 of this meeting of MAFAC, we'll have a  
21 conference call complete meeting so that we  
22 can endorse it as a complete committee and go

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1 to NOAA.

2 MR. DYSKOW: The reason I'm bringing  
3 it up, I'm not trying to complicate the issues  
4 -

5 MR. RAFTICAN: No, no.

6 MR. DYSKOW: - this is a top-down  
7 driven agenda. Top meaning the White House.  
8 So, how do we respond?

9 You're looking for a response from  
10 MAFAC to marine fisheries?

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: MAFAC is an advisory  
12 committee of NOAA and the Department. So,  
13 we're asking for that - that access that would  
14 then - as Dr. Lubchenco sits on the National  
15 Ocean Council, as Eric sits on the -

16 MR. DYSKOW: Yes.

17 DR. HOLLIDAY: In addition because  
18 it's a public opportunity for comment as we  
19 did with aquaculture, we also submitted the  
20 comments directly to the public site under the  
21 MAFAC - under MAFAC's signature.

22 So, we do both as an advisory

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1 group, and then make those more widely  
2 available.

3 MR. DYSKOW: Okay. My point is if  
4 you wanted that document, I'd be happy to get  
5 it to you.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: That would be great.  
7 It would definitely be helpful.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Can we move  
9 on to the next topic?

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Ocean energy, we had  
11 considerable information given on ocean energy  
12 yesterday. I think they're looking for a  
13 recommendation coming out of MAFAC.

14 Do we have anybody here who has put  
15 together any type of a strawman on this or has  
16 any very specific -

17 MS. FOY: Heather.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, Mr. Chair, I do  
19 have a list of things that I could probably  
20 send, I think the explicit task was to think  
21 of things to be particularly aware of and what  
22 to work on in this process.

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1                   So, I have a list of those things  
2 that came from the discussion that we had  
3 right after that.

4                   MS. FOY: Could you get a strawman  
5 ready for later today?

6                   CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, I can do that.

7                   MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. We'll bring  
8 that up at the meeting this afternoon.

9                   Any other comments or additions on  
10 that? And if you really have them, probably  
11 best, Patty, if you can work with Heather on  
12 that, that would be great.

13                   MS. DOERR: Uh-huh.

14                   MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

15                   MS. FOY: Mark.

16                   DR. HOLLIDAY: Does that include the  
17 response to setting up some, for lack of a  
18 better word, liaison between the NOAA Energy  
19 Team and MAFAC on an ongoing basis?

20                   CHAIR McCARTY: That's on the list,  
21 yes.

22                   DR. HOLLIDAY: Okay.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: But I did not so far  
2 put anything under -

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: No, I just wanted to  
4 make - I'm clarifying if that was one of the  
5 things on the list.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, it is on the  
7 list.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. The next thing  
9 I had on the list here was the restoration  
10 efforts in the Gulf of Mexico.

11 MS. FOY: Keith is spearheading that  
12 one already. If you have comments -

13 MR. RAFTICAN: Julie.

14 MS. FOY: Julie.

15 MS. MORRIS: To have something ready  
16 for this afternoon?

17 MR. RAFTICAN: We're trying to put  
18 some type of a strawman out. If we can get  
19 this thing recognized this afternoon, it would  
20 make - it would make that second conference  
21 call in June a lot easier.

22 So if we can do it, fine. We can

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1 come out of the meeting with some type of  
2 recommendations.

3 Okay. Please, this is not to get  
4 anybody pushed out of the stream. It's how do  
5 we sit down and try to manage - we've got a  
6 lot of information in front of us, and how do  
7 we get through it?

8 And, Keith, thanks for taking that  
9 on.

10 MR. RIZZARDI: Sure.

11 CHAIR McCARTY: Mr. Chairman.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: I think we also need  
14 to have a little discussion on how best to  
15 arrive at those copies and everything else.  
16 How do we do it? Do we sent it by email and  
17 stuff?

18 Because there's a lot of people who  
19 haven't done that before. So, we need to have  
20 that discussion.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Thank you.

22 Any other -

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1 MS. FOY: Mark has a suggestion.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Mark.

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: Go ahead if you have  
4 comments.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Ed, did you have -

6 MR. EBISUI: No.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: You are going at a  
9 lightning pace, which is good.

10 (Laughter.)

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Well, I'm trying to  
12 get Gary here before he gets in his airplane.

13 DR. HOLLIDAY: On the ocean energy  
14 issue, I think that the one thing that - I  
15 don't know if you were going to circle back or  
16 not, but the Department of Interior, the Smart  
17 From The Start Program, we heard the  
18 presentation. There was some spirited  
19 comments and discussion.

20 And so if there was an interest on  
21 the part of the Committee to sort of intersect  
22 with those issues that were raised yesterday

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1 and comment back to them either as a response  
2 or in the larger sense of the Smart From the  
3 Start process.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Heather will not  
5 address anything Smart From the Start.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: I have that in kind  
7 of a separate category in my notes.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: We had sort of this  
9 NOAA perspective and -

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: I don't know what -

12 CHAIR McCARTY: And I don't have  
13 anything drawn up. I just have that as a  
14 subject area.

15 If anybody wants to take that on,  
16 I'll be -

17 MS. FOY: I'd be willing to take on  
18 making a recommendation to NOAA as to what its  
19 stance needs to be, but I don't know that  
20 we're making any comment.

21 They're not typically very  
22 perceptive even just, you know.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, they certainly  
2 wouldn't be receptive if they don't hear from  
3 us.

4 MS. FOY: I guess we need to - yeah,  
5 somehow I want to give NMFS some teeth in the  
6 process. I'm not quite sure how to do that.

7 But, yes, I guess I will do that.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. So, now we  
9 have two pieces coming back this afternoon.

10 MS. FOY: Okay.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: And then we move on  
12 to restoration in the Gulf of Mexico. And I  
13 think -

14 MS. FOY: That's Keith, isn't it?

15 MR. RAFTICAN: Keith, you've got  
16 something? You're working on that?

17 MR. RIZZARDI: I do.

18 MR. RAFTICAN: One of the other  
19 things the Ecosystem Subcommittee has gotten  
20 kind of rolled under is climate change.

21 MR. RIZZARDI: Just as a heads up  
22 for everybody, there is a brief discussion of

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1 the concept in the annotated agenda so people  
2 can see already what we're talking about for a  
3 potential MAFAC action on the Gulf of Mexico  
4 restoration.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: But as a heads up.

6 MS. FOY: Yes.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Climate change  
8 adaption.

9 MS. FOY: I've got a strawman to put  
10 up for a MAFAC stance on it that I think  
11 incorporates the very varied views within the  
12 Committee on climate change. And I've kind of  
13 vetted it with both Randy and Paul.

14 So, why don't we just put that off  
15 until this afternoon when we come back on it.

16 Yes.

17 DR. CHATWIN: Is that available for  
18 review?

19 MS. FOY: Sure.

20 DR. CHATWIN: We'll make sure that  
21 there is a --

22 MS. FOY: Yeah, I'll run it through

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1 with you. All I was going to do was put it up  
2 to let everybody in the Subcommittee kind of  
3 fire at it until we can word it well enough  
4 that what, you know, as a Committee kind of  
5 feel about what climate changes -- what NMFS'  
6 stance on climate change should be.

7 So, I think I captured it. Maybe  
8 not.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, we'll get that  
10 this afternoon.

11 MS. FOY: Right.

12 MR. CATES: Tom, can I make a  
13 comment on that quickly?

14 MR. RAFTICAN: You bet.

15 MS. FOY: Sure.

16 MR. CATES: The issue that I am most  
17 concerned about is not necessarily the issue,  
18 but how the science is presented to the  
19 public.

20 I mean, the comment you made just  
21 now, the skeptics of climate change, I don't -  
22 - what I don't understand is, and last night

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1 was a great discussion on this with the  
2 presenter, is normally NOAA stands behind its  
3 science.

4 And on this particular issue, there  
5 is an extraordinary - to not suppress it or  
6 whoever is asking for it, gets labeled in a  
7 certain manner. And I don't understand that.

8 And that's their issue that we  
9 discussed privately yesterday that didn't  
10 really come out is it's the message and how  
11 you deliver this information that should be  
12 looked upon. Not necessarily the science, but  
13 how NOAA is disseminating this information.

14 MR. RAFTICAN: Randy, that's  
15 probably a good question that probably is  
16 going to get a little bit more into the nuts  
17 and bolts on this. And let's try and deal  
18 with --

19 MR. CATES: I just wanted to bring  
20 that up because he said the issue --

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah.

22 MS. FOY: I'll keep seeing if I can

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1 find him that statement, Randy.

2 Yes, Tony.

3 DR. CHATWIN: I apologize for using  
4 a label that you guys used for yourselves  
5 yesterday.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. CATES: I don't mind. It  
8 shouldn't be that hard to ask for science. It  
9 shouldn't.

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. One of the  
11 other things that I, you know, economic  
12 strategy and budget. I don't know if that,  
13 you know, we got into strategic planning, but  
14 I don't know if there was anything  
15 specifically on that, but it is out there.

16 Chair.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Chair.

19 I'm just thinking that on the  
20 budget issues, that one of the conversations I  
21 had with Eric - I don't know if he's still in  
22 the room.

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1           He, I know, is going through the  
2 process - or NMFS is going through a process  
3 trying to figure out what their priorities are  
4 given less resources.

5           And so, I think that that came  
6 maybe from that discussion. A subsequent  
7 discussion with Mark, you know.

8           Whether it's useful or not, I don't  
9 know. But I know the CCC, you know, has been  
10 asked to do the same thing to realize the  
11 reality of the situation and try to figure out  
12 what it's going to take to become focused on  
13 everything.

14           MR. RAFTICAN: You know, it probably  
15 comes into the strategic planning element a  
16 lot more on a consistent basis. And perhaps  
17 we better not - there might be a better time  
18 to get to that and not right now - I don't  
19 know.

20           Do you want to take a shot at that  
21 this afternoon?

22           CHAIR McCARTY: My original goal for

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1 the Subcommittee was to do that.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: But we have all  
4 these other things we have to get to. I'm  
5 saying that we should prioritize that lower.  
6 I think we need to question whether we have  
7 time to do that.

8 And potentially the whole Committee  
9 can have a discussion on that in kind of broad  
10 terms.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Absolutely.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: And maybe that would  
13 be helpful to Eric and Mark and others to take  
14 back. I don't know.

15 MR. RAFTICAN: And perhaps with the  
16 - I don't know if we touch on it here or do  
17 something, Mark, through email if we're going  
18 to put together a conference call for the end  
19 of June. I don't know if that's appropriate.

20 And maybe the conference call at  
21 the end of June simply tees it up for our fall  
22 meeting.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think there are  
2 just some time dimensions here that we need to  
3 kind of agree upon.

4 We're going to hear from Gary about  
5 both the short-term FY - fiscal year 2011 time  
6 period, as well as out year future.

7 So, decisions about priorities for  
8 2011, these are things that are - you'll hear  
9 from Gary about the process that's underway.

10 I don't think that - the timing of  
11 MAFAC input into that is almost overtaken by  
12 events at this point in time.

13 MS. FOY: Right.

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: So, I don't suspect  
15 there'd be a great return on your investment  
16 for that purpose.

17 However, your views on priorities  
18 in a forward-looking way about getting this in  
19 climate of declining or flat budgets, what are  
20 the most important issues that need to be  
21 undertaken by NOAA and the Department, and  
22 that that kind of advice for future planning

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1 is more strategic advice that would still be  
2 of value.

3 Gary then will talk about, I'm  
4 presuming, the timelines for the out year  
5 budget plan as well. And he could then make  
6 decisions about how to tackle that and  
7 schedule that discussion.

8 So, there is a time dimension on  
9 when your advice would be most helpful.

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Anything else?

11 MS. FOY: You tend to be very good  
12 at coming up with worded recommendations as  
13 we're going along through the meeting.

14 Could I request that you as Gary  
15 are speaking and you're listening to the  
16 community - or to the Committee discussion,  
17 that you make recommendations?

18 MR. DEWEY: Make recommendations.

19 MS. FOY: If we can streamline  
20 through this afternoon and get it through,  
21 that would be very helpful.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Anything else?

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1           The only other thing on there, I  
2 just want to bring up the suggestion that we  
3 should deal with, you know, this new Israeli  
4 peace perspective in the Mideast.

5           (Laughter.)

6           MR. RAFTICAN: We've covered, I  
7 think, everything else.

8           Mark.

9           DR. HOLLIDAY: So, just with the  
10 press of time yesterday, Eileen didn't get a  
11 chance to talk about one of the other climate  
12 issues that was on the table.

13           It was described in the annotated  
14 agenda as an opportunity for MAFAC to  
15 participate in advising on another national  
16 strategy.

17           Kind of we seem to be getting  
18 flooded with national strategies. I did send  
19 an email for those of you who have access to  
20 it, last night.

21           It's called the National Fish,  
22 Wildlife and Plant Climate Adaptation

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1 Strategy. And it's a comprehensive, multi-  
2 partner response to the threat of climate  
3 change in the United States.

4 I just pulled this from their  
5 website. It's being led by a partnership, the  
6 Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA and the New  
7 York Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine  
8 Resources who represent state fish and  
9 wildlife agencies.

10 Eric is one of the co-chairs of  
11 this group. It's not just a federal level.  
12 It's being developed with input from federal,  
13 state, tribal partners, active engagement with  
14 NGOs, industry groups, and private land  
15 owners.

16 I gave access to the website. The  
17 part that I was trying to get on the table for  
18 consideration here, what we were attempting to  
19 do through the annotated agenda, was just like  
20 the National Ocean Policy.

21 There's a group out there  
22 developing a federal policy on adaptation to

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1 climate. They are, again looking for broad,  
2 public stakeholder and other advice.

3 And as a national advisory  
4 committee, NOAA would be interested in your  
5 input in advice and feedback to senior  
6 leadership throughout the process.

7 Their strategy is to be completed  
8 in May of 2012, but there is ongoing work this  
9 summer. Technical teams looking at ecosystem  
10 relevant climate adaptation strategies where  
11 there would be opportunities for MAFAC to  
12 engage.

13 And so the task for this meeting  
14 would be is there - are there a handful of  
15 people who would feel strongly about this idea  
16 who would want to track that and sort of be  
17 the point person to keep MAFAC involved in  
18 that?

19 And if there are opportunities to  
20 provide formal comments, there would be a  
21 point person on MAFAC who we could work with  
22 and put in touch with the people at NOAA who

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1 are advising Eric who is serving on this  
2 Committee on climate adaptation.

3 MS. FOY: So, what I would propose  
4 in -

5 MS. MORRIS: I volunteer.

6 MS. FOY: You're volunteering.  
7 Good.

8 What I would propose in response to  
9 that is an ad hoc working group that we get  
10 together. And I'm going to - I would be happy  
11 to help with that. I've got Julie.

12 Whether Randy likes it or not, he's  
13 on there.

14 (Laughter.)

15 MS. FOY: Keith is on there, too?

16 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, and Dave  
17 Wallace.

18 MS. FOY: Is that okay with you,  
19 Randy, that I'm kind of asking your  
20 participation? Because I think we should get  
21 the full range in here.

22 MR. CATES: And Bill.

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1 MS. FOY: And Bill?

2 MR. DEWEY: Yes.

3 MS. FOY: Are you taking notes on  
4 here, because I'm not. Bill, Keith and Julie,  
5 Tony, Randy, Paul, Dave, okay.

6 MR. DEWEY: Who isn't?

7 (Laughter.)

8 MS. FOY: So, what I would ask you  
9 to do is just review the document and then  
10 send me some preliminary response to it. And  
11 then I'll see if I can collate those. And  
12 then we'll have another conference call that  
13 I'll set up with Mark where we try as kind of  
14 a working group to hammer out something that  
15 we can send to the full Committee.

16 I do think we need to get ahead of  
17 the curve on this if we can. The sooner we  
18 get engaged in the process, the more effect  
19 our comments will have.

20 Heather.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, Madam Chair.

22 The will of MAFAC in past meetings

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1 was to be as involved as possible in this  
2 discussion. Plus, obviously we have the  
3 advantage that NOAA is right up there.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Anything else  
5 on that?

6 Anything else, Mark?

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think, Heather, you  
8 asked about process or opportunities or how we  
9 just can do things. I just -- a couple things  
10 come to mind just as a reminder for older  
11 members or vested members and new members.

12 MAFAC is a federal advisory  
13 committee. And one of the beauties is that  
14 you're allowed to come to consensus without  
15 violating any laws, but it's not a requirement  
16 that you come to consensus.

17 So, there can be mixed views.  
18 There could be - this group has MAFAC members  
19 saying one thing, and this group of MAFAC  
20 members advise something else.

21 And that's extremely valuable  
22 information because there will never always be

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1 a consensus on anything. So, I didn't want  
2 people to get the wrong impression that for  
3 every question we have to reach consensus.

4 There could be multiple reports,  
5 majority, minority, however you'd like to do  
6 it. So, I just want to remind people that  
7 that's an opportunity.

8 MS. FOY: Is a document that  
9 presents the varied opinions within the group  
10 valuable to you?

11 MR. JONER: A minority opinion.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: You don't even have  
13 to characterize it. You can just say there  
14 was a diversity of opinion and it fell under  
15 these pieces if there was really multiple  
16 device -

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: I mean, you have  
19 license to characterize the nature of the  
20 group's agreement or disagreement.

21 MR. JONER: Okay.

22 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think that's

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1 perfectly and desired, pert, legitimate and  
2 desired to see the range of opinion because we  
3 purposely pick - the Secretary has perfectly -  
4 has nominated people to represent a wide,  
5 diverse of opinion, scope of interests,  
6 knowledge, geographic, all these different  
7 sectoral diversities.

8 So, we would expect to see that  
9 kind of response on many issues.

10 MS. FOY: Go ahead.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Tony.

12 DR. CHATWIN: So, while I think  
13 that's good to know, Mark, but I would  
14 encourage all of us to kind of strive for  
15 consensus because I think that the real power  
16 that a Committee like this has is that we are  
17 - we represent lots of different interests.

18 And if we can come to consensus, this  
19 is one of the few Boardrooms out there where  
20 we connect consensus and that's a diverse  
21 group as possible. And that carries a lot of  
22 weight.

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1           It's much easier for us to just do  
2 this forever and present that to NOAA, but I  
3 think that the challenge for us is to find  
4 consensus.

5           MS. FOY: Right.           MR. RAFTICAN:  
6 Well put. Very well put.

7           Do we have anything else - Mark?

8           DR. HOLLIDAY: I was trying to still  
9 respond to Heather's question about process  
10 and how we conduct business.

11           Again, for those who have access  
12 electronically, we do have a mailing - a group  
13 mailing list for MAFAC. Just a reminder, it's  
14 nmfs.mafac@noaa.gov.

15           So, if you want to distribute  
16 something during the meeting to other people  
17 who have email or between meetings, you can  
18 use that nmfs.mafac@noaa.gov and it goes to  
19 the entire membership. And it goes to Eric as  
20 well.

21           So, that's a device that's  
22 available to help to spread the word.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: For those who don't  
3 have electronic access at meetings, that's  
4 fine. If we have documents that we need to  
5 get typed up, made copies of or copies and  
6 electronically disseminated, because a lot of  
7 times people like to wordsmith on their own  
8 computer, we have staff. That's why we bring  
9 the staff here to help do that.

10 So, if you have material that you  
11 want copied or distributed, let us know. And  
12 the sooner we have that, the quicker we can  
13 get it back out to people to look at.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: Who's asked more of  
15 the ability to see it on the screen. It's  
16 sometimes Heidi.

17 DR. HOLLIDAY: You guys can decide.  
18 Do you want to receive it, Heidi?

19 MS. LOVETT: Sure.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: Via your email and  
21 we'll get it up on the screen.

22 MS. LOVETT: Yeah, either way.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: So it's Heidi, H-E-I-  
2 D-I, dot, Lovett.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Or if it's sent to  
4 the group, then everybody will also see it and  
5 I will get it and I can load it up to the  
6 screen.

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right, but not  
8 everybody has PCs at the meeting.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: No, I understand,  
10 but I meant for - just meant for the action  
11 today, that's all.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: A couple of things.  
13 I want to basically continue the meeting until  
14 2:45 this afternoon when we start in with  
15 protected species.

16 But we're going to be meeting this  
17 afternoon at the same time, two other  
18 Subcommittees will be meeting. Ken's  
19 Committee and Steve's Committee.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Steve's right after.

21 MS. FOY: Yes, Steve's right after.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Oh, okay. If there's

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1 somebody on Recreational Fishing Subcommittee  
2 like me, if there's anybody there that has  
3 water that needs to be carried, let us know in  
4 advance.

5 We want to make sure that all  
6 viewpoints are represented in the Subcommittee  
7 meeting.

8 Any other questions or - okay.  
9 Continue until 2:45.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: So, now we're going  
11 to the budget. Gary Reisner.

12 Okay. We're going to give Gary our  
13 attention now for the budget discussion.

14 Thank you, Gary, for your patience.

15 MR. REISNER: No problem. I hope I  
16 can give you a little information.

17 As you are well aware, the budget  
18 situation is in flux. A lot of flux. But you  
19 had asked that I mention a couple of things on  
20 the Jones Amendment, what I can tell you, what  
21 I can't tell you, and the '12 status.

22 And I'll give you some outlooks on

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1 the '13 process again, but that's within the  
2 administration right now that they're debating  
3 that. So, not a lot of information.

4 This is as you know, HR 1, which  
5 was the first full-year CR bill to pass  
6 related to FY `11 budget. Included an  
7 amendment from the Jones Amendment which  
8 essentially limited use of appropriated funds  
9 for catch share programs, limited access  
10 privilege programs.

11 Over time as that work has gone  
12 through the House and the Senate, it changed a  
13 little bit.

14 In fact, the first one limited - it  
15 essentially prohibited all spending on LAPs  
16 with no provisos.

17 The one that was ultimately enacted  
18 limited only to the east coast and the Gulf of  
19 Mexico councils. And it also included a  
20 proviso that says it doesn't prevent  
21 development activities related to limited  
22 access privilege programs.

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1           So, it was weakened a little bit in  
2 part because of concerns on the west coast.  
3 And in part because there were some  
4 development activities going on, on the east  
5 coast that wanted to continue.

6           So, the provision itself is such  
7 that we don't have plans to implement any  
8 catch shares for the remainder of - or LAPs  
9 for the remainder of 2011.

10           So, in that regard it's not  
11 stopping us from what we were going to do  
12 anyway.

13           However, I think it is a strong  
14 signal to us and to proponents of catch shares  
15 and LAPs to make sure that all of our  
16 constituents who are at interest are being  
17 heard at least and hopefully on board.

18           The other thing about it is, it is  
19 related specifically to IFQs and limited  
20 access privilege programs as defined in  
21 Magnuson-Stevens.

22           So, it doesn't include community

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1 development quota programs. It doesn't  
2 include the sector programs up in New England  
3 which aren't considered LAPs under Magnuson-  
4 Stevens because they don't give privileges to  
5 individuals. They're groups that are  
6 involved.

7           Anyway, it's in force for the rest  
8 of the fiscal year. So - which is only a few  
9 more months, but I wanted to point out that it  
10 is there and clearly there are some people  
11 that are concerned.

12           I think later you're going to be  
13 hearing some discussions about allocations. I  
14 think one of the issues is that allocation  
15 decisions that are made when LAPs are put in  
16 place and how strongly those are cemented and  
17 can there be allocations across sectors, which  
18 really isn't an issue of catch shares, but  
19 certainly it creates an issue.

20           This next slide shows the history  
21 of our budget over time. If you look at this,  
22 this big number in 2007 is because in that

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1 year for reasons that are unclear, they  
2 included a number of supplementals in our  
3 historical tables.

4 So, there was a Gulf of Mexico  
5 supplemental there. And there was a west  
6 coast salmon supplemental. And that's why  
7 that number jumps up so high.

8 I would keep in mind 2008 there's  
9 been a lot of discussion about where the  
10 budget should end up. 2008 is a marker that  
11 many people talk about. Some people lower,  
12 some people higher, but that is the one.

13 If you look at 2011, I don't have  
14 an enacted column there. We are still working  
15 on that. I hope to have something soon.

16 This process when the bill was  
17 enacted, Congress gave us 60 days to get a  
18 spend plan up to the Hill.

19 Now, that spend plan is in  
20 development. But from NOAA, it has to go to  
21 the Department for approval. Then OMB has to  
22 opine on it. Then it has to get up to the

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1 Hill.

2 And obviously there's a lot of  
3 pressure to get money started spending, but  
4 there's also a concern that we will get ahead  
5 of where Congress would like us to be, and  
6 perhaps where OMB or the administration want  
7 us to be.

8 Let me talk a little bit more about  
9 FY `11. The Jones Act which I talked about  
10 was actually part of the FY `11 appropriations  
11 bill.

12 This is where we ultimately ended  
13 up in CR. There are two sets of numbers here  
14 and this gets a little bit complicated.

15 The ORF account, which is our  
16 operating account, has about 3.2 billion  
17 dollars. But as part of the enacted budget,  
18 we also get a transfer of funds from  
19 Department of Agriculture related to customs  
20 duties that are paid on fishery-related  
21 projects.

22 And what that does is you - sorry -

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1 you add that to the budget authority, and you  
2 get an obligation level that you can spend.

3 So, what happens for us is not only  
4 did the budget authority go down from the FY  
5 `10 enacted level, we also because of the  
6 economic activity have less receipts coming in  
7 related to the customs duties. And,  
8 therefore, our overall spending levels  
9 available to NOAA are down about 155, 160  
10 million below the enacted level, which is  
11 about five percent.

12 So, when I say spend plans are  
13 being developed, these are the numbers that  
14 NOAA is splitting amongst all of its line  
15 offices.

16 So, NOS is included in here. The  
17 Weather Service. The satellite operations.  
18 Not buying satellites, but the operating  
19 budgets are in here.

20 So, that's the - we're in the  
21 process of working on that. Let me quickly  
22 just - I don't want to take too long.

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1           But remember - so, here's where we  
2 were in 2011. We are - the enacted budget in  
3 total for fisheries or NOAA is about five  
4 percent below that. And here's where we are  
5 in 2008.

6           The five percent below is in the  
7 middle there now. You can see that here.  
8 What I don't have here is the 2011 spend plan.

9           I got the President's request,  
10 because we all know that. That's a public  
11 number. I don't have the spend plan number up  
12 here.

13           But, again, looking at five percent  
14 if we had a five percent cut off of the ORF  
15 totals here, we would be down around 860  
16 million compared to 900 million in 2010, and  
17 808 million in 2008.

18           So, we're not looking - as Eric  
19 said, we're not looking at more money. We're  
20 looking at less money, and we're trying to  
21 figure out how to allocate that amongst all of  
22 our programs. And I'll talk about some of

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1 that as we go forward.

2 One thing to recognize, this CR  
3 which is different than other CRs that we  
4 have, full-year CRs, in the past we have had  
5 earmarks. And in this case in 2010, we have  
6 about 35 million -- 33, 35 million in  
7 earmarks.

8 They would cancel the language that  
9 directed us to spend it in certain ways, but  
10 they would leave the money in the bill. And  
11 then we would develop a plan and prioritize  
12 that as we saw fit.

13 This time they took that money out.

14 So, it's not even available for reallocation  
15 to priority programs. So, as I go forward, we  
16 can talk about that.

17 The other concern we have, we're  
18 in, you know, coming up to seven months. The  
19 year is already gone. The fiscal year is  
20 already gone.

21 There are concerns about once we  
22 settle on a spend plan, will we be able to get

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1 the money allocated out to the regional  
2 offices and obligated within a timely fashion?

3 So, charters, you know. Can we  
4 enter into contract arrangements with ships to  
5 get charters done?

6 Grants, I know Vince has been  
7 struggling. We've been giving partial grants  
8 as we've gone forward, but the commissions and  
9 councils don't have their full-year grants  
10 yet. So, there's a struggle even if we get  
11 the money, on how we can spend it.

12 Let me talk a little bit about '12,  
13 which what I'm going to talk about first is  
14 the President's budget.

15 And remember, this was released in  
16 January - or February. The first week in  
17 February. You can see it's up about a billion  
18 dollars in total.

19 And I won't get into the specific  
20 numbers. It's about seven million below our -  
21 below the enacted level of 2010.

22 But as I said in FY11, you know,

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1 even if we were to just pro rata down, we  
2 would be in the 860 range.

3 So, it's unclear right now how much  
4 value the President's budget is going to have  
5 on the Hill and the negotiations for the 2012  
6 process. But in terms of information, this is  
7 our official request.

8 And OMB has said right now that  
9 they are not changing the 2012 request. So,  
10 with all these discussions that are going on  
11 about the deficit and how to fix things while  
12 they may end up agreeing to a new bottom line  
13 in terms of the deficit and individual bills,  
14 there's not going to be put in front of  
15 Congress a new President's request.

16 This shows the 2012 information.  
17 And this does have a 2011 column here. And  
18 this was put out. And this was the budget  
19 that we released in February.

20 And at that time, it wasn't clear  
21 where we were going to end up. So, we created  
22 an annualized CR level that is essentially

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1 just an increase or slightly level funding  
2 with the 2010 enacted level.

3 It's really - don't look at it and  
4 think it has any value, but this is what's in  
5 the President's budget that went up to the  
6 Hill. And if you get a copy of the blue book  
7 that we have, that's what in the - you'll see  
8 that column in the blue book.

9 But right now it has no  
10 relationship to the spend plans that we're  
11 developing that will ultimately settle what's  
12 in the 2011 request.

13 So, I'll go over - I'm giving away  
14 secrets here. I'll go over some of these  
15 changes so you know what's in here as we  
16 develop the President's budget. And it also  
17 will set priorities as we're developing spend  
18 plans and if we're negotiating on the Hill  
19 with various levels.

20 One thing I will point out, so here  
21 is the congressionally-directed projects that  
22 were enacted in 2010 that at the time we

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1 thought might be in the bill, but obviously  
2 they're not.

3 And secondly, the 16 million  
4 dollars in administrative efficiency  
5 initiative, the administration did put forward  
6 a government-wide administrative efficiency  
7 initiative on the order of, I think, around  
8 five billion dollars.

9 Our share of that was 16 million.  
10 This is really a reduction. So, travel,  
11 delays in hires - so instead of hiring, you  
12 know, if we have a vacancy and hire in a  
13 month, we'll wait two months to backfill  
14 reductions in contracts and efficiencies that  
15 we're trying to create.

16 It's designed to be an  
17 administrative efficiency. However, at this  
18 level it is going to have -- if it is  
19 ultimately enacted, it will have some  
20 programmatic impact.

21 Ultimately, I think that 16 million  
22 is not the important issue. The important

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1 issue is where will we be at the end of the  
2 day?

3 Will we be at 910 million dollars,  
4 or will we be at 800 million dollars or  
5 something along that line? So, that 16  
6 million is going to get absorbed one way or  
7 the other.

8 Let me quickly go over just to give  
9 you a sense of what happened in the '12  
10 process, as we were moving forward in the '12  
11 process, it was clear that things weren't  
12 going to happen in 2011 that we would likely  
13 be under a full year continuing resolution.  
14 Which meant that the 2011 funding levels,  
15 well, at the time, we thought would be about  
16 equal to the 2010, you know.

17 MR. DYSKOW: Could you go back one  
18 slide, please?

19 MR. REISNER: Yes.

20 MR. DYSKOW: I'm new to this board.  
21 So, I have what may be an obvious question.

22 The big spike between 2008 and

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1 2009, was that due to reclassifications, or  
2 was that due to real spending increases?

3 MR. REISNER: So -

4 MR. DYSKOW: Because across the  
5 board there you have almost 200 million in  
6 increases and it seems to affect each of your  
7 primary buckets.

8 MR. REISNER: The bigger -

9 MR. DYSKOW: And I wondered if these  
10 were classified different, or if that was a  
11 real increase.

12 MR. REISNER: No, there are two -  
13 the main - two things that have happened since  
14 2008.

15 One was late in 2007, I forget the  
16 exact dates, they passed the re-authorization  
17 bill.

18 And we had estimated at that time,  
19 that the new responsibilities and requirements  
20 of the re-authorization bill over and above  
21 your regular Magnuson-Stevens, was on the  
22 order of about a hundred or 150 million

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1 dollars. It was going to cost us that much to  
2 meet the new requirements if we were going to  
3 do it properly.

4 And so, if I can go back to the  
5 slide real quick, so here you'll see starting  
6 in about 2008, you'll see this steady climb  
7 here.

8 And that relates to - primarily to  
9 Magnuson-Stevens' re-authorization with the  
10 appropriators agreeing to provide funding to  
11 do that.

12 MR. DYSKOW: Right.

13 MR. REISNER: There is also some  
14 increases for protective resources in there  
15 also that we had a new program started related  
16 to species recovery grants. And I'll mention  
17 that in a minute.

18 So, those are the -

19 MR. DYSKOW: So, your historical  
20 baselines went out the window in 2008,  
21 essentially.

22 MR. REISNER: Pretty much with the

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1 re-authorization.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: And the observer  
3 training was part of the increase in that  
4 third line down?

5 MR. REISNER: Yes, the observer  
6 training is in here.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Those were more  
8 required observers.

9 MR. REISNER: Both that, and  
10 enforcement is in there too. So, there is  
11 some enforcement increases.

12 And, again, some of you saw the  
13 vessel out here. And I don't know - Bill,  
14 he's not here.

15 We have joint enforcement  
16 agreements with state natural resources  
17 agencies. And in many cases, those agreements  
18 are used to buy vessels by the state to  
19 support enforcement and helping us. So, it  
20 helps both of us and provides some benefit in  
21 that manner.

22 Yeah, Randy.

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1 MR. CATES: Are the sanctuary  
2 programs budgeted in this, or is it separate?

3 MR. REISNER: They're separate. But  
4 in those big numbers, the 3.2 billion dollar  
5 number at the beginning, they are included  
6 there.

7 All right. So, when we're  
8 developing our FY11 spend plan, we're, you  
9 know, they have their needs.

10 The Weather Service which is - has  
11 a very high level of FTE costs relative to  
12 their other costs that have to be met.

13 So, we're working amongst the line  
14 offices on the 2011 spend plan, but these  
15 numbers I'm showing you here are just for  
16 fisheries.

17 All right. Let me give you some -  
18 I'm going to go through some of the increases  
19 that are in the request. And some of the  
20 decreases that are in the request.

21 And obviously the way to use this  
22 is if we're talking on the Hill and

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1 negotiating, clearly where we have increases  
2 in our budgets are where we're going to be  
3 prioritizing those discussions and hopefully  
4 not reducing.

5 The first set here, endangered  
6 species and consultations, this is related to  
7 energy development work that we're doing.  
8 This is a request that we had in '11.

9 Again, I said that the CR coming  
10 forward from '11, continuing resolution,  
11 doesn't have any increases in it.

12 And so what the administration did  
13 was essentially take our increased requests  
14 and - that were included in our 2011 request  
15 and moved them into our 2012 request.

16 And then I have a couple of  
17 increases that are solely from the 2012  
18 request.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: So, Gary, can I just  
20 ask that the column of numbers there is 2011  
21 plus some that you added?

22 MR. REISNER: These are actually

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1 increases over 2010 enacted.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

3 MR. REISNER; So, this is an  
4 increase we requested in our 2011 request.  
5 Obviously it didn't get enacted with the CR.  
6 So, we're carrying it forward and asking for  
7 it again.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. You said that  
9 you had some other -

10 MR. REISNER: So, these stock  
11 assessments, we did not have this two-and-a-  
12 half million in our 2011 request. It's a new  
13 request for '12.

14 Part of our discussions are we're  
15 finding that stock assessments -- both  
16 protective resource and stock assessments.  
17 Then you'll see down here 15 million for  
18 expand annual stock assessments is where we're  
19 running into issues.

20 And as we get ACLs in place and  
21 there are choke stocks or other stocks that we  
22 know are experiencing over-fishing or are

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1 over-fished, but we think they're rebuilding,  
2 we want to get more stock assessments done so  
3 those can be updated with better numbers.

4 So, just going through, I mentioned  
5 the species recovery grants. We have an eight  
6 million dollar increase.

7 In 2008, this was a million dollar  
8 program. It's now when you add this eight  
9 million to the base, it will be a 20 million  
10 dollar program if it were enacted.

11 And this is for Section 6  
12 consultations or recovery plans and agreements  
13 with the states, but we've also included  
14 tribes in that effort too.

15 The other one is the national catch  
16 share implementation, 36 million. As I did  
17 this discussion last year and I talked about  
18 the '11 request and we had 36-and-a-half  
19 million in our request last year, it wasn't  
20 enacted. So, we're going forward with it in  
21 the '12 request.

22 Looking back at the spend plan for

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1 2011, recall we now have a Pacific trawl  
2 program in place. The New England sector  
3 program has been in place for the full year  
4 now. And so we have commitments that we're  
5 trying to meet.

6 These would have covered some of  
7 that in '11. It's not there in '11. So,  
8 that's one of the things we're working on with  
9 our spend plan.

10 Yeah, go ahead.

11 MR. ALEXANDER: So, the amount of  
12 money, that 36.6 billion dollars, you really  
13 don't have?

14 MR. REISNER: That's correct.

15 MR. ALEXANDER: And you spent it.

16 MR. REISNER: Well, we haven't spent  
17 all of it. We've made some commitments  
18 subject to appropriations.

19 But I think there's, you know,  
20 certainly in the Pacific Northwest in the  
21 trawl, there is an expectation that we will  
22 help support the observer requirements for the

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1 trawl fleet out there in implementing that.

2 I think the plan calls for about a  
3 90 percent share being funded by the federal  
4 government. And then over time, going down to  
5 zero.

6 So, one of the issues we're having  
7 in Eric and our discussions in 2011, again,  
8 I'm not going to get into our 2011, what our  
9 actually spend plan is calling for because it  
10 hasn't been approved. But those are on the  
11 table, and how are we going to address that?

12 And if we address them, what does  
13 that mean we have to cut?

14 MR. ALEXANDER: So, okay. So, in  
15 2012, next year, not this year.

16 MR. REISNER: Yes.

17 MR. ALEXANDER: We're supposed to be  
18 covered.

19 MR. REISNER: That starts in  
20 October.

21 MR. ALEXANDER: Okay.

22 MR. REISNER: 2012 would start in

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1 October. So, if this were to, miracles of  
2 miracles, get enacted, you know, if we had an  
3 enacted budget on a timely fashion, we would  
4 get this in October.

5 And in October, we would start  
6 having these resources to be able to allocate  
7 out to our catch share programs that we have  
8 planned and implemented around the country.

9 MR. ALEXANDER: And the Jones Act  
10 doesn't eliminate that?

11 MR. REISNER: The Jones Act wouldn't  
12 affect this for two reasons. One, well, the  
13 Pacific trawl is on the west coast.

14 The sector program in New England  
15 is a sector program. It's not a LAP.

16 MR. ALEXANDER: Yes.

17 MR. REISNER: And third is the Jones  
18 Act is only enforced during FY11. Now, it  
19 could be reenacted and extended, and then it  
20 will have an impact. But for right now, it  
21 expires in September.

22 MR. SCHWAAB: So, just two points of

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1 clarification. One, the Jones Act language is  
2 specific to approval in the programs.

3 MR. REISNER: That's correct.

4 MR. SCHWAAB: You covered that  
5 before -

6 MR. REISNER: Right. And so the  
7 other point is since the trawl program is  
8 already started and there are a number of  
9 programs that already are in existence,  
10 funding could be used on that. I didn't  
11 mention that.

12 MR. SCHWAAB: And then just one  
13 other point. We made it very clear that, you  
14 know, even as we worked through our FY11 spend  
15 plan, that we are placing a very high priority  
16 on meeting the commitments that we've already  
17 made to some of these programs that have  
18 started up.

19 So, that will, you know, barring of  
20 course, you know, condition to what the  
21 ultimate outcome of fiscal '11 or '12 might be  
22 will be - will continue to be a high priority

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1 to us.

2 MS. FOY: Gary, did you say  
3 something about the protected resources stock  
4 assessments and the expanded annual stock  
5 assessment increases being kind of  
6 questionable now that they're kind of under  
7 the gun or what -

8 MR. REISNER: Well, I think all of  
9 these - frankly, all of these increases are  
10 questionable right now.

11 MS. FOY: Right. Those are the two  
12 things that this committee is tasked,  
13 requested -

14 MR. REISNER: Right.

15 MS. FOY: -- those increases in  
16 stock assessment.

17 So, would it be helpful for you as  
18 a committee we reiterate that request or -

19 MR. REISNER: So, yeah. I was going  
20 to get into it. And Mark raised this.

21 MS. FOY: Okay.

22 MR. REISNER: When is the right time

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1 to act?

2 In terms of advising the Secretary,  
3 this is already agreed to, this is already in  
4 our request.

5 MS. FOY: Okay.

6 MR. REISNER: For 2013, advice going  
7 to the Secretary could be useful because that  
8 budget isn't at the Secretary's office yet.

9 But for '12, this is up on the  
10 Hill. So, any discussions with them would be  
11 best handled I think as an individual rather  
12 than - I mean, I don't - I'll look to Mark,  
13 but I don't think MAFAC as an entity would be  
14 making recommendations to Congress. Your  
15 mandate is to the Secretary.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Gary, what is the  
17 timeline for recommendations to the Secretary  
18 for FY13?

19 MR. REISNER: So, FY13 budget is  
20 going to the Secretary's office, essentially  
21 to DOC, as it does every year in the spring,  
22 late May. So, about this time frame.

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1           Which means that within fisheries  
2           and within NOAA, our 2013 budget is pretty  
3           well set. And then - so, it goes to the  
4           Secretary's office at the end of May.

5           And then at the end of August and -  
6           so, the Secretary, we meet with them, we  
7           discuss it, there's negotiations. It goes to  
8           OMB in September.

9           CHAIR McCARTY: '11?

10          MR. REISNER: September of 2011.

11          CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

12          MR. REISNER: And then obviously  
13          they do what - they play with it, they  
14          negotiate with us, they add a lot of money for  
15          us.

16          And then that's released to the  
17          public and to Congress. That goes up the  
18          first Monday in February of 2012.

19          I wanted to mention aquaculture,  
20          two-and-a-half million. This is a program  
21          again if you go back to 2008, we had about  
22          three million, three-and-a-half million

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1 dollars.

2 We've asked for increases our  
3 operating budget for 2010 was six million.  
4 We're still working on the spend plan for  
5 that, but then adding to that six million,  
6 another two-and-a-half.

7 If the '12 budget requests were  
8 enacted, we would have an aquaculture office  
9 program of about eight million dollars.

10 I'll mention, and I mentioned it  
11 before, this real small Fisherman's  
12 Contingency Fund.

13 This is a fund for fisherman to ask  
14 for reimbursement for equipment that might be  
15 damaged from oil pipelines and stuff.

16 This is actually money that's  
17 contributed by or paid as part of the leasing  
18 cost on offshore oil rigs and offshore  
19 acreage.

20 It goes into a special fund that  
21 the Department of Interior controls. But then  
22 it has to be appropriated to be able to spend

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1 it back to the fishermen.

2 And we have since run out of money,  
3 so we're asking for an increase here. In  
4 fact, this is - I'm concerned because it's a  
5 program - we had asked for it last year. We  
6 actually have no balances.

7 So, there has been damage and  
8 people are requesting reimbursement. We don't  
9 have any money to pay them. And we've told  
10 them essentially, yes, we'll review your  
11 request. If it's approved, we'll hold it  
12 until we have appropriations.

13 And we don't right now, and frankly  
14 I'm concerned that the oil companies who have  
15 paid into a federal fund to cover this are  
16 going to get upset along with the fishermen  
17 who aren't getting reimbursed.

18 Anyway, these are our increases  
19 that are in the 2012 request. One thing I had  
20 -- you had asked for an update of the table,  
21 our budget table based on various categories.

22 And we did that with up to 2012.

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1 And Heidi and folks have put it on the web  
2 page. So, that's good.

3 MS. LOVETT: This presentation as  
4 well.

5 MR. REISNER: Oh, okay. Right,  
6 right, right.

7 So, all the good news about the  
8 increases we talked about, there are a lot of  
9 decreases as we move forward into 2012.

10 And a lot of these, there are two  
11 types of earmarks we have. One are  
12 congressionally-directed specific earmarks  
13 which if you went to the 2010 appropriations  
14 bill, they would actually have a list of  
15 specific projects that say here's what it's  
16 for, here's who it goes to, here's how you're  
17 supposed to spend it. And those we've  
18 identified, that says 33 million dollars.

19 There's also about 40 some odd  
20 million dollars of congressional plus-up. So,  
21 for example, we asked for money for marine  
22 mammals, and Congress gave us two-and-a-half

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1 million more than we requested, all right?

2           This money is primarily for monk  
3 seals and cetaceans in Hawaii. It's not  
4 specific to an individual or entity, but it  
5 was requested and added in there by Congress.

6           And it's not part of our request, and we've  
7 taken them out. Same with marine turtles.

8           So, if you see the little  
9 asterisks, those are items that were not in  
10 our original 2011 request or 2010 for that  
11 matter, because these are changes off of 2010  
12 that we have essentially not funded.

13           There are some decreases, for  
14 example, Atlantic salmon, where we have a  
15 planned decrease.

16           This was some recovery planning  
17 work that we were doing in our Atlantic salmon  
18 line that we are no longer doing.

19           The other area, Pacific Salmon  
20 Treaty, where we had planned reductions, in  
21 2011 there was a six million dollar reduction  
22 related to enhancement work in the Puget

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1 Sound.

2 This is still meeting our treaty  
3 requirements. That enhancement work is  
4 completed. And so that funding isn't needed  
5 anymore.

6 And there's seven-and-a-half  
7 million in here for payments to Alaska for  
8 compensation for reduced catch levels that was  
9 part of the treaty agreement that we entered  
10 into.

11 There's still base funding in there  
12 that will cover salmon tracking, some limited  
13 mitigation and meeting our requirements. But  
14 those two big pieces aren't in our request.

15 Most of these others were increases  
16 that were in the bill from 2010 that we didn't  
17 request.

18 Mr. Dicks has for the last two  
19 years, added ten million dollars for Mitchell  
20 Act hatcheries.

21 We provide some funding for  
22 Mitchell Act hatcheries on the Columbia River

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1 system, but he had put in ten million dollars  
2 increased.

3 That's not in the enacted - that's  
4 not in our request for 2012. And it wasn't in  
5 our request for 2011.

6 One area that I wanted to touch  
7 base with is on cooperative research. It  
8 shows a 4.6 million dollar reduction. That's  
9 a real reduction, but a lot of people have  
10 complained that that reduction is actually  
11 bigger than that.

12 Because as part of the 36 million  
13 dollars in catch shares that I showed you on  
14 the other line, we had transferred six million  
15 dollars out of cooperative research and into  
16 that catch share line for cooperative research  
17 related to catch share activities.

18 So, in New England they needed a  
19 lot of survey work. There was a lot of  
20 bycatch work that was cooperative research  
21 related.

22 And when we created the catch share

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1 line, we moved it out of here and into the  
2 catch share line.

3 I don't know whether that will stay  
4 or not. But this reduction, a lot of people  
5 have complained that we've taken money away  
6 from research to put onto catch shares, which  
7 isn't quite accurate.

8 Yeah, go ahead, Martin.

9 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Gary.

10 What about the electronic log  
11 books, you know? We're all screaming for more  
12 data and we're taking - is that a true dollar-  
13 for-dollar reduction, or was that -

14 MR. REISNER: That's a dollar  
15 reduction that was - they actually put that  
16 money in our enforcement line. It is a real  
17 reduction.

18 That's not to say that we aren't  
19 doing electronic logbooks. There's  
20 discussions some of the money we got for the  
21 disaster assistance related to Deepwater has  
22 gone to that.

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1 Eric, were you going to -

2 MR. SCHWAAB: Well, there's also a  
3 portion of that increase under recreational  
4 data is electronic logbook. At least it's -

5 DR. DANA: How much better?

6 MR. SCHWAAB: I'm sorry?

7 DR. DANA: How much better?

8 MR. SCHWAAB: It's a million.

9 MR. REISNER: A million dollars.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: it's under that three  
11 million increase under the recreational data.

12 And one million of that was earmarked for  
13 electronic logbooks, as I recall.

14 MR. REISNER: So, there's one  
15 million that was going to go towards  
16 electronic logbooks on the charter fishery.  
17 And there was two million to increase the  
18 frequency of the surveys to monthly.

19 MR. SCHWAAB: yes.

20 MR. FISHER: Well, if I may, dock  
21 assessments are essential for any fishery  
22 management. We all know that.

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1           If we can graduate to electronic  
2 logbooks, which I've been trying to push in  
3 the southeast region for five years, we can  
4 gather - I mean, right now it takes almost 18  
5 months for commercial logbook data to actually  
6 become verified and put into the system.

7           If we could graduate to an  
8 electronic form, we could probably shave, you  
9 know, 14 months off of that.

10           I would hope that MAFAC would be  
11 interested in recommending to the Secretary  
12 that for the '13 budget since we can't really  
13 do anything here, that a great emphasis be put  
14 on developing electronic logbooks for the  
15 commercial sector to enhance and facilitate  
16 and increase the frequency of -- and reduce  
17 the cost of the processes.

18           CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. We will write  
19 that down, thank you.

20           Go ahead.

21           MR. CLAMPITT: I don't know if this  
22 is the proper place to discuss this. I would

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1 add on to what he has said, but -

2 CHAIR McCARTY: I think we're going  
3 to have that discussion later about budget  
4 priorities.

5 MR. CLAMPITT: Okay. Sorry.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: That's all right.  
7 That's fine.

8 MR. REISNER: Just a couple others.  
9 This should be 16 here, not 19. So, that's  
10 just a typo on my part.

11 And then the other areas are  
12 Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund. This is  
13 a separate appropriation account. And the  
14 enacted level in 2010 was 80 million. The  
15 continuing resolution amount because its  
16 separate appropriation account, it has a  
17 separate number, is 80 million.

18 So, that was held constant while  
19 all the other - most of the other accounts  
20 were reduced, this was held constant.

21 And our request for many years has  
22 been 65 million. So, this line is - 15

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1 million here is related to just that  
2 difference between the enacted level of 80  
3 million and the request of 65 million.

4 I'm sorry. Go ahead, Tony.

5 DR. CHATWIN: Just a question.

6 It seems that the -- all the ones  
7 that have asterisks are the ones that you  
8 didn't request. So, it seems -

9 MR. REISNER: That's right.

10 DR. CHATWIN: -- like they're  
11 congressional.

12 MR. REISNER: Those are monies that  
13 Congress added to our request, to our funding  
14 levels. They aren't specific earmarks.

15 DR. CHATWIN: So, the difference is  
16 the Congressionally-designated parts.

17 MR. REISNER: They're different from  
18 congressionally-designated project. In large  
19 part is that Congress added these monies, but  
20 they didn't identify a specific entity to  
21 receive them and there is some fudgibility  
22 between what gets in and what doesn't.

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1           So, for example, just to digress  
2 for a second, this New England Fisheries  
3 Assistance, nine million dollars, they put  
4 another line in our - it's called a support  
5 table and added this and it's not considered a  
6 congressionally-designated project because of  
7 that.

8           However, there were two smaller  
9 projects, about I think a million in May and  
10 800 and some odd thousand for New England,  
11 that were specifically identified and are  
12 considered congressional earmarks.

13           So, I mentioned before and I sort  
14 of laughed that Congress can do what they  
15 want. They really do make the rules. They  
16 make it very difficult for budgeting because  
17 at different times they'll put, you know,  
18 they'll put the electronic logbook money in  
19 the enforcement line, or do this issue with  
20 New England Fisheries Assistance rather than  
21 bundling all that together because it was all  
22 really for use of addressing the Groundfish

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1 Fishery and the problems up there.

2 But each member put their own piece  
3 in, and that's how it got put in the bill.

4 MR. DEWEY: What was the million  
5 dollars in `08 for?

6 MR. REISNER: They actually ended up  
7 using that as part of their permit bank.

8 MR. DEWEY: Oh, okay.

9 MR. REISNER: So, that was our --  
10 I'm sorry. Go ahead.

11 MR. EBISUI: Thank you.

12 In terms of research and management  
13 activities that go on in those areas, I mean,  
14 in areas where fishing is not allowed?

15 MR. REISNER: So, this is for the  
16 western pacific monuments and the new line,  
17 the three monuments out at Mariana Trench, the  
18 atoll -- I forget all their names.

19 We had a request in there that  
20 provided a million dollars to NOS for their  
21 management. And then we had I think I want to  
22 say two million related to stock assessment

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1 work in the monument. Just essentially  
2 inventory, living marine resources in the  
3 monument.

4 And when it was enacted, they had  
5 given us about an \$800,000 increase in that.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Gary, I need to  
7 interrupt you just for a minute.

8 MR. REISNER: Yes.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Keith informs me,  
10 he's our concierge, that we're going to be  
11 expected for lunch at 12:30.

12 MR. REISNER: Oh, okay.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: And there's 21 of us  
14 by last count, so we need to do two things.  
15 We want to make sure there really are that  
16 many people, and we even need to let them know  
17 that we're going to be late, or take the rest  
18 of your report when we come back because we  
19 kind of have this hard time.

20 MR. REISNER: It's up to you.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: And it takes about  
22 ten minutes to get over there.

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1 MR. FISHER: Or 11.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: 11 people?

3 MR. FISHER: No, 11 minutes.

4 MR. REISNER: 11 minutes to get  
5 there.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, so that's why I  
7 interrupted you.

8 MR. REISNER: I only have one more  
9 slide on '12. It's sort of --

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Let's get a really  
11 quick show of hands. Who's going to lunch?

12 (Off-record comments.)

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. So, we'll  
14 take this last slide and then, Gary, do you  
15 mind doing the rest of it after this?

16 MR. REISNER: No, no problem.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Thank you.

18 (Off-record comments.)

19 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. One more  
20 slide then.

21 MR. REISNER: So, what I talked  
22 about before was our request. So, the House

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1 now has passed a budget resolution. And part  
2 of that included discretionary funding levels.

3 And then the Appropriation  
4 Committee has allocated that -- those  
5 discretionary budgets to the various  
6 committees.

7 Our committee is Commerce, Justice  
8 and Science. And it has a total allocation of  
9 about 50 billion. And this is about six  
10 percent below the 2011 enacted level. And  
11 it's about 15 percent below our request.

12 So, right now the House at least is  
13 looking at funding levels that are 15 percent  
14 what I just presented. And that includes the  
15 Justice Department where there's strong desire  
16 for increases. It includes the National  
17 Science Foundation and NASA where there's  
18 strong interest. And then there's Commerce.

19 So, I think again seeing another  
20 six to 15 percent reduction off the 2011  
21 levels and 15 off the President's request  
22 again gets us down into the 850 to 750 million

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1 dollar range for ORF levels.

2           Again, going back to the '08 level,  
3 we were at about 700 million for ORF. But  
4 that was before the increases that were needed  
5 to implement Magnuson-Stevens.

6           CHAIR McCARTY: Thanks, Gary. We'll  
7 resume when we get back here. We need to be  
8 back here at 1:30.

9           (Whereupon, the proceedings went  
10 off the record at 12:22 p.m. for a lunch  
11 recess and went back on the record at 1:46  
12 p.m.)

13

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1 some things that cannot be changed, because  
2 people have made commitments.

3 So, if you turn to the Thursday  
4 agenda, it calls for public comment  
5 opportunity at 8:30. I do not expect public  
6 comment. I welcome it, but I don't think  
7 we're going to get any. Which gives us 15  
8 minutes extra to have.

9 The Managing Fisheries III ideas,  
10 and that's just a brainstorming session  
11 basically, that's can be moved to the  
12 afternoon.

13 And so, I'm suggesting that we move  
14 that to the afternoon which gives us from 8:30  
15 to 9:45 to do some of the report-outs of the  
16 four committees.

17 I understand that Cathy's  
18 committee, the Protected Resources Committee,  
19 is not going to have an elaborate report-out.

20 We might be able to do that in about five  
21 minutes.

22 I also understand that the

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1 Recreational Fisheries Committee is going to  
2 be undertaking some sort of recommendation  
3 for, you know, I'm a little unclear on that,  
4 Ken, and I haven't had a chance to talk to  
5 you, but Mark and I talked a little bit  
6 earlier about what you might be doing in that  
7 subcommittee. There will probably be some  
8 material to present to the group.

9 And of course we know that the  
10 Commerce Subcommittee is going to have the  
11 aquaculture policy recommendations and - or a  
12 process at least.

13 And then we know that Tom/Cathy are  
14 going to have some written recommendations for  
15 us to address.

16 So, I suggest that we do as much as  
17 we can between 8:30 and 9:45. And I would  
18 even suggest that we try to get started a  
19 little earlier than 8:30.

20 It seems as though I got here ten  
21 minutes before 8:30 and almost everybody was  
22 here, you know. You're eating breakfast, but

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1 you can still think.

2 I don't know whether you can talk,  
3 but you can think at least. So, I don't know.

4 8:15? I mean, just an idea.

5 Eight o'clock? If that is okay  
6 with everybody, let's start at 8:00. Let's do  
7 the report-outs then and go to 9:45. See how  
8 much we get done.

9 We cannot change the seafood safety  
10 update. And I do not want to push Eric's  
11 quota allocation discussion - it says Emily  
12 Menashes and she's going to call in, but Eric  
13 said that he would be at least presenting and  
14 discussing that with us.

15 So, that's my recommendation.  
16 Anything that goes over into the afternoon,  
17 we'll just have to do in the afternoon, but we  
18 don't have a lot of leeway.

19 If there's any comments or  
20 suggestions, I'll take them now.

21 MS. FOY: My only comment would be  
22 that we need to watch to see if any members of

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1 the public want to speak.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Absolutely.

3 I'd also like to introduce from the  
4 audience another NOAA person who has joined  
5 us. Dr. Bob Foy from Kodiak, Alaska. He's  
6 the head of the NOAA lab in Kodiak. And  
7 welcome, Bob. Glad you could be with us.

8 He's also related to one of our  
9 esteemed members. He's taking care of the  
10 kids I think is what he's doing. That's why  
11 she keeps him around.

12 Those are my thoughts right now,  
13 and I know that Mark would like to speak about  
14 dinner.

15 MR. FISHER: We had on the agenda a  
16 group dinner at El Siboney. It's a Cuban  
17 restaurant. It's about the same walking  
18 distance as we did last night.

19 We had set it for 6:00 p.m. We've  
20 moved it to 6:30 p.m. to give us a little more  
21 breathing time.

22 I wanted just to get a confirmation

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1 of people who are interested in attending  
2 tonight's dinner so we can get a head count  
3 and make sure they are well prepared for us.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

5 DR. DANA: Just one word on El  
6 Siboney. This is as authentic Cuban as you  
7 will get. And, you know, it's a local place.

8 It's far less expensive and just very quality  
9 Cuban food and sangrias and all that.

10 So, if you've never had it, if you  
11 don't go tonight, then you really should go  
12 before you leave.

13 And, Mark, I interrupted a little  
14 bit. Can I just continue on?

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Absolutely.

16 DR. DANA: One other thing you  
17 should consider doing before you leave Key  
18 West is to go down to Mallory Square, which is  
19 that way. It's an easy walk.

20 If you were walking towards the  
21 cruise ship, I would recommend -

22 MR. DYSKOW: You'd get your feet wet

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1 if you were walking towards the cruise ship.

2 DR. DANA: A little bit inland and -

3 MR. DYSKOW: I understand.

4 (Laughter.)

5 DR. DANA: If you guys recall when  
6 you were driving in, there's some beautiful  
7 houses and such. Bahama-style houses.

8 The second road, you can walk up  
9 it. It's a pedestrian kind of a road. It's  
10 absolutely beautiful architecture, and that  
11 will take you right to the Mallory Square  
12 area.

13 There's a lot of entertainment.  
14 They have the famous cat man who has his cat  
15 doing all kind of tricks out there. And then  
16 everyone gathers there for the Sunset every  
17 night.

18 So, you can't not go to Key West  
19 and not do a Mallory Square.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: Sunset's at 8:10.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: 8:10 sunset, okay.

22 And there are drinks available down there.

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1 DR. DANA: Oh, yeah. No doubt. The  
2 Sunset Pier which is right there next to  
3 Mallory Square, has a great tropical band and  
4 things like that and it's just a lot of fun.

5 CHAIR McCARTY: Thank you. Thank  
6 you, Pam.

7 Tom.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Serious question. If  
9 you go to El Siboney at 6:30, can you make it  
10 over by sunset?

11 CHAIR McCARTY: They are very quick.

12 A lot of the things are pre-made. The only  
13 thing that you have to order way ahead of time  
14 is the paella and it takes an hour.

15 So, everything else in my  
16 experience there, I've been there several  
17 times and it's like out of a big pot, you  
18 know. You got your beef stew, you got your  
19 pork and you got your rice and you got your  
20 beans.

21 DR. DANA: Cuban food is not like  
22 Mexican food. It's very Mediterranean.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Like Spain and  
2 Spanish kind of - it's good stuff. It is  
3 fast, I know that.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: I take that as a yes,  
5 you can make it from El Siboney.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: I don't want to give  
7 you any guarantees. It would be tight. I  
8 mean, it would - I'm just saying it would be  
9 easy to eat for an hour. The entertainment  
10 goes on out there. Is it up until sunset, or  
11 does it stay after sunset?

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think it would be  
13 tight as well.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: I think it would be  
15 tight.

16 DR. DANA: The only reason I bring  
17 this up is that is a family style local  
18 restaurant, they don't take reservations. You  
19 just kind of have to - because they're going  
20 to accept anyone who gets there. First come,  
21 first serve.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: The possibility is

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1 you could go early, go at 6:00 and -

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, we've been in  
3 contact with the restaurant and their policies  
4 for us since then.

5 They know that we're coming. They  
6 know that we're a certain size. And they're  
7 going to do their best to accommodate us at an  
8 appointed hour, but that's the furthest  
9 commitment they would give us.

10 They wouldn't reserve - formally  
11 reserve it for us.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Did I see another  
13 hand over here? Anybody else?

14 MR. NARDI: I'm sorry.

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: Wait a minute. Just  
16 by a show of hands before we close the -

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Go ahead and - if  
18 you want to go to dinner at El Siboney, please  
19 raise your hand.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Are you guys having  
21 an embargo against Cuba or something?

22 (Off-record discussion.)

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. I'd like to  
2 get Gary back up here and ask him to finish  
3 for us.

4 Thank you, Gary, for being patient  
5 once again.

6 MR. REISNER: Okay. So, we talked a  
7 few minutes about the 302(b) allocations for  
8 FY12.

9 FY13 is really just in the minds of  
10 people like me who work in the government.  
11 There's nothing been publicly stated except  
12 for one number, and that's this number at the  
13 top.

14 If you go to the President's FY12  
15 budget, he has five years worth of numbers for  
16 the appropriations account. So, the total  
17 account.

18 And that number in the - so, the  
19 FY13 number in the FY12 budget is 5.3 billion  
20 for all of NOAA. And it's about 198 million  
21 below the '12 ceiling.

22 Now, remember the '12 ceiling for

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1 the President's budget, all right, was about  
2 5.5 billion. We don't know what Congress is  
3 obviously going to do, but we already know  
4 that the '12 ceiling in the House is 15  
5 percent below the President's ceiling.

6 So, things are going to be tight  
7 whether you're dealing with the President's  
8 request, or whether you're dealing with  
9 Congress when we get to '13.

10 Obviously the federal government is  
11 operating on a significant deficit. \$1.3  
12 trillion. We have already hit our debt  
13 ceiling. We are now borrowing from my  
14 retirement and a couple other people's  
15 retirements to keep the books balanced and  
16 legal.

17 They are going to have to raise the  
18 debt ceiling soon, and there has been  
19 discussion about how much to cut off of the  
20 '12 budget in order to do that.

21 We have three different deficit  
22 reduction groups. There was the National

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1 Commission on Fiscal Responsibility that the  
2 President set up. They've already reported  
3 out.

4 You probably have heard of the Gang  
5 of Six. There are three Republicans, three  
6 Democrats.

7 Senator Coburn has dropped out of  
8 that because he couldn't reach agreement with  
9 the others on how much to cut.

10 Vice President -- the Vice  
11 President is working with a group of House and  
12 Senate leaders on deficit reduction related to  
13 the debt ceiling raising.

14 Obviously we had talked about going  
15 to '08 levels. So, I guess my last slide here  
16 is that the message is we are not going to see  
17 budget increases in the next couple years. It  
18 would surprise me greatly if we did.

19 We're not quite done with the 2011  
20 spend plan. So, I don't know exactly what  
21 that level is, but we know that '13 is not  
22 going to be as good as the FY12 request. And

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1 '13 may not be as good as the FY12 request -  
2 or, I'm sorry - yes, '13 won't be as good as  
3 the FY12 request.

4 It's unclear where it will be in  
5 relation to '08 versus the '11 spend plan or  
6 the '12 budget, but I just wanted to tell you  
7 we are going through this process now of  
8 developing an FY12 budget.

9 As I indicated earlier, it's going  
10 to DOC this week or next week. DOC will be  
11 making decisions throughout the summer working  
12 with us. When I say "us," I mean NOAA.

13 They will come to closure on that.

14 And the NOAA budget, the DOC budget will go  
15 to OMB in early September. And then the '13  
16 President's budget will be released in the  
17 first Monday in February of 2012.

18 So, while past years we were  
19 looking at fairly stable, steady increases  
20 primarily to address our drivers, which  
21 Magnuson-Stevens, I think those times may have  
22 ended.

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1 Final slide I wanted to put on here  
2 is our performance metrics and targets just to  
3 point out that we are still tracking  
4 performance.

5 Magnuson-Stevens' re-authorization  
6 required us to end overfishing - oops. Sorry.  
7 End overfishing by the end of 2011 for all  
8 stocks that were subject to overfishing.

9 All FMPs have to have ACLs in  
10 place. There are 46 FMPs. Our plan right now  
11 is to have them all in place in - hopefully by  
12 the end of the first quarter of 2012, which is  
13 December 31st of 2011. So, those are our  
14 important measures that we're tracking.

15 The Fish Stock Sustainability  
16 Index, I know Mark has talked about it. We've  
17 had Galen Tromble speak here about it.

18 It tracks both stock assessments,  
19 in other words, our determination of the  
20 biomass and overfishing, and also tracks  
21 whether stock has been rebuilt or not.

22 We are tracking the number of catch

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1 shares we have in place. So, all of these  
2 continue to be tracked.

3 I will say that this FY11 target is  
4 based on what the President's budget was. We  
5 have not updated it yet for the spend plan.

6 I don't think it's going to change  
7 much when we do get the spend plan in place,  
8 in large part, because there's not enough time  
9 to have an impact anymore. But the '12 and  
10 the out year numbers may change a little as we  
11 move forward in our request.

12 That's really all I had to talk  
13 about the budget. Things are not looking as  
14 rosy as they have in the past as we move  
15 forward into the out years.

16 Any questions?

17 CHAIR McCARTY: I have just a  
18 clarifying point for me. If this group was to  
19 - and I'm going to ask - Eric has agreed to  
20 speak on this subject too.

21 If we were going to talk to you  
22 collectively about our priorities as a MAFAC

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1 group, how would you put it into categories?  
2 How would you break it down? What level of  
3 category, in other words, obviously we can't  
4 say we want, you know, the guys over here to  
5 get this kind of money to do, you know,  
6 \$27,000 worth of this.

7 So, I'm talking about broad  
8 categories. How broad - how - what's useful?

9 MR. REISNER: So, I - well, you want  
10 me to take this?

11 CHAIR McCARTY: Tell me what you  
12 think.

13 MR. REISNER: So, also on the web  
14 page, and I guess not everybody has access to  
15 that is the budget table that you -- the  
16 cross-cut table that you had asked for in the  
17 past.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

19 MR. REISNER: And that does break it  
20 down. There's protected resources. There's  
21 fisheries management. There's catch share  
22 programs. There's data collection, research

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1 and surveys which essentially stock  
2 assessment, stock survey work.

3 Are you going to be able to pull it  
4 up? Oh, well. So, those categories, I think,  
5 are the right-size categories.

6 And then with, you know, and then  
7 within that - those categories if you had some  
8 text as to what you were looking for, where  
9 you were interested, you know, obviously if  
10 you want to get into, you know, I want 1.4  
11 million dollars for catch share somewhere or,  
12 you know, 3.8 million for stock assessments,  
13 we can take that, I don't know that that's  
14 necessary at that level particularly as you  
15 get into the out years.

16 With regards to the budget process  
17 within the administration where we're at right  
18 now, it really is going to the Secretary's  
19 level. So, the timing for the 2013 budget is  
20 now.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: That's what I was  
22 talking about, was for 2013. And knowing that

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1 the 2012 is in someone else's hands, we can  
2 try to influence that in a different way.

3 MR. REISNER: The 2012 is good as a  
4 reference point of where to start from and  
5 where to change from.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

7 MR. REISNER: But '13 is where we're  
8 working on.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Thank you. Do  
10 others have questions for Gary?

11 Tony.

12 DR. CHATWIN: Gary, on this table  
13 here, I was impressed by the jump in the  
14 number of acres, habitat -- the last row --

15 MR. REISNER: Yes. So what happened  
16 is if you recall, we got about 167 million in  
17 funding for Recovery Act projects for half of  
18 that restoration work.

19 We actually got requests in for  
20 three billion when we went out with our call,  
21 but we only have 160 million. And so, a lot  
22 of what you're seeing there is the growth in

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1 that.

2 The other part of that is a change  
3 in the measure - at least we're trying to get  
4 a change in the measure.

5 This number of habitat acres  
6 restored originally just looked at our  
7 community-based restoration program and some  
8 WIPRO work in Louisiana.

9 And since a large portion of our  
10 restoration work is related to Pacific Coastal  
11 Salmon Recovery Fund, we're trying to  
12 incorporate that into the measure.

13 If you're talking about fisheries  
14 and we're doing restoration work, we didn't  
15 want to leave that off.

16 And so, I don't have the priority  
17 year numbers on that, but what we're trying to  
18 do is capture them here also.

19 DR. CHATWIN: We wanted to learn  
20 more about how these have declined exactly.

21 MR. REISNER: There is. In fact on  
22 these HPPG items, there are - actually, if you

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1 go to recovery.gov, there is some discussion  
2 of these.

3 There is a one or two-pagers on the  
4 Fisheries website - Fisheries Management  
5 website related to Magnuson-Stevens that talks  
6 about the Fish Stock Sustainability Index and  
7 explains what the components are.

8 There's actually four points per  
9 stock. There are 230 stocks that we track.  
10 So, a hundred percent score would be 920.  
11 That would be the highest you could get on it.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: All right. Paul.

13 MR. CLAMPITT: Thank you, Madam  
14 Chair. I see in the line item of accounts  
15 there's 106 million to enforcement or observer  
16 training.

17 MR. REISNER: Yes.

18 MR. CLAMPITT: Can you break that  
19 up? Do you know how much is for observer  
20 training?

21 MR. REISNER: I do. I'm trying to  
22 see whether it's on the summary sheet that we

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1 have.

2 I don't have it here. But, yes, I  
3 can get it. I want to say offhand about 30  
4 million of that is related to enforcement  
5 activities. And the rest of it is observers.

6 It may be a little more than that for  
7 enforcement, but I have those numbers. But  
8 not with me up here.

9 MR. CLAMPITT: Thank you.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Randy.

11 MR. REISNER: Let me -- if you go to  
12 the NOAA website and look under the budget  
13 you'll see there is a table there that will  
14 have the breakout also and you can get it  
15 there.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Randy, and then  
17 Henry.

18 MR. CATES: It seems that me --  
19 every business or every group that is  
20 represented in this room has had to deal with  
21 budget cuts. My question would be to Eric and  
22 to NOAA, National Marine Fisheries, do they

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1 want our input and suggestions in how to  
2 reduce their budget?

3 Are you seeking that, or are you  
4 not seeking that? I mean, what -- because I  
5 have suggestions, but it's not my place to say  
6 where -- I'm uncomfortable in saying what to  
7 do or not to do.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, Eric had  
9 agreed to speak to that somewhat on what would  
10 be helpful. Henry, with your permission,  
11 we're going to let Eric answer that and maybe  
12 go into some detail.

13 MR. SCHWAAB: So actually that's a  
14 great lead in to one of the key things that I  
15 was going to say when the prospect of budget  
16 advice was first put on the table. And that  
17 is that in this time period, where to cut is  
18 in -- frankly more important than, you know,  
19 in many respects where to invest. And so, you  
20 know, which is a very different, obviously,  
21 mode than what any of us have been in  
22 historically.

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1           Having said that, I think the other  
2 point that I would like to make is that in  
3 both cases, cutting or adding or, you know,  
4 reallocating, what's really important from our  
5 perspective is and, again, I think in taking  
6 sort of a long view, what strategically are  
7 the areas that we need to be continuing to  
8 invest in and why as opposed to areas where  
9 maybe strategically we might be able to reduce  
10 our investment.

11           So that's complicated by the  
12 combination of legal mandates that we deal  
13 with. The combinations of constituencies that  
14 we serve and, you know, and the understanding  
15 that addressing legal mandates or addressing  
16 the specific needs of constituencies might not  
17 necessarily lead to the burst - the best long-  
18 term strategic investment.

19           And that's really the challenge  
20 that we face. And so we certainly need advice  
21 on the substance of that, but we also need to,  
22 I think, be sort of cognizant of the

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1 challenges of executing.

2 So I'm trying to think of a couple  
3 of good examples that I will - that I'll toss  
4 out. Let me start with one on sort of the  
5 legal mandates. So, you know, we've been on  
6 the Hill on a couple of occasions lately, and  
7 one of the criticisms, you know, that we hear  
8 is - or actually one of the solutions we hear  
9 is, well, we'll just - we don't like the way  
10 these consultations affect implementation of  
11 projects that are important to us. Therefore,  
12 we will reduce the amount of money dedicated  
13 to consultations.

14 Well, as long as the Endangered  
15 Species Act exists in its current form, all  
16 that's going to do is shift the debate to the  
17 courts even more so than it has been in the  
18 past.

19 So at the same time that you  
20 recognize you might now - you might rather  
21 streamline some of these protected species  
22 challenges, you also have to recognize the

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1 legal mandates. So kind of full stop there.

2 The other thing that just from an  
3 example that I tossed out there is from a  
4 fisheries management perspective, you know,  
5 one of the things we're looking at is there  
6 was a big, as you saw here before, ramp up in  
7 investment in setting catch limits and  
8 accountability measures.

9 Well, I think it's a legitimate  
10 question for us to ask what does, you know,  
11 was there sort of a bubble of investment there  
12 that we could sort of at some point, might not  
13 be quite there yet, but sort of, you know,  
14 ease back on the throttle a little bit and go  
15 into sort of more of a maintenance mode.

16 And is that, by the same token,  
17 ultimately going to be potentially  
18 complemented by the fact that as we  
19 increasingly - as we see some of these big  
20 fisheries shift over on the catch share  
21 programs, some of the input controls that eat  
22 up a lot of time and energy and rulemaking and

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1 the like, you know, can ultimately be - we can  
2 shift away from some of those.

3 So those are some of sort of the  
4 big strategic questions that we're asking  
5 ourselves that all kind of fall in that realm  
6 of, you know, combination of serving  
7 constituencies and meeting legal mandates, and  
8 at the same time keeping some long-term view  
9 on what some of the big investment  
10 opportunities ought to be. And then how do we  
11 position people to be not only building the  
12 right model, but building the right, you know,  
13 coalition of support for that model going  
14 forward.

15 MR. CATES: Can I just follow up  
16 with something?

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Sure. Go ahead.

18 MR. CATES: So I'm not sure if I got  
19 a clear understanding of what I was asking  
20 for. I would have characterized it a little  
21 differently.

22 I think this group as an advisory

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1 panel, has a wealth of knowledge, and we're  
2 kind of down in the trenches.

3 I know from my perspective in  
4 Hawaii, I see things that I would say, boy, I  
5 would do - I can see some opportunities to  
6 save some significant money in NOAA's - what  
7 they're doing there.

8 So if you would like that advice or  
9 input, I'm more than willing to give it to  
10 you. But I'm not going to throw it to you  
11 because I think it's inappropriate.

12 I don't like when people tell me  
13 how to do my business, but all of us, my case  
14 in particular, we had to make cuts that I'm  
15 not very happy with. But we had to do it to  
16 survive.

17 And so I'm familiar with that and,  
18 you know, I look at NOAA in Hawaii. I've seen  
19 it just grow. And now they're all scrambling  
20 and worried about where the money is, but  
21 there is - it's prioritizing. And that input  
22 should come from that level, I think, on

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1 what's the priority for those areas.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: Right. So I guess the  
3 - I guess the general answer is yes, with the  
4 caveat that we run the risk I think very  
5 quickly of sort of devolving into the weeds  
6 and devolving into debates around what that  
7 expenditure is driven by and what purpose it's  
8 serving.

9 And it could get - I just - which  
10 is I guess part of what I was alluding to when  
11 I talked about some of the protected species  
12 challenges, you know. There's a lot of people  
13 who just say, well, don't spend money there,  
14 and then that problem goes away.

15 Well, it's not quite that simple.  
16 And so I guess I would say generally yes, but  
17 with a big caveat there that - that that could  
18 sort of, you know, that could - well, as I  
19 said, get us really down into the weeds in a  
20 way that maybe not be the best use of  
21 everybody around this table's time.

22 MR. CATES: Would you say this is

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1 probably the number one issue for NOAA to deal  
2 with to grip on right now?

3 MR. SCHWAAB: Protected resources?

4 MR. CATES: No.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh, the budget?

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. SCHWAAB: No. No, I would say  
8 it's a huge issue, but it's in the context of  
9 what strategic investments we need to make.  
10 And so the number one issue is what is our  
11 strategic posture? And then subservient to  
12 that, a big component is budget.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. So here's the  
14 deal. We are once again getting a little  
15 late. Henry has got the floor first, and then  
16 did anybody else have any questions for Gary  
17 or for Eric on budget issues?

18 We can, I believe, have a  
19 discussion about budget advice whether it be  
20 very broad and strategic or more on some of  
21 these priorities that we have identified  
22 before. I don't think we want to do that now.

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1 I suggest that we have it either in the joint  
2 subcommittee meeting or as a whole tomorrow.

3 I think I would prefer as a whole  
4 tomorrow because I think this subcommittee has  
5 enough to do this afternoon.

6 So that would be my preference.  
7 And unless somebody is going to argue with me,  
8 we'll do it that way.

9 MR. SCHWAAB: And I would just say  
10 to the degree to which it's important that I  
11 be here, I have conference calls at 3:00 and  
12 4:00. So you're going to lose me at 3:00.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Today?

14 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Thank you.  
16 We won't do it today.

17 So, Henry first, and then Paul.

18 MR. SESEPASARA: Thank you, Madam  
19 Chairman.

20 Gary, I just want to ask you on  
21 your itemized categories of the budget. I  
22 didn't see a category on financial assistance

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1 on - or disaster financial assistance for  
2 fishery-related businesses that were wiped out  
3 during a disaster such as a tsunami or  
4 earthquake.

5 Is that on there or is that a  
6 special NOAA appropriation request to Congress  
7 on case by case?

8 MR. REISNER: Yes, so we have  
9 disaster determination authority. We have  
10 made those determinations. We have never  
11 requested money for them. Certainly not in  
12 the President's budget a priori to any  
13 disaster.

14 And in general, while we have made  
15 disaster determinations the funding has been  
16 provided through Congress. So we'll work with  
17 Congress on a determination, but the funding  
18 will usually originate with them.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: Paul.

20 MR. CLAMPITT: Gary, just a quick  
21 question. Could you possibly have gotten it  
22 backwards? I'm looking at -

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1 MR. REISNER: Yes, I did.

2 MR. CLAMPITT: Okay.

3 MR. REISNER: So enforcement is on  
4 the order of 62, 63 million. And observer is  
5 on the order of 35, 36 million. Sorry.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Thank you. Any  
7 other questions as far as on the budget?

8 Gary, thanks so much for your being  
9 patient and thanks for being here.

10 MR. REISNER: All right.

11 CHAIR McCARTY: I know it was awful  
12 for you.

13 MR. REISNER: No.

14 (Laughter.)

15 DR. CHATWIN: Can I ask a quick  
16 question?

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Of course. Tony has  
18 a question.

19 DR. CHATWIN: Gary, just a question.

20 So, I mean, the assumption is the economy is  
21 going to continue to - well, to improve, but  
22 that doesn't really reflect an improvement.

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1 MR. REISNER: Right.

2 DR. CHATWIN: But how does it work  
3 with the government budget working three years  
4 ahead of time when you do have positive  
5 changes in the - let's say three years from  
6 now or two years from now when this budget  
7 becomes the current budget and the economy is  
8 going up and revenues are up -

9 MR. REISNER: Well, I think if -

10 DR. CHATWIN: It will be a good  
11 problem to have.

12 MR. SCHWAAB: We'll have a tax cut.

13 (Laughter.)

14 MR. REISNER: Well, I think the  
15 paradigm that is now on the table is that we  
16 can see that. Instead of increases - more tax  
17 reductions.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: He's kidding.

19 MR. SCHWAAB: I'm not suggesting  
20 that's a bad thing, by the way.

21 MR. REISNER: No, no. No, no.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. I'd like to

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1 have the folks who have been waiting patiently  
2 from the aquaculture program to make their  
3 presentation. Susan and Lorenzo. And if  
4 you'd like to introduce yourselves and give a  
5 little bit of background as to where you came  
6 from because I think Lorenzo might be at least  
7 new to the program. I know that Susan's been  
8 with it for a while.

9 MR. JUAREZ: Certainly. Thank you  
10 very much, and I'm very happy to be here. My  
11 name is Lorenzo Juarez.

12 I am - the new deputy manager for  
13 the aquaculture program. I am very happy to  
14 be here in the Keys talking about aquaculture.

15 Because like I was telling Eric over lunch, I  
16 spent 18 years of my life doing aquaculture in  
17 the Keys running a major shrimp hatchery for  
18 15 years in Summerland Key and then another  
19 three years in the upper keys. I don't know.

20 That's a different country, but running a  
21 genetic improvement program for shrimp.

22 And because I am new and obviously

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1 I can't speak very good English, and I don't  
2 speak very good NOAA speak, so I have with me  
3 Susan Bunsick.

4 Susan is our senior policy analyst  
5 in the program. So, the other good news I  
6 have, my presentation is very short. Probably  
7 less than 10, 15 minutes or something like  
8 that and then you have - if you let me run  
9 through the presentation, then we can have  
10 questions and Susan can bail me out of any hot  
11 water I get myself into.

12 My presentation is going to cover  
13 mostly the NOAA aquaculture policy. And I'm  
14 going to try to show you where we are in the  
15 policy. I'm going to center on all the public  
16 input we've had with this policy. And then  
17 I'm going to give you some idea of what we're  
18 thinking about - for that policy.

19 For those of you who are new in  
20 MAFAC, first of all, welcome on behalf of the  
21 aquaculture program. And we always think of  
22 MAFAC as our friends, as our allies, you know.

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1       You are very engaged with aquaculture and you  
2 always root and push for us and help us. So  
3 we really thank you for that.

4               Here are some of the past actions  
5 that MAFAC has taken on aquaculture, including  
6 the ten-year plan which we've been talking  
7 about on and off. May want to revise that in  
8 light of the new policy.

9               And they also feature very  
10 prominently in the recent 2020 plan, and we  
11 think very rightly so. So thank you very much  
12 for that.

13               So for about two years we have been  
14 working on these new aquaculture policies.  
15 And NOAA - because there is one that is  
16 specific for NOAA. And then another one more  
17 general that is under the Department of  
18 Commerce. And those two jive with each other.  
19 They're very much in concert.

20               Of course the Commerce one being  
21 more broad and more pro-commerce, and the NOAA  
22 one being more focused on the stewardship and

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1 also promotion of aquaculture.

2 So the public comment just ended a  
3 few weeks ago, April 11th, and we received  
4 nearly 200 comments to both policies. Some of  
5 the comments were from individuals, but also  
6 some were from industry associations,  
7 companies, NGOs. Very well represented  
8 through the spectrum of stakeholders for  
9 aquaculture.

10 I can tell you that the comments  
11 were generally supportive. And no surprises.

12 Very much aligned with, you know, who the  
13 comment came from which is just logical.

14 And if you want to see those  
15 comments, they are posted online at the - in  
16 our aquaculture.noaa.gov website. So you can  
17 see those.

18 The major themes of the comments we  
19 received as you can see there, you know, it's  
20 to increase the priority of aquaculture for  
21 the U.S. given the status of our fisheries.  
22 We don't know. We're not going to have a huge

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1 increase from there.

2 Huge trade deficit. I just got in  
3 the email from FDA yesterday or the day before  
4 that we broke the 10 million dollars worth of  
5 trade deficit for - for seafood in our  
6 country. So very important.

7 Some thought that NOAA should be  
8 the leading agency for the development of  
9 marine aquaculture in this country.

10 I'm also acknowledging that  
11 regulating or fostering marine aquaculture  
12 presents challenges under our current laws and  
13 regulations.

14 And then the other one was to  
15 present aquaculture in the greater context of  
16 fisheries which seems to be a very - something  
17 that that has happened in other countries.  
18 Aquaculture is seen as a part of fisheries,  
19 not versus or opposed to fisheries. The two  
20 things can work very well together, not only  
21 commercial aquaculture, but also restoration  
22 of fisheries and habitat.

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1           So the next three slides have to do  
2 with the major themes of the comments we  
3 received.       So the first one is the  
4 stakeholders want stronger statements to  
5 support their viewpoints which again is  
6 normal.       We see industry groups wanting  
7 stronger language in support of aquaculture  
8 development.   Environmental NGOs want a more  
9 stringent, more restrictive language.

10           And of course this is just a  
11 policy.   So, you know, we're not going to put  
12 any regulation or very specific restrictions  
13 in a policy, you know.   It may get to that  
14 point when regulations are drafted.

15           Fishery management councils want  
16 more detailed guidance to assist in preparing  
17 the implementation of the fishery management  
18 plan especially the Gulf plan which you're all  
19 very familiar with.

20           And then a group of researchers,  
21 producers and industry actually proposed this  
22 coalition of the willing, so to speak, to

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1 request 36 million a year worth of R&D and  
2 technology transfer projects in aquaculture.

3 Stakeholders do have mixed views on  
4 a few issues. The level of detail in the  
5 policy, like I discussed. Some people wanting  
6 much more detail. Some people are okay with  
7 the kind of overarching view or aspirational  
8 nature of the document.

9 Some stakeholders do question  
10 NOAA's authority to regulate aquaculture under  
11 Magnuson. And that's against what the Agency  
12 has maintained which is that the aquaculture  
13 is a form of fisheries and very much under  
14 Magnuson.

15 Some stakeholders seem to think  
16 that we need new legislation. And there's a  
17 couple bills out there that I will discuss  
18 very briefly in a minute.

19 Three sticking points are the use  
20 of non-mating or genetically improved or  
21 genetically engineered species. Very rough  
22 point. A lot of different viewpoints there

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1 from the ones that say this is an animal  
2 production technique and genetics is the key  
3 of any animal production technique, to people  
4 that completely disagree with genetically  
5 improved or changed/modified organisms.

6 Of course the impacts on the  
7 environment of aquaculture are being a  
8 sticking point with some people pointing to  
9 the potential pitfalls of aquaculture. And  
10 then some are responding that all of these  
11 have been kind of - and we can now move  
12 forward and do aquaculture in a  
13 environmentally correct way.

14 And then the last one there having  
15 to do with the application of the  
16 precautionary approach or precautionary  
17 principles, you know, how much we know and how  
18 much have we actually do something, because we  
19 don't know everything.

20 And of course every person would  
21 probably be at a different point on that  
22 scale. And hopefully you won't be pushed to

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1 the point of inaction because always it is  
2 very easy to think those things, just not do  
3 anything, right?

4 So seafood and aquaculture industry  
5 groups, MAFAC and some research institutions  
6 want a stronger sense of urgency promoting  
7 aquaculture.

8 On the other side of the scale some  
9 environmental groups do not want NOAA to  
10 actually be facilitating it. They - first and  
11 foremost in their mind are the potential  
12 environmental problems. So if anything, they  
13 would like NOAA not to push the issue.

14 I think individual companies and  
15 industry associations recommend the top  
16 priority to reduce the permitting burden on  
17 the industry, which then would ease one of the  
18 bottlenecks to the development of aquaculture  
19 in the US.

20 So, like I mentioned, some NGOs  
21 requesting NOAA supporting regulate -  
22 especially aquaculture in federal waters which

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1 is a hot topic although we have very little,  
2 if any, in this country. And they would want  
3 a congressional action on this topic.

4 There are two bills out there. One  
5 Senator Inouye from Hawaii has a bill. And  
6 the other one is Representative Capps from  
7 Alaska. And both of them have bills - policy  
8 group for comments.

9 And we have waited because we want  
10 to have this policy out there first so that we  
11 can comment on these bills illuminated by the  
12 -

13 MR. CATES: Excuse me. Are those  
14 bills new?

15 MR. JUAREZ: They are not new, no.

16 MS. FOY: No, they have not been  
17 introduced.

18 MR. CATES: Okay.

19 MS. FOY: But basically the two  
20 bills are basically the ones they had in the  
21 previous Congress.

22 MR. CATES: Okay.

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1           MR. JUAREZ: So, regional shellfish  
2           associations have come together and come to us  
3           and say, well, you need to amend this plan,  
4           this policy. We would very much like to see a  
5           shellfish initiative that not only fosters the  
6           commercial production of shellfish, but also  
7           shellfish out there for restoration, cleaning  
8           the water, improving the habitat.

9           And incidentally one of the things  
10          that we may be proposing. MAFAC supported  
11          this initiative to put more shellfish into the  
12          water. And the aquaculture program may be  
13          proposing to kick start these with some kind  
14          of a workshop where we plan how to take this  
15          to the next step.

16          The other idea floating around  
17          would be the development of tech transfer  
18          projects that are a partnership between  
19          private industry, the government and NGOs,  
20          kind of a can-do thing linking all parts where  
21          we create success stories that jumpstart the  
22          aquaculture in this country. And that synergy

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1 between those groups, I think, can accomplish  
2 great things as has been the case in other  
3 countries.

4 So we have comments from state  
5 governments, mainly Washington state and  
6 Alaska. And Washington supporting this  
7 shellfish initiative I was mentioning about.  
8 And Alaska cautioning against fish culture,  
9 which is something Alaska as a state does not  
10 want to promote in their state.

11 And then we also have interesting  
12 comments from the fishery management councils.

13 Of course the one in the Gulf very much  
14 interested in pushing their fisheries  
15 management plan, but also some interest in the  
16 Pacific with - they're waiting for the policy  
17 to develop their own plan. And also the South  
18 Atlantic having some - I'm not very sure what  
19 it is, but they do have some sort of  
20 aquaculture guidance document that's kind of  
21 also waiting on the policy to get going.

22 We received probably the most

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1 useful set of comments into the policy came  
2 from MAFAC. It was very detailed. Very-well  
3 written. We thank you for it. MAFAC urged  
4 NOAA to use a little bit stronger language  
5 encourage and foster the development, rather  
6 than just allow, permit, or whatever language  
7 we were using before.

8 And then to remove some of the  
9 language that could be considered discouraging  
10 of aquaculture or overly protective.

11 Also recommending that the agency  
12 updates the ten-year plan for aquaculture,  
13 which you are very familiar with. That plan  
14 is much more detailed than the policy is.

15 I read it when I first came into  
16 NOAA. I said this is great. Let's do it. So  
17 I hope we can with very, very little revision  
18 because I don't see anything in there that  
19 conflicts with the policy. I see that would  
20 be great if we could implement that quickly.

21 So, the next steps would be to  
22 finish the revision of the policy in light of

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1 the comments received, which we have pretty  
2 much done now. And I'm not allowed to tell  
3 you when we plan to release the policy, but  
4 it's imminent and it would be more in days and  
5 weeks rather than months and years time frame.

6 So expect it any time.

7 And Eric laughs.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Why are you  
9 laughing?

10 MR. SCHWAAB: No, that's exactly the  
11 right answer.

12 (Laughter.)

13 MR. JUAREZ: So of course the all-  
14 important thing about the policy is not the  
15 policy itself but how we implement it. And  
16 here are some ideas and samples of how we  
17 would like to do that.

18 Of course the shellfish initiative  
19 as I described. We would really like to  
20 implement these tech transfer projects. We  
21 would like to implement the Gulf of Mexico  
22 plan. Of course revise and update the ten-

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1 year plan. And if possible, the creation of  
2 an office on - of aquaculture within NMFS.

3 And of course under the current  
4 budget environment we're like Hemingway's old  
5 man when we pick up the big fish, you know.  
6 We just have to do the best with what you have  
7 right there. Don't be thinking about what you  
8 don't have.

9 And with that, I thank you very  
10 much.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Are there questions  
13 for Susan or Lorenzo? Yes.

14 MR. DEWEY: So, Lorenzo, on that  
15 final sheet there or your final page, you had  
16 implementation of the Gulf of Mexico fishery  
17 management plan for aquaculture.

18 The MAFAC letter essentially  
19 recommended developing regulations for  
20 aquaculture in the offshore. And essentially  
21 that's the next step, if I understand  
22 correctly, to implement the Gulf FMP, is to

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1 develop regulations.

2           So would those regulations be  
3 specific to the Gulf as they go forward, or  
4 would they be more generic to the country?  
5 How would -

6           MR. JUAREZ: The regulation is  
7 really specific -

8           MR. DEWEY: Specifically -

9           MR. JUAREZ: - and my understanding  
10 of it is not complete at all, but what I  
11 understand is that the fisheries management  
12 plan is so complete, I read it once months  
13 ago, and is so well done that, you know, a lot  
14 of the stuff is already there. It's just a  
15 matter of putting it into the form that would  
16 be needed.

17           But, Susan, please correct me if I  
18 am wrong.

19           MS. BUNSICK: No, no. It's like any  
20 other fishery management plan for a fishery.  
21 It's their regional plan. So they are written  
22 for - so the initial decision is you have this

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1 plan that's in force but has not yet been  
2 implemented. We haven't written regulations  
3 to implement it yet, so no permits are being  
4 offered.

5 So you can't just say that applies  
6 nationwide, but it may serve as a model.

7 MR. DEWEY: As other regions develop  
8 -

9 MS. BUNSICK: Yes.

10 MR. DEWEY: - aquaculture FMPs,  
11 then regulations would be -

12 MS. BUNSICK: Right. If you're  
13 going to do this under Magnuson, it's just  
14 like fisheries management. They have to  
15 develop a plan. And then if the plan is  
16 approved, it would be implemented through  
17 regulations.

18 MR. NARDI: Does that mean then to  
19 move forward in that vein without legislation  
20 -

21 MS. BUNSICK: That would - well, if  
22 you're going to do it under Magnuson, that's

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1 the authority we have right now under our  
2 current laws. If we want to do, you know, a  
3 framework under current law, you could do a  
4 regional framework under Magnuson.

5 If one of those other laws or some  
6 to-be-determined law were to be enacted and  
7 Congress gave us specific authority that was  
8 nationwide, then we would operate under that.

9 But in the absence of a new law,  
10 Magnuson is our primary way to do this.

11 MR. CATES: A couple of comments.  
12 The working group that we have that made the  
13 comments, you said there was a couple minor  
14 changes.

15 I thought they were, from our point  
16 of view, kind of big changes with some of the  
17 language. And we saw a big disconnect between  
18 the DOC policy, Commerce policy, and the NOAA  
19 policy in that - and, Steve and Bill, you can  
20 chime in on this - the Commerce was more pro-  
21 business, pro-growth, and NOAA was very  
22 burdened on, you know, unlimited liability,

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1 languages in there.

2 And I remember during that  
3 discussion we put it to Martin like, okay, if  
4 you're a commercial fisherman and you applied  
5 this to commercial fisheries, would you be in  
6 business?

7 And his answer was stunning. It  
8 was like, no way. You can't create an  
9 industry with this.

10 So I thought that those  
11 recommendations were very big recommendations.

12 And you can create any policy, you can have  
13 any law. But unless it's going to foster  
14 growth in an industry, there's no point.

15 Like California, you can legally  
16 have an offshore farm, but there are none.  
17 And there won't be any on the way it's  
18 written.

19 So I just wanted to share that I  
20 thought that working group was vital in those  
21 recommendations.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. All we can

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1 hope is that they listen to us.

2 Let's do George. He had his hand  
3 raised. And then you, Martin.

4 George.

5 MR. NARDI: Just as a quick follow-  
6 up. Randy mentioned the DOC and the NOAA  
7 policies. When you come back with a policy  
8 revision, will it again be two policies, or  
9 one policy that comes forward from NOAA and  
10 DOC?

11 MS. BUNSICK: I think at this point  
12 the intent is two, unless we were to hear  
13 otherwise from - in the clearance process.

14 But I think NOAA proposed  
15 originally two. And even though we did get  
16 similar comments to MAFAC saying the same sort  
17 of things you did, you know, that - and we had  
18 it the opposite way. We had comments that  
19 said how come DOC doesn't have these  
20 environmental protections.

21 So as we edit the policy, we're  
22 trying to make it clear what the relationship

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1 is because NOAA is part of the Department of  
2 Commerce.

3 I think Eric looked like he wanted  
4 to say something.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: No, I think that it  
6 will continue to be two. I don't see anything  
7 that's going to suggest differently.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Martin.

9 MR. FISHER: Randy, I'm confused.  
10 Sorry. Did you - were your comments like an  
11 affirmation of what happened, or are you  
12 saying that you don't feel like you've been  
13 listened to?

14 CHAIR McCARTY: He doesn't know yet.

15 MR. CATES: I'm saying we have been  
16 listened to.

17 MR. FISHER: You have been listened  
18 to.

19 MR. CATES: The way he characterized  
20 it that they were minor changes in the  
21 language that we recommended, and I  
22 characterize that as there were big changes we

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1 recommended.

2 MR. FISHER: So you felt like the  
3 big changes -

4 CHAIR McCARTY: But, Martin, we  
5 don't know yet because we haven't seen what  
6 they've done in response to the comments.

7 MR. CATES: I think they were very  
8 important changes. If we're going to create  
9 an industry that those changes - the language  
10 has to be changed. Otherwise we're not going  
11 to have a business.

12 MR. JUAREZ: They were very  
13 important, Randy and they were significant,  
14 and I'm sorry if I used the wrong word there,  
15 but I mean by minor was that certain wording,  
16 you know, and specifically the use of the word  
17 foster versus encourage or, you know,  
18 something like that, wordsmithing kind of  
19 thing, that it is important.

20 MR. CATES: For the group's  
21 knowledge, the real issue became - in  
22 commercial fisheries if you go out as a

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1 commercial fisherman and the fishery  
2 collapses, that individual fisherman is not  
3 held accountable for the collapse of that  
4 fishery. Actually, no one is held  
5 accountable.

6 In aquaculture, the way language is  
7 written, the individual farm would be held  
8 liable for the collapse of that fishery.

9 And that's where in the legal terms  
10 you end up in court, a business cannot invest  
11 in something where they're going to be held  
12 liable for the collapse of an entire - that's  
13 an example of how important that language is.

14 MS. BUNSICK: Well the policy itself  
15 wouldn't impose that sort of - liability -

16 MR. CATES: The way it was written  
17 would.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Can I just - and  
19 imagine that you guys have already proposed  
20 revisions to both of the policies. And it's  
21 somewhere in the chain of command above your  
22 offices; is that correct?

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1                   Okay. Thank you. That's what I  
2 assumed.

3                   MS. BUNSICK: Yes, our intent is to  
4 facilitate the process. So we did our best to  
5 analyze the comments, propose some changes -

6                   (Whereupon, the proceedings went  
7 off the record at 2:47 p.m. for technical  
8 difficulties and went back on the record at  
9 3:01 p.m.)

10                  CHAIR McCARTY: Okay, guys. Tony  
11 tells us that we're online again. And I  
12 believe that there may be some more questions  
13 or comments for Lorenzo and Susan.

14                  Okay. I'm just getting a drink of  
15 water, but you guys go ahead. Who would like  
16 to speak? Go ahead, Bill.

17                  MR. DEWEY: I think Steve beat me to  
18 the punch with his hand.

19                  MR. JONER: I was on line when we  
20 got unplugged.

21                  MR. DEWEY: Well, then you go.  
22 Absolutely, you go.

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1 MR. JONER: My question's real easy,  
2 and I don't understand the answer we were  
3 given back when we were working on this  
4 review. We asked about who is going to be the  
5 boots on the ground for the Commerce policy.  
6 Which agency will implement that?

7 Because as Randy said, we found it  
8 to be much more supportive where the NOAA  
9 policy, I forget exactly the count, but it was  
10 like three times as many - the word impact,  
11 the impact from aquaculture appeared about  
12 three times as much as the word benefit or  
13 support, you know.

14 And the Commerce policy was kind of  
15 just the opposite. It was more of a - almost  
16 an advocacy for developing - for the need to  
17 develop aquaculture.

18 So we've wondered since NOAA is  
19 part of Commerce, NOAA has their own and  
20 Commerce has one that we found to be more user  
21 friendly at least from the viewpoint of  
22 aquaculture, who is going to represent

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1 Commerce and who would we talk to there if  
2 there is - if there are going to be two  
3 separate policies?

4 And we got an answer, but I don't  
5 think it was clearly understood.

6 MS. BUNSICK: Yes, I think we're  
7 going to take one step back. And as I started  
8 to say earlier as, you know, you have the big  
9 Department of Commerce that has multiple  
10 bureaus within it, one of which is NOAA.

11 So the policies will be implemented  
12 based on the responsibilities and missions of  
13 the different parts of Commerce. So NOAA  
14 happens to have a lot of marine stewardship  
15 missions, which is why we had to balance the  
16 policy in terms of how does aquaculture fit  
17 within everything else they're doing. We want  
18 to do aquaculture, but we have to be aware  
19 that NOAA does have these other legal  
20 requirements under different laws.

21 Commerce has other pieces like the  
22 Economic Development Administration, the

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1 Minority Business Development Administration,  
2 you know, people who work on trade issues,  
3 people who work on general business climate  
4 and support for industry and the economy and  
5 jobs.

6 And I think in our policy you will  
7 see, even in the NOAA policy, statements that  
8 support why aquaculture is important to the  
9 economy, to coastal communities, to creating  
10 jobs and providing safe, sustainable seafood  
11 for U.S. consumers, but the NOAA policy is a  
12 lot more detailed. It's like, you know, ten  
13 pages or so versus three pages for Commerce.

14 Now the who, there is - we've been  
15 dealing with there's a Policy Office within  
16 Department of Commerce. And that's the who  
17 we've been dealing with. And, again, it  
18 becomes the devil's in the detail. How do you  
19 implement that?

20 Well, just like with the NOAA  
21 policy, you know, we expect to have some input  
22 from MAFAC and others, including the ten year

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1 plan, about how we move forward implementing  
2 within NOAA, but that doesn't, you know,  
3 preclude, you know, providing that input to  
4 the Department of Commerce. How are you going  
5 to implement this through your other avenues  
6 you have?

7 There are other research programs  
8 within Commerce that have supported  
9 aquaculture development in the past, for  
10 instance.

11 So, yes, it's a challenge, but -  
12 does that answer your question?

13 CHAIR McCARTY: It's a challenge,  
14 but does that answer your question?

15 MR. JONER: I think so. And, you  
16 know, we ask this question what other agencies  
17 are there that are Commerce and EPA advocates,  
18 and are we in contact with EPA or these other  
19 line offices?

20 MS. BUNSICK: Well, in the review of  
21 the policy, it was handled through Department  
22 of Commerce.

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1           So, I believe they had reviewers  
2 within the different parts of Commerce  
3 reviewing that policy. I wasn't in charge of  
4 that piece of it.

5           MR. JONER: Without getting too much  
6 in the weeds here, MAFAC is established to the  
7 Secretary of Commerce.

8           MS. BUNSICK: I was going to say,  
9 Mark, yes.

10          MR. JONER: So should we be having  
11 some communication with these other agencies  
12 or do we only get to talk to NOAA fisheries?

13          CHAIR McCARTY: I'm assuming that  
14 everyone involved in this policy process saw  
15 the comments that MAFAC put forward.

16                 I'm assuming that; is that correct?

17          MS. BUNSICK: Yes.

18          CHAIR McCARTY: So, I think we did  
19 have contact with them in that way. That  
20 would be my assumption.

21                 Everyone saw the comments that we  
22 put in all the way from these guys at NOAA

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1 through the hierarchy at the Department, I'm  
2 assuming, including the people that reviewed  
3 all the comments. Assuming it wasn't just you  
4 guys. There's a whole staff of Commerce  
5 people who also reviewed the comments.

6 So, I'm assuming that that  
7 happened. I don't know that.

8 MS. BUNSICK: And I might add I  
9 think people paid attention to the fact that  
10 these were comments coming from an officially-  
11 established advisory committee to NOAA and the  
12 Department of Commerce that represents a range  
13 of marine interests, not just the aquaculture  
14 community.

15 I think that -

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Did Bill Hicks  
17 comment -

18 MR. DEWEY: Not yet. Not yet.  
19 George wanted to jump in and do this.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Go ahead, George.

21 MR. NARDI: Well, I just - that's  
22 why I asked about if there was after the input

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1 since I would think about 90 percent of people  
2 put comments in, it was, "Oh, yeah, put your  
3 comment in Commerce as well."

4 I don't think they were coming up  
5 with different comments from the same group  
6 that put one into NOAA and put one into  
7 Commerce.

8 It's almost they were just  
9 covering, you know, making sure of these  
10 aquaculture points because they didn't know  
11 what was going to happen with it.

12 And I guess I'm mystified a little  
13 bit why we had to have two policies and why  
14 we're here and we're looking forward to a  
15 policy to come forward. Yet, we - it appears  
16 to me that the Department of Commerce policy  
17 has probably gone to where it's going to go  
18 and this committee may never hear anything  
19 back from whoever that is going to when would  
20 the feedback from that group be different than  
21 the policy coming from NOAA?

22 I mean, the authorship of those two

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1 different policies is that NOAA that did that  
2 on behalf of Commerce to take into account  
3 their broader brush?

4 MS. BUNSICK: We provided staff  
5 support to them, but the approval was up to  
6 them, you know. And the approval and review  
7 and -

8 MR. NARDI: So, would we see, would  
9 you also be working, therefore, on the policy  
10 that comes back after the comments, or is that  
11 left up to them to come back to MAFAC with a  
12 new document?

13 CHAIR McCARTY: If I could jump in  
14 here.

15 MS. BUNSICK: Go ahead.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: I mean, them are us,  
17 right? I mean, you're part of them, and  
18 you're also us.

19 MS. BUNSICK: right.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: And so -

21 MR. NARDI: That's what makes it  
22 confusing.

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1                   CHAIR McCARTY: Yes. I would guess  
2 that what you're going to see is two policies  
3 that are being revised in accordance with the  
4 comments as they saw fit. And I think we're  
5 not going to have anybody from Commerce other  
6 than these folks talking to us, more than  
7 likely, but I think we are going to see a  
8 revised Commerce policy as well as a revised  
9 NOAA policy.

10                   I don't know if that helps any.  
11 And you were kind of wondering who's writing  
12 them? Is that what you're asking?

13                   MR. NARDI: Well, that's -- I was  
14 more like in a response back, you know. I  
15 wasn't sure if there's somebody from the  
16 Department of Commerce or one of the other  
17 agencies in Commerce that would want to review  
18 those comments and add their input so that the  
19 response back might have some substantial  
20 differences.

21                   CHAIR McCARTY: Differences. Okay.  
22 I see what you're asking. I see what you're

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1 asking.

2 I don't know. I don't know who  
3 authors them within the Department. They were  
4 similar enough that I'm assuming that many of  
5 the words were exactly the same. There were  
6 just differences in sort of additions to the  
7 NOAA part, and then a few changes in language.

8 MS. BUNSICK: Yes, but even within  
9 NOAA, we're the aquaculture program. So, we  
10 provide the on-the-ground staff support. We  
11 don't have the final say. And even - I mean,  
12 Eric has the final say for NOAA fisheries, but  
13 then it's a NOAA policy.

14 So even, you know, within NOAA  
15 there has to be some discussions of what's in  
16 the final policy. So, similar with Department  
17 of Commerce.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Who is the policy  
19 person at Commerce who dealt with that policy?

20 MS. BUNSICK: Kris Sarri, S-A-R-R-I.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

22 MR. DEWEY: Kris with a K.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Well, that's  
2 helpful. I think we've gone as far as we can  
3 with this charge.

4 MR. DEWEY: Well, I don't know that  
5 that's true. I think in hindsight had we been  
6 thinking through this particular question, we  
7 might have invited Kris here to speak to how  
8 Commerce is going to implement their policy.

9 I'd recommend that be part of our  
10 agenda for the next MAFAC meeting is that we  
11 invite Kris to speak to the Commerce policy  
12 and implementation.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Is that your  
14 point, George?

15 MR. NARDI: Well, it was my point.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. I'm sorry. I  
17 missed that.

18 MR. NARDI: Which way are we,  
19 speaking now on the industry side, going, you  
20 know? There's some overlap. What do we get  
21 behind?

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

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1 MR. DYSKOW: Can I make a  
2 suggestion?

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Please do.

4 MR. DYSKOW: I know it's hard to see  
5 my hand way down here.

6 You may have to take your MAFAC cap  
7 off to solve this. In your case, I don't know  
8 if you have a vested interest in this or not.

9 In Alaska, you have elected officials. They  
10 have fisheries management people on their  
11 staff. You could simply address that issue to  
12 them. They could, through their elected  
13 office, contact Commerce and get an answer  
14 that is not restricted to a MAFAC or a NOAA  
15 dialog.

16 You may have to wear a different  
17 hat to get the answer to that. We do it all  
18 the time, you know.

19 There are people that can get that  
20 answer that aren't encumbered by the  
21 restrictions of MAFAC or the constraints of  
22 NOAA.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: That's a really good  
2 suggestion, but it's not just through MAFAC.  
3 And I'm sure that most of you work in other  
4 places as well that don't have anything to do  
5 with MAFAC.

6 Okay. Again, I still believe,  
7 however, that there's going to be some  
8 similarities no matter what in the revised  
9 policies, as there were in the original ones.

10 And I'm not sure, but what NOAA is  
11 somewhat bound by is what Commerce is  
12 permitting NOAA to do. Not permitting in the  
13 obvious sense, but just allowing, you know,  
14 that - I'm not sure that NOAA can go beyond  
15 what Commerce would allow, because you're part  
16 of Commerce; is that right?

17 MS. BUNSICK: Part of Commerce, but  
18 I think certain decisions are delegated to  
19 NOAA, and certain decisions are delegated to  
20 NOAA fisheries.

21 So, there are some things that Eric  
22 could be the final approving person for, and

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1 other things that are higher up in the  
2 bureaucracy.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: So, we'll put that  
4 on the agenda for next time.

5 You have additional comments?

6 MR. DEWEY: There's still one more.

7 A couple of points for my -

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

9 MR. DEWEY: I guess one comment and  
10 one question. The comment is I would just  
11 like to underscore and I would hope at the end  
12 of our meeting this might be recommendations  
13 from MAFAC, what I see as the importance of  
14 when you finalize those policies and release  
15 them to the public, that you include some  
16 actions.

17 And you had some there suggested,  
18 which are all consistent with the MAFAC  
19 letter.

20 I just wanted to underscore the  
21 importance of that, that just coming out with  
22 another policy is not going to get us any

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1 traction.

2 But to show both the industry and  
3 the country that we are serious about  
4 advancing domestic aquaculture production, I  
5 really want to reinforce the importance of  
6 having actual actions implement that policy  
7 when we release the policy.

8 And my question is for Lorenzo.  
9 Lorenzo, I'm glad to see you here at this  
10 meeting. We've had an opportunity to get to  
11 know each other a little more. And through  
12 that, I've learned about your background in  
13 aquaculture.

14 So, you've come from many years in  
15 the production sector to now being a  
16 bureaucrat. No offense intended there, but  
17 I'm curious, you know, because now you're -  
18 you've come from the outside and now you're on  
19 the inside.

20 What do you think as an old  
21 industry person, we need to do to implement  
22 this policy and actually advance aquaculture

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1 in the United States, and where do you see the  
2 roadblocks as an industry person now on the  
3 inside, where do you see the roadblocks and  
4 how do we get this ball rolling?

5 MR. JUAREZ: Well, that's more of a  
6 question for a couple of beers after dinner.

7 MR. DEWEY: Well, I was still hoping  
8 you'd share them because I think people here -  
9 and we had some of this conversation last  
10 night over those beers.

11 And I appreciate your perspective  
12 and I'm hoping you'll be willing to share  
13 those with the broader group.

14 MR. JUAREZ: You know, the issue I  
15 see is NOAA is divided between two  
16 responsibilities if you want to look at it  
17 like that.

18 So, one is because we're under  
19 Commerce and Commerce is performers, you know,  
20 you want to develop, develop. That comes under  
21 Commerce.

22 And obviously that is something

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1 that from that perspective needs to be  
2 developed in the U.S. We ran something like  
3 15 under Myanmar or something like that in  
4 aquaculture production worldwide.

5 So - and I already mentioned that  
6 in the context of things. So, clearly is  
7 something that from the point of view of  
8 Commerce, require promotion and growth.

9 Now, NOAA's primary mission is that  
10 of environmental stewardship. The two are a  
11 little bit - or can be seen as, you know,  
12 split personality kind of thing.

13 So, all we really have to navigate  
14 those waters very carefully. And the way to -  
15 the way to come across the other side is years  
16 to develop aquaculture, but to do it in an  
17 environmentally responsible way.

18 And I think that can be done, and  
19 clearly that's what should be done, you know.

20 That's how we're trying to tackle that.

21 If you come from industry, like I  
22 do, of course you see the big issues are

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1 permitting and public perception of  
2 aquaculture, you know.

3 And hopefully over time you can  
4 process, you know, and NOAA and Commerce  
5 together and all of us can push those through  
6 and break it and get aquaculture to develop.

7 So, I don't know if that answers  
8 your question.

9 MR. DEWEY: You're getting there.  
10 If I may follow up, Madam Chair, I mean, we  
11 shared last night, you know, talking about how  
12 Spain and New Zealand and Canada, some of  
13 these other countries have gotten it and  
14 they're actually moving forward with  
15 aquaculture. And, you know, you have  
16 firsthand experience with some of these and  
17 knowledge of others, you know.

18 What are they doing different than  
19 us here in the United States that we could  
20 learn from and maybe again get off the dime  
21 here?

22 MR. JUAREZ: So Spain, for example,

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1 Spain had very little in any aquaculture 30  
2 years ago. And they decided as a society that  
3 they were going to develop aquaculture.

4 And in their case, it was very  
5 difficult in the beginning because they did  
6 not have the expertise.

7 So, they had this huge national  
8 effort. They brought in like something like  
9 30 or 40 bright, young biology grads into a  
10 castle somewhere in the north of Spain,  
11 Galicia, and they locked them up for a year in  
12 there.

13 And they paraded the biggest  
14 aquaculture names from all over the world  
15 through that castle. And after a year, so now  
16 they had, you know, 30 highly trained, but no  
17 practical experience.

18 So, then the next year they paraded  
19 these people that had been trained in theory  
20 through some of the successful aquaculture  
21 projects in the world.

22 So, those are two things we don't

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1 have to do, because we already have the top  
2 people trained.

3 So, the next thing they did is they  
4 created this seed project. And they started  
5 with a limited number, a handful of projects.

6 The government did not put the money because  
7 we all know what happens when government gives  
8 money away, right?

9 But the government just created the  
10 environment and gave some tax incentives and  
11 whatnot and facilitated the permitting, made  
12 sure they were doing it in an environmentally  
13 responsible way and so forth.

14 So, the government took a very  
15 strong interest that these private projects  
16 were successful.

17 So, you know, success calls for  
18 success. And so if there is one project that  
19 is going well and you're making money, the  
20 next guy looks at it and he wants one too.

21 So, to make a very long story  
22 short, now Spain is one of the powerhouses of

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1 aquaculture.

2 I understand other countries have  
3 taken similar approaches. New Zealand, Chile,  
4 which has had some stumblings, which I'm sure  
5 all of you in the salmon industry know about,  
6 you know, for those of you that have been  
7 there, the aquaculture industry in Chile is  
8 amazing and they are recuperating from the  
9 problems they have due to their mistakes.

10 MR. DEWEY: That's helpful. I can  
11 just appreciate your observations and your  
12 insights. And I think, you know, hopefully it  
13 will open the eyes of our fellow MAFAC members  
14 to what the potential is if the United States  
15 in fact instead of just enabling as the NOAA  
16 policy suggested fosters and encourages, which  
17 is the difference, that's the wording change  
18 we asked for, you know. It's subtle, but as  
19 Randy pointed it out, it's important that we  
20 actually can get places and make changes and  
21 advance aquaculture. Thank you.

22 MR. JUAREZ: I think the difficult

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1 thing is to generate the political will.  
2 Because if you have that, everything else can  
3 happen.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: That's right.

5 I know Randy wants to speak, and I  
6 know Martin wants to speak. We're, again,  
7 half an hour behind where we should be. And  
8 you have an opportunity in your subcommittees  
9 to talk about aquaculture.

10 And if I could, I would ask that if  
11 you folks are going to be around and you would  
12 like to have them in your subgroup, I think  
13 that would be a good opportunity to work out  
14 some of these more detailed things.

15 Now, we need to break into our  
16 subcommittee groups. I know we're all in the  
17 same room, right, Mark?

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: No, there is the  
19 recreational fisheries - we have a separate  
20 room.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

22 DR. HOLLIDAY: We had plans for two

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1 concurrent subcommittees. So, we had two  
2 rooms for that.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay, good.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: Unfortunately the way  
5 the timing has gone, I'm not sure how we're  
6 going to accomplish it.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, I agree with  
8 you. So, I would ask, Randy and Martin, if  
9 you would hold off on your comments at this  
10 point. Is that okay?

11 MR. FISHER: I will. I just - I  
12 wasn't even going to comment. I was going to  
13 ask Julie since she had great experience on  
14 the Gulf council while they developed the  
15 aquaculture amendment, to see if she had  
16 anything to offer in terms of what she may  
17 recommend to further along our objectives.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: You know what I  
19 would suggest? Since we're going to have a  
20 report-out from the aquaculture element to the  
21 Commerce subcommittee, that we save that more  
22 detailed, perhaps, conversation until then.

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1                   And if we actually get there, we  
2 may be able to formulate some more specific  
3 things.

4                   Again, we just need to move forward  
5 a little bit.     So, Mark, the recreational  
6 fisheries is in a separate room.

7                   DR. HOLLIDAY: Josh will be able to  
8 lead people over to the Sanctuary building.

9                   CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.     And I must  
10 say I think that they could probably stay  
11 there as long as they wanted to, or is the  
12 other group that you have planned here, the  
13 commerce group, going to take their slot -

14                   DR. HOLLIDAY: Was your plan to have  
15 -

16                   CHAIR McCARTY: I'm assuming that  
17 the -

18                   DR. HOLLIDAY:    -- continuation of  
19 the earlier meeting take place here -

20                   CHAIR McCARTY: Yes.

21                   DR. HOLLIDAY:    -- what time?

22                   CHAIR McCARTY: Until whenever we

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1 get done.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: And when is the  
3 Commerce meeting?

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, the Commerce  
5 Committee, that's what I'm asking.

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, I'm asking the  
7 same question.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: If they can succeed  
9 the recreational fisheries folks in their  
10 room, is that possible?

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: If that's what your  
12 preference is. I just want to know where you  
13 want people to go.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: I didn't even know  
15 until this minute that there were two rooms.  
16 So, it makes it difficult.

17 So, I will do whatever you want to  
18 do.

19 MR. DEWEY: So, what are our  
20 marching orders?

21 CHAIR McCARTY: You're going to meet  
22 whenever you want to meet, wherever you want

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1 to meet.

2 MR. DEWEY: Okay.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: We have two rooms.

4 (Whereupon, the proceedings went  
5 off the record at 3:24 p.m. for a brief recess  
6 and went back on the record at 3:33 p.m.)

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Subcommittee now in  
8 session. For those that missed before, this  
9 is the joint ecosystem strategic planning, and  
10 now protected resources subcommittee meetings.

11 If there are any other  
12 subcommittees that want to join in, we're  
13 perfectly -

14 (Laughter.)

15 MR. RAFTICAN: I know we seem to  
16 have missed one or two, but not many.

17 This is actually a continuation of  
18 this morning's meeting and I wanted to go back  
19 to a couple of things.

20 First of all, taking Keith's advice  
21 from early on today, you know, you eat the  
22 elephant one bite at a time. And that's

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1 really what we're trying to do is get through  
2 quite a plate here, but we'll get there.

3 And, number two, in doing some of  
4 my homework while we were gone, I did come  
5 across - and I'm looking for him right now and  
6 I don't have to go into it, but Mark's notes  
7 coming into this.

8 And basically, Mark helped set the  
9 stage on a lot of this stuff coming out with  
10 some questions for us to think about coming  
11 into here.

12 You know, I just wanted to make  
13 sure that where I could have probably come up  
14 and rounded up the troops far better coming  
15 into this thing, Mark had tried to do that to  
16 some extent. And I just wanted to make sure  
17 that he didn't get a black eye for some of the  
18 stuff that I didn't do.

19 MS. FOY: I think he's talking about  
20 the annotated agenda.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: yes.

22 MS. FOY: The annotated agenda.

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, he's working on  
2 some other stuff right now, too.

3 MS. LOVETT: Never mind.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: So, anyhow, that was  
5 just kind of a hats off to Mark.

6 Where we left this morning,  
7 National Ocean Policy, we came up with a list  
8 of people. We had a - now, stop me along the  
9 line if this - what I'm trying to do is  
10 summarize where we were this morning.

11 We had a number of people that were  
12 extremely interested in some of the goings on.

13 That included Paul, Tony, Dave, Martin,  
14 Cathy, Phil, among others.

15 Is there someone else who would be  
16 interested? Patty.

17 MR. CLAMPITT: And Bill.

18 MR. RAFTICAN: And Bill, okay. All  
19 right. Paul, Tony, Dave, Martin, Cathy, Phil,  
20 Patty and Bill.

21 Anyone else? Heather, you're in  
22 for -

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: National Ocean  
2 Policy.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, this is where  
4 we are with National Ocean Policy, okay.

5 And the suggestions we're putting a  
6 conference call, you know, getting together a  
7 working document and coming into a conference  
8 call.

9 I think the suggestions on that  
10 might be a working - I'm trying to set  
11 something up where we get over an email  
12 instead of sitting in conference calls.

13 Let's pick a couple of dates like  
14 the 13th of June and maybe the 20th of June.  
15 13th of June, let's get, you know, send in  
16 your comments. And is there a way possibly of  
17 getting somebody to coordinate these?

18 Do you think we can grab Mark or  
19 somebody from the Agency, some staff to  
20 coordinate the documents?

21 MR. WALLACE: I thought we were  
22 having the first conference call on June the

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1 10th.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Well, if we've got a  
3 conference call, okay.

4 MR. FISHER: 10 or 13.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: 10 or 13.

6 MS. FOY: 10 or 13. We don't know  
7 yet.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: If we can do that, I  
9 just think we need to get at least two  
10 meetings. We need one to kind of set the  
11 stage, either a conference call or -

12 MR. FISHER: Heidi, how much can you  
13 facilitate us with this?

14 MS. LOVETT: So, I'm just having a  
15 little difficulty understanding exactly what  
16 you want to have and when. It's -

17 MR. RAFTICAN: We need a  
18 subcommittee conference call or if we can  
19 agree on a date. If not, get email documents  
20 in, but aim for 6/10 on a conference call.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Mr. Chairman, can I  
22 -

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: I believe that once  
3 you guys make your subcommittee  
4 recommendations and we can then, you know, at  
5 the committee level with the staff there and  
6 everyone there, we can organize the staff's  
7 thought. So, I don't think we need to worry  
8 about that.

9 MS. LOVETT: I mean, we've worked -  
10 I mean, in the past I believe - we can set up  
11 a conference call and take notes. That has  
12 happened in the past one or two ways.

13 Recently with the Commerce  
14 Committee, the Committee wanted to take the  
15 first putt at something and then submit it  
16 around people work together.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: And that's what I was  
18 trying to do.

19 MS. LOVETT: Right, that's one way.  
20 And then in the past if you remember the last  
21 time -

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Sure, two years ago.

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1 MS. LOVETT: Two years ago, okay.  
2 When we were developing the NOC comments, I  
3 kind of tried to capture all the various  
4 thoughts that I was hearing and sent something  
5 to you guys. You two were definitely on the  
6 Committee at the time.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

8 MS. LOVETT: And you made revisions  
9 and changed, you liked some of it and you  
10 changed some of it and then it went around to  
11 the Committee.

12 So, there are several ways you can  
13 work it. It depends on how -

14 MR. RAFTICAN: I understand, but  
15 what I'm saying is we need somebody to  
16 definitely coordinate our conference call.

17 My concern is -

18 MS. LOVETT: We have enough staff  
19 that we can do that.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Phil Dyskow  
21 and - I mean, I'm going to say there's  
22 probably eight or ten pages here of notes.

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1 And this is from, you know, a group of  
2 sportfishing organizations.

3 They're important. I don't know if  
4 you can integrate everything in. Each one is  
5 going to come with a little bit different  
6 take, I think, on the tenth. And my concern  
7 is that we end up with far too much to just  
8 simply dump on the full committee on the 30th.

9 We may need maybe to share email  
10 documents afterwards to see if we can fine  
11 tune this a little bit. But as long as we can  
12 get somebody from staff to coordinate it at  
13 least the first time around, it would be far  
14 easier.

15 Does that make any sense?

16 MS. DOERR: To coordinate the  
17 comments into a -

18 MR. RAFTICAN: At least get them on  
19 the board and -

20 MS. DOERR: Yes.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: And the thing is this  
22 is, you know, you could allocate them

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1 according to strategies, you know. There's a  
2 way of doing this, I think, that does it so we  
3 don't end up with a hundred pages that we're  
4 dealing with.

5 MS. LOVETT: So, you're suggesting  
6 that people are going to develop certain  
7 themes or comments in advance of your first  
8 call and you want to share that?

9 MR. RAFTICAN: I don't know. I know  
10 I asked Phil to get this out to everybody and  
11 at least it's good background. And I would  
12 hope that we don't end up with, you know, ten  
13 times this many pieces of paper here, but, you  
14 know.

15 DR. CHATWIN: So, one important step  
16 in this is June 1 they will issue these, what  
17 are they called, strategic action plans -

18 (Off-record comments.)

19 DR. CHATWIN: Well, we have that,  
20 but that's a draft, right?

21 MR. WALLACE: Yes, but that's the  
22 one - that's probably the one they're going to

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1 release.

2 DR. CHATWIN: Right. Documents like  
3 that were made targeting a different -

4 MR. RAFTICAN: That's fair.

5 DR. CHATWIN: And so, I think you  
6 would have to ask folks rather than send out  
7 background documents and expect someone to  
8 tease out the appropriate comments from those  
9 documents.

10 I think these documents, I think,  
11 need to have committee members do that.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: I think that's fair,  
13 but the only thing is I suspect also these  
14 will be - that the draft will maybe come in  
15 fairly close and these comments probably will  
16 - let's see. I don't want - we are one  
17 hypothetical on top of another.

18 My concern is that we don't want to  
19 - I don't want to get to a conference call at  
20 the end of June and have to deal with, you  
21 know, 30 issues. If we could narrow it down  
22 to a couple, I think we get stuff through.

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1           Patty.

2           MS. DOERR: If I could make a  
3 suggestion, I totally agree with that you just  
4 said that it should be the Committee members'  
5 responsibility to come into it with specific  
6 recommendations.

7           I think it would also be very  
8 helpful that on our first call whether it be  
9 the 10th or the 13th, we all have some  
10 document to work off of that has everybody's  
11 thoughts collated. So, it's a working call.

12           And I think what Tom is looking  
13 for, I think, is somebody to volunteer to be  
14 the acceptor of these comments and put them  
15 into a document to have that discussion on the  
16 10th or the 13th.

17           MR. RAFTICAN: And then also to  
18 round up where we kind of are on this panel so  
19 that we have - and I don't know. If we're  
20 lucky, we don't have to make additional  
21 comments on it. We can get it done in - go  
22 ahead.

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1 MS. LOVETT: Oh, I was just going to  
2 ask if possibly the nine different outlines,  
3 and maybe people have a particular affinity in  
4 the infant stage to help with those outlines  
5 versus all nine of those outlines that maybe  
6 that's another opportunity to divvy up the  
7 workload a bit. Depending on who has  
8 interests because there's probably some that  
9 don't need to be involved.

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, but I don't  
11 think everybody has to make comments on every  
12 single one of these.

13 Unfortunately, absent a document  
14 that basically has. So, there is a  
15 possibility out there. And like I said, I'm  
16 trying to get that thing back down to the, as  
17 Keith said, those manageable bites.

18 Are we fairly comfortable with  
19 that? We're looking at trying it. If you've  
20 got something, each person, each subcommittee  
21 member gets something in, could you act as a  
22 clearinghouse on this?

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1 MS. LOVETT: Somebody in our office  
2 can.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Thank you. Perfect.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Deadline, the 6th.

5 MS. LOVETT: 1st.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: Did you say 1st?

7 MS. LOVETT: No, I didn't say - June  
8 1 is when we anticipate public release of the  
9 strategic action -- of the outline of the  
10 strategic action plan.

11 So, if we all feel comfortable with  
12 that, then that's going to be six days to  
13 review and to get comments into the policy  
14 shop to collate as best as possible and submit  
15 them back to you for conference call on June  
16 10.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Perfect, okay.

18 MS. LOVETT: That's what I meant.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Everybody good  
20 with that?

21 MS. FOY: The 6th?

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, the policy is

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1 out June 1st. Gives us to June 6th to submit  
2 our take on policy. Policy shop will  
3 consolidate that for a conference call on the  
4 10th, okay.

5 I think we'll take a look at  
6 coastal marine spatial planning. That really  
7 falls under this National Ocean Policy. I  
8 think those comments can very handily be  
9 included within that.

10 Ocean energy although it also falls  
11 under there, Heather - Patty.

12 MS. DOERR: I have it. Were you  
13 going to ask Heather for -

14 CHAIR McCARTY: I sent it to Patty,  
15 and she has added a few things.

16 DR. CHATWIN: On energy?

17 CHAIR McCARTY: She also has some  
18 comments we haven't got but we will.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: Is this regarding  
20 ocean energy or -

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay, fine.

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1 MS. DOERR: Well, yes. Yes.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: The whole energy  
3 discussion.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, the whole energy  
5 discussion and -

6 CHAIR McCARTY: But, I mean -

7 MR. RAFTICAN: -- comments on the -  
8 okay. And you, Patty, you -

9 MS. DOERR: Yeah, it's very short  
10 and I didn't get time to add much to what  
11 Heather sent me.

12 But it's essentially when - I don't  
13 even - NOAA is working on the energy plan that  
14 Emily had talked to us about in working with  
15 BOEMRE and the Smart from the Start initiative  
16 to MAFAC recommend that NOAA coordinate -  
17 these are just four quick sentences I have.

18 Coordinate and provide information  
19 on energy use issues in marine areas to marine  
20 stakeholders or marine users. Kind of be that  
21 clearinghouse for information, so the folks  
22 that NOAA typically deal with know what BOEMRE

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1 is doing. That kind of thing.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Could you add  
3 in a timely way?

4 MS. DOERR: Sure. Participate in  
5 all task force planning body, et cetera,  
6 meetings.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Right. That, if I  
8 may -

9 MS. DOERR: Please.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: That was something  
11 that Keith had brought up about - I think it  
12 was Keith. I just took really quick notes  
13 while I was up there.

14 I don't have the specifics. I just  
15 tried to write down what everyone was  
16 suggesting. So, this is my - this is the rest  
17 of the group putting in their suggestions.

18 The idea was to have - I believe  
19 Keith's was to have, maybe someone from MAFAC,  
20 but I'm not entirely sure.

21 Because I know that staff was  
22 already in those kind of planning meetings.

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1           MR. RIZZARDI: I made that  
2 suggestion generically, not just for that  
3 particular initiative.

4           CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

5           MR. RIZZARDI: But there were so  
6 many of these initiatives where there's  
7 opportunities for public comment. And I think  
8 there's an opportunity for MAFAC to step up in  
9 each of those areas.

10           And where we develop a consensus  
11 and have a document that we can bring to the  
12 table and offer that through the public  
13 comment process and put one of our members as  
14 the face of MAFAC and have them speak to the  
15 recipients of the public input, I think it  
16 makes our organization more relevant and more  
17 persuasive.

18           MS. DOERR: Is that something you  
19 would recommend to NOAA then?

20           I mean, it sounds like it's just  
21 something for MAFAC. So, it wouldn't  
22 necessarily go into recommendations that we're

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1 making for NOAA.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: I'm not entirely  
3 sure because I don't think MAFAC has done that  
4 in the past. I think the only place we have  
5 provided comment to, is to NOAA.

6 MS. FOY: You know, my worry is that  
7 we're going outside our charter.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Access to the meeting  
9 as opposed to require that we put in comments,  
10 but it gives us a better chance that we  
11 understand what's going on from the energy  
12 side of it.

13 Does that make sense to anybody?

14 CHAIR McCARTY: Yeah, I actually  
15 like Keith's idea. And I like the idea of  
16 MAFAC being the body that can do that, but I'm  
17 not entirely sure that's part of what -

18 MR. RIZZARDI: So, maybe it is a  
19 recommendation to NOAA that they help us make  
20 appropriate modifications to the charter so we  
21 can do that.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: I think it would

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1 have to be to NOAA, yes.

2 MS. LOVETT: There's limitations on  
3 impact we can have on the charter.

4 MR. RIZZARDI: I understand, yes.

5 MS. FOY: So, what is the  
6 recommendation?

7 MS. DOERR: I want to make sure I  
8 capture this right in terms of what - is the  
9 recommendation that work with - that NOAA  
10 works with MAFAC to adjust the charter  
11 accordingly, or investigate the ability -

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Investigate MAFAC's  
13 ability to participate and provide MAFAC's  
14 position to bodies other than NOAA itself.

15 I guess that's what -

16 MR. RIZZARDI: Yeah, and look at a  
17 minimum what can happen. It's whatever  
18 document we develop we can transmit to the  
19 director and the secretary who, in turn, can  
20 then simply send a letter to the relevant  
21 entity saying, by the way, this is what MAFAC  
22 has concluded.

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1 All right. So, whatever we do can  
2 be heard through that indirect channel. The  
3 question is can we make it even more direct?

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Let me just  
5 ask one more question here. This is not  
6 because it - it's an intricate process that we  
7 don't know whether we can do it or not.

8 Would it make more sense simply to  
9 ask for access in bringing that information  
10 back to the full MAFAC and work from there?

11 Does that make more sense? So that  
12 we have - you understand that you're asking  
13 for an invitation to the - any workshops that  
14 the energy segment whether it's Commerce or  
15 Interior, is doing.

16 But that way we stay out of - we  
17 stay out of the advice flow directly, but the  
18 thing is you get firsthand information so that  
19 we can come back and make knowledgeable  
20 decisions on this.

21 MS. LINDOW: Is that okay if I just  
22 sit in.

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: Emily, go ahead,  
2 please.

3 MS. LINDOW: So, one thing that is,  
4 I think, is good is you're looking at this  
5 question whether or not and how you can  
6 provide advice to other groups.

7 That is a very important question  
8 because things like this DOI initiative to me,  
9 it does make sense for you to be providing  
10 direct comments on that regarding impacts that  
11 it has on all the constituents that are  
12 represented here.

13 And if that can go directly to DOI,  
14 that's great. If not, we will need to figure  
15 out another way to put those views forward.  
16 So, I do think that could be a really good  
17 exercise.

18 On the question of if you're  
19 talking about the DOI task forces; one thing  
20 to keep in mind with those is there are 13  
21 just for the east coast.

22 And each one is operating on its

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1 own schedule. They are not coordinated. Each  
2 one is its own individual entity.

3 And so from just the NOAA fisheries  
4 perspective, I have to admit - I'm still  
5 trying to figure out how to coordinate our  
6 activities on these bodies.

7 We have staff level people from the  
8 regions currently attending maybe one or two  
9 depending on which state it is. We have some  
10 other NOAA representatives.

11 And that's one of the things that I  
12 have to try to figure out in about the next  
13 two weeks or so is I need just to get a  
14 reporting mechanism of all these folks back to  
15 me, because I'm not covering each of these  
16 individual things myself.

17 So, that one is a big bite to  
18 potentially take. And so, you might want to  
19 think about the best way to engage.

20 It might be a broader, kind of more  
21 direct approach to BOEMRE administration  
22 rather than the individual task forces.

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1           One suggestion that you might want  
2 to think about is that, you know, maybe a  
3 better information flow directly from  
4 Department of Interior, BOEMRE, to this group  
5 regarding the activities of the task forces -  
6 even just a calendar, quite frankly, for me  
7 personally would be helpful.

8           So, those are the types of things  
9 that, you know, might make sense to - and we  
10 can help potentially kind of push on them too,  
11 potentially help them out.

12           CHAIR McCARTY: That does makes  
13 sense, the first one that we mentioned, the  
14 coordination. The variety of information it  
15 sounds like you don't even get it all yet.

16           MR. RAFTICAN: Tony.

17           DR. CHATWIN: So, should we be  
18 encouraging NOAA to send us the information.

19           CHAIR McCARTY: Well, that was  
20 number one, yeah.

21           DR. CHATWIN: That was number one?

22           CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, that was the

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1 number one suggestion that I had down on my  
2 list that NOAA should act as the sort of  
3 coordinating information body for us marine  
4 stakeholders.

5 That's what I wrote down. That's  
6 what we have, isn't it?

7 MS. DOERR: Coordinate and provide  
8 information on energy issues for marine  
9 stakeholders, including MAFAC, in a timely  
10 fashion.

11 MS. LOVETT: Emily, is there some  
12 higher level hierarchy within the 13 regional  
13 task forces? So, there's no group or  
14 structure -

15 MS. LINDOW: No.

16 MS. LOVETT: Okay.

17 MS. LINDOW: There's a D.C.-based  
18 group that occasionally gets together, but  
19 they haven't gotten together and touched base  
20 in a while. And that's more like political  
21 level.

22 MS. LOVETT: And so, is everybody

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1 clear about what the agenda of the regional  
2 task forces, what their roles and  
3 responsibilities are?

4 Because I'm just wondering if it's  
5 getting a little bit too into the weeds for  
6 this group, which we need to keep in mind.

7 MS. LINDOW: Yeah, so basically each  
8 of task forces is moving forward on a state-  
9 by-state basis implementing the goals of the  
10 Secretary of Interior's Smart from the Start  
11 program.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Heather, how would  
13 you proceed on this?

14 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, you know, I'd  
15 like the advice of the subcommittee. And I  
16 think you're getting there. I think it's  
17 complicated, frankly.

18 I think it's a topic that we  
19 haven't really taken much notice of yet. I  
20 think that this list that Patty is providing  
21 here, maybe we could send it to Heidi and put  
22 it up on the board.

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1 MS. LINDOW: As you're thinking  
2 about this whole idea of transmitting  
3 information, think about what it is that  
4 you're actually interested in.

5 Because if you're looking at NMFS'  
6 energy activities, it includes - and I  
7 probably should have talked about this during  
8 my presentation. It includes onshore and  
9 offshore LNG terminals, Gulf of Mexico, East  
10 Coast.

11 Off the West Coast we've got marine  
12 hydrokinetic energy. Alaska's got a mix of  
13 oil and gas, marine hydrokinetic.

14 Hawaii we're looking at OTEC.  
15 We're looking at potential expansion of oil  
16 and gas into the Atlantic coast.

17 Depending on where you are on the  
18 East Coast, you've got different types of, you  
19 know, sun spots or potentially winds.

20 If you go up into Maine, you're  
21 looking at potentially tidal power. So,  
22 there's a lot of different kind of - and then

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1 that doesn't even start to get at hydropower  
2 and -- actually, nuclear power we're also  
3 involved in because of the cooling plants and  
4 stuff.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: I think we're on the  
6 right track. And I think part of the  
7 confusion we had asked initially for NOAA's  
8 input. And the other thing is it's really  
9 clear that this goes beyond Commerce into, you  
10 know, Interior.

11 And, you know, I think it's just  
12 making sure that you have a full array of  
13 stuff that, you know, the things that we're  
14 facing now.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: I think the only two  
16 things we can really do at this point that  
17 make any sense since we don't advise the  
18 Interior. And they don't listen to us anyway,  
19 in my opinion. At this point, I don't think  
20 we have access in that way to this group.

21 So, I think the only thing we can  
22 hope for is that we get the information and we

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1 know what's going on as much as we possibly  
2 can. And that we advise NOAA as to how we  
3 feel we need them to behave and participate  
4 and make their priorities known and acting on  
5 our behalf, really, is kind of the way I see  
6 it.

7 And I could be off on that, but  
8 that's the way I see it.

9 MR. WALLACE: Actually, you know,  
10 both Eric and I testified at a meeting up in  
11 Maine a month or so ago. And my - and both of  
12 us - one - I spoke just after him and my whole  
13 focus was to get at to make the National  
14 Marine Fisheries Service aware of what I think  
15 is going on. And then enlist NOAA's support  
16 in protecting the fishing industry from having  
17 huge areas taken off the table by an agency  
18 that does not have anything to do with  
19 fisheries and doesn't care.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: And part of what I  
21 was trying to do is get - how do you get the  
22 groundwork out there?

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1           And also the thing is if you get  
2 the groundwork, you understand what's going  
3 on. And that's why we need the information.  
4 We can offer a tremendous amount of political  
5 cover because, you know, they can use us as  
6 the vehicle to bring the topic up in a public  
7 discussion.

8           Tony.

9           DR. CHATWIN: So, in response to  
10 your question, I think we should be focused on  
11 what is it that gives NOAA and the fisheries  
12 the greatest leverage in the discussions of  
13 each of those cases.

14           We heard from BOEMRE that they're  
15 using a list of different sources of  
16 information. I know it sounds technical, but  
17 it's based on that most recent information.

18           And I think that there are  
19 decisions in there that NOAA will have to make  
20 that say EFH, what EFH to use to base that  
21 decision on what it constitutes a more  
22 valuable area for fisheries.

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1           That's an example of an area where  
2 we can discuss and say, oh, this big list of  
3 data sources. We urge you to prioritize EFH  
4 or juveniles or spawning grounds or - and make  
5 sure that there is no development on these  
6 areas.

7           That sort of thing I think is  
8 something that we could -

9           MR. RAFTICAN: I think we're all on  
10 the same page on that. I'm just figuring how  
11 do you get the information back here first so  
12 that we can make relevant comments as, you  
13 know, before the train's left the station.

14           And I think Step 1 is get the  
15 information back. Does that make sense? I'm  
16 looking around the room for -

17           MS. MORRIS: So, I'm concerned that  
18 the way this is currently structured, it's too  
19 much information and we're not going to be  
20 able to deal with it.

21           MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

22           MS. MORRIS: It's like coordinate

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1 and provide information on marine energy  
2 issues to the stakeholders, including MAFAC.

3 Well, that's a huge boatload of  
4 information.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

6 MS. MORRIS: So, I think what Tony  
7 is suggesting kind of narrows and focuses the  
8 kind of information that we might want to  
9 review.

10 And so, Tony's comment is let's  
11 think about what kinds of living resource  
12 information would be most pertinent for  
13 Department of Interior to look at what we  
14 think the most valuable habitat living  
15 resource information would be.

16 And then I would also suggest that,  
17 you know, my question yesterday was what  
18 criteria are you using to figure out low  
19 probable conflict areas.

20 I'd really like to get more  
21 information from them on how - what decision  
22 tools they're going to be using to figure out

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1 where are the low probable conflict areas.

2 And I think we could provide some  
3 very useful input on those kinds of criteria  
4 level issues. So, I'm with Tony.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Great input.

6 Tony, could you wordsmith that  
7 Number 1 up there? Would that get you to  
8 where you -

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Mr. Chairman.

10 DR. CHATWIN: What I'm suggesting is  
11 that seems to me that NOAA should get that  
12 information.

13 MR. RAFTICAN: Well, I just heard  
14 Julie saying we are buried with information.  
15 And if you can fine tune it, fine. If not,  
16 I'm not trying to rand it in. I'm trying to  
17 find as few points possible.

18 MS. FOY: Just insert the word  
19 "relevant." Provide relevant information.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: That's a good -

21 MS. MORRIS: I'll offer some words.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. All right.

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1 MS. MORRIS: And make it into an  
2 additional bullet point. And who is - I don't  
3 -

4 MS. MORRIS: So, we're specifically  
5 interested in review and providing some advice  
6 about which of the living resources are the  
7 most important for the DOI process to key them  
8 up.

9 MS. DOERR: To consider in their -

10 MS. MORRIS: Yes, yes.

11 MS. FOY: Select leasing areas?

12 MS. MORRIS: If that's what we're  
13 talking about, select leasing areas, right?  
14 And then also we'd like to provide advice on  
15 the criteria used to figure out where are the  
16 low probability conflicts with other use  
17 areas.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: That's good.

19 MS. FOY: That's just an aside.

20 MS. MORRIS: I would recommend  
21 either replacing number - I don't know. My  
22 concern about Number 1 is that it's too broad

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1 a request and we won't know what to do with  
2 whatever the response is.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: But the intent of  
4 Number 1, I think someone made that comment at  
5 the meeting earlier, I believe having to do  
6 mostly with actual meetings and actual process  
7 rather than the kind of information that  
8 you're talking about, which I thought was very  
9 appropriate.

10 I also agree with the EFH concept  
11 that Tony was talking about that if there are  
12 some things that are more important than  
13 others, that's what we should be most  
14 concerned about through NOAA.

15 NOAA is our agent in this regard,  
16 is kind of the way I see you talking about it,  
17 Tony.

18 I think the first one is more like  
19 do we even know what's going on kind of thing  
20 rather than the biological and ecological  
21 information.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Dave.

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1           MR. WALLACE: The way I understand  
2 it, they will give the highest priority to the  
3 EFH to put remnants in because in some  
4 respects, they have been -- they've already  
5 been set aside as a restricted area.

6           So, there's no fishing activity  
7 there, there's no activity. So, they're going  
8 to have little impact on fishing.

9           That's what he said. He actually  
10 said that when he had voted. Because the  
11 fishermen aren't there, so, therefore, that's  
12 a good place to put them.

13          CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Well, I  
14 didn't hear that.

15          MS. FOY: Did you notice when she's  
16 going through her data layers, she said this  
17 layer we send a boat out to survey and see  
18 where the other boats were fishing so that we  
19 could put that into the data layer.

20          And I'm thinking that's a onetime  
21 survey snapshot of where the fishing effort is  
22 at that time, which is not necessarily

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1 relevant to where fishing effort will be in  
2 the future.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: yes.

4 MS. LINDOW: The question of the  
5 marine cadastre is what she was really talking  
6 about.

7 If the group is interested, you may  
8 want to invite NOAA experts to come speak to  
9 you about the marine cadastre. Because of the  
10 fact that we do have the technical lead on it,  
11 it's handled through the National Ocean  
12 Service working with a lot of the fishery  
13 science centers and regional.

14 And so, we actually have the  
15 expertise on that, if that action makes you  
16 feel any better.

17 MS. FOY: Very much.

18 MS. LINDOW: And DOI is funding it  
19 though.

20 MS. FOY: Good.

21 MS. LINDOW: And so, we are working  
22 with them to some extent, but that technical

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1 expertise really is coming from NOAA.

2 So, they could do a very excellent,  
3 short presentation that - and actually they  
4 will answer questions about it too, if you  
5 guys are interested.

6 MS. FOY: Good. There is an  
7 ingrained distrust in -

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Let's put that up as  
9 -

10 MR. DEWEY: That should be one of  
11 our recommendations.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, that should be  
13 a high recommendation.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: That's a good idea.

15 MS. MORRIS: That they come in with  
16 us?

17 MS. FOY: That NOS comes in to  
18 reassess on the marine cadastre.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: Terry.

20 MR. ALEXANDER: The trouble with  
21 doing that is things change in the fishery,  
22 you know.

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1                   And another thing added to that is  
2                   the Habitat Committee and Dave's Committee,  
3                   they're talking about redoing it all on both  
4                   areas at BOEMRE now.

5                   MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Those are  
6                   things we can deal with down the line. What  
7                   we're trying to do is find out - bring in a  
8                   look at how they're doing - bring in the  
9                   expertise on how they're doing the overlay.

10                  MR. ALEXANDER: Okay.

11                  MR. RAFTICAN: Let's deal with that  
12                  one when we get down to it, okay?

13                  MR. ALEXANDER: Okay.

14                  MR. RAFTICAN: Anything else?  
15                  Heidi.

16                  MS. LOVETT: So, we can take a peek  
17                  just to get a little bit familiar.

18                  MR. RAFTICAN: That would be good.  
19                  But I think the thing is by bringing them in  
20                  it also - it's a bit of a two-way street and  
21                  they can take recommendations back that they  
22                  heard from us and give those another firsthand

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1 information.

2 MS. LOVETT: And I just wanted to  
3 say that also I believe CMS data are - I mean,  
4 it's NOAA data, not specific to identify which  
5 vessels where, which would be confidential,  
6 but -

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay, we've got to  
8 move on a bit.

9 DR. CHATWIN: Just on the marine  
10 cadastre, I've done that since yesterday and  
11 it's good to visualize. There is a little  
12 information, I suppose we can click on the  
13 layer and get information about it, that  
14 wasn't working.

15 So, it's - it would be better to  
16 have somebody in that just comes in with  
17 information back and forth.

18 MS. LOVETT: Sure. I'm just  
19 suggesting that so people can -

20 MR. RAFTICAN: How are we doing on  
21 this? Does this little pocket complete a  
22 document?

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Mr. Chairman, we  
2 haven't gone through 4 and 5 yet.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Maybe Patty could  
5 speak to this.

6 MS. DOERR: I'm not sure whose this  
7 was to recommend -

8 CHAIR McCARTY: That was Vince  
9 O'Shea.

10 MS. DOERR: Take responsibility for  
11 appropriate decommissioning of ocean energy  
12 structures. And Number 4 is actually mine.  
13 And it goes a little bit towards what Julie  
14 and Tony have been saying in terms of the  
15 biological data that they're using these kind  
16 of baseline data layers to develop to wind  
17 energy areas. And then they're narrowing down  
18 to specific lease areas and want to make sure  
19 that they actually, you know, that those -  
20 that the EAs and EISes that are associated  
21 with the specific lease sites are much more  
22 robust and look at cumulative impacts and

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1 stuff like that than just the general wind  
2 area stuff.

3 That they actually expand the data  
4 that they use and go get more data, not just -  
5 -

6 MS. FOY: Emily.

7 MS. LINDOW: So, you might want to  
8 view work with Department of Interior to  
9 ensure that these are - those are Department  
10 of Interior biological assessments, unless  
11 it's our own ESA to Section 7.

12 And we think under the new MOU we  
13 should have the ability to do that. This will  
14 be exactly what we're trying to get out of the  
15 MOU.

16 Number 3 is going to be very  
17 problematic.

18 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah.

19 MS. LINDOW: -- under the Outer  
20 Continental Shelf Lands Act, and I don't  
21 really know what we're going to do with that,  
22 to be honest.

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1 MR. FISHER: Why did we change the  
2 word "take" to "assign?"

3 MS. FOY: We still probably won't -

4 MS. LINDOW: That would require  
5 outside action.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: It's going to take  
7 legislation to handle that.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Go ahead.

9 MR. FISHER: Or require the  
10 assignment of it, yeah.

11 MS. MORRIS: Think strategically  
12 about -

13 MR. FISHER: I'm trying to do that.

14 MR. RAFTICAN: We just got done  
15 doing -

16 MS. FOY: I can tell you where that  
17 one -

18 MR. ALEXANDER: That's a huge issue.  
19 You know, I mean, it's a huge issue.

20 DR. CHATWIN: There's no way you can  
21 call.

22 (Laughter.)

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: So, why not now?

2 MS. FOY: Consider these  
3 responsibilities appropriate to  
4 decommissioning of ocean energy structures  
5 during the leasing process.

6 MS. LINDOW: We do have -

7 MS. FOY: We do have that?

8 MS. LINDOW: Within the larger five-  
9 year planning process, I would think that that  
10 is probably a good suggestion because we  
11 provide comments whether it's on NEPA  
12 documents or other things that -

13 MS. FOY: Okay.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: I think this is just  
15 to make us aware that it was -

16 MR. FISHER: How about consider what  
17 entity or something like that.

18 MS. LINDOW: And, sorry, actually I  
19 should be clearer.

20 MR. WALLACE: Do you remember what  
21 what's his face said? He said we are going to  
22 leave it up to each individual applicant to

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1 explain to us how they are going to handle it.

2 MR. FISHER: That's what he said.

3 MR. WALLACE: So, I think that we  
4 need to be - I think that we need to make a  
5 stronger statement that there needs to be a  
6 policy which is a portion of the condition of  
7 the permit.

8 MR. FISHER: That may not be  
9 beneficial to the - to anything.

10 MR. WALLACE: Even if they lived on  
11 restrictions and you run into it, whose  
12 responsibility is that?

13 Those are all going to be  
14 individual -

15 MR. RAFTICAN: David.

16 MR. WALLACE: - and they're going  
17 to be abandoned.

18 MR. RAFTICAN: There are a lot of  
19 things involved in that. Like I said, we've  
20 done it in California - we're in the process  
21 of doing it in California. There are up sides  
22 and down sides.

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1           And habitat along with, you know,  
2 we don't want people hanging nets on it, but  
3 the other thing is there's some habitat. And  
4 the other thing is the cost of decommissioning  
5 in certain areas can be prohibitive, and we've  
6 managed to put some of that into a trust fund.

7           I don't even want to -

8           MR. WALLACE: Well, you know, on the  
9 east coast, you know, I was responsible for  
10 getting legislation through the New Jersey  
11 legislature that requires now anyone that is  
12 going to put a - when it goes blank for  
13 whatever reason they have one year to remove  
14 it.

15           And to get a permit in New Jersey,  
16 New Jersey law, land law, you have to take out  
17 50 miles of somebody else's abandoned cable.

18           They're all separate proportions.  
19 As soon as it goes blank, the corporation goes  
20 away and there's nobody to call on purpose.

21           And so, we then require them to  
22 post a bond.

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1                   And so, we require - New Jersey  
2 requires a -

3                   MR. RAFTICAN: How do we fix that in  
4 here?

5                   MR. WALLACE: Well, a statement like  
6 the Department is required to have assurances  
7 by the applicant, the permittee, that they  
8 provide the resources, a bond to remove all of  
9 their gear once it's decommissioned.

10                  MS. FOY: Tell you what, Dave. Why  
11 don't you work on wordsmithing that, and then  
12 we can email that around later.

13                  If we don't get moving along on  
14 this, we're going to -

15                  MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

16                  MS. LINDOW: Can I just close this  
17 out.

18                  MR. RAFTICAN: Go ahead.

19                  MS. LINDOW: NOAA's not issuing the  
20 permits for these.

21                  MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

22                  MS.           LINDOW:           We're           doing

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1 environmental consultations on these  
2 activities. So, we cannot put in the types of  
3 conditions that you're looking for.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

5 MS. LINDOW: I mean, BOEMRE has  
6 regulations. And so, I'm just really worried  
7 that we're not going to be able to do what you  
8 want on this, period.

9 So, we can have discussions with  
10 BOEMRE about the types of things that they  
11 should be requiring. But at the end of the  
12 day, we're not going to be in charge of it and  
13 it will be their decision.

14 So, I would focus on the types of  
15 things that we should be - the types of  
16 comments we should pushing forward to BOEMRE  
17 as we evaluate these projects. That would be,  
18 I think, the most helpful.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: And perhaps the word  
20 is "examine." I think if you raised this up  
21 to a high enough level, the right decision  
22 starts coming out.

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1                   And once it reaches the light of  
2 day, it makes decisions much, much easier.  
3 So, at least for some of us.

4                   MS. LINDOW: Okay.

5                   MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.     How are we  
6 doing here?     Anything else?     Any other  
7 comments on this?

8                   MS. DOERR: I've taken the last two  
9 and put them into their own little paragraphs  
10 because they don't really flow with MAFAC  
11 recommends them.

12                  MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

13                  MS. MORRIS: So, one more.

14                  MS. DOERR: Yes.

15                  MS. MORRIS: It seems like in Number  
16 1 what Heather really is talking about is  
17 processes and the opportunity to public input  
18 and the word we're using is issues, so it says  
19 marine energy issues, and I think she's really  
20 interested in processes.

21                  CHAIR McCARTY: Processes.

22                  MS. MORRIS: Decision processes or

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1 something like that.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Yeah,  
3 meetings/decision processes or whatever.

4 MS. DOERR: So, basically  
5 opportunities for public comment.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, actually more  
7 than that I believe was the intent. But, you  
8 know, this wasn't - I was just recording what  
9 somebody said on the fly.

10 My thought is that most of the  
11 people here are interested in more than just  
12 public comment opportunities. They're  
13 interested in sort of the whole sort of  
14 sequence of events and sequence of decision  
15 making, that kind of thing in addition to the  
16 meetings themselves.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Language suggestions?  
18 I hear what you're saying and I'm not sure -  
19 does this capture it?

20 MS. MORRIS: I think it does.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Okay. All  
22 right. Anything else on this regarding

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1 energy?

2 (No response.)

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Is everyone in  
4 the room comfortable with this that we can  
5 make this recommendation to the entire MAFAC  
6 for adoption?

7 MS. DOERR: Dave, are you going to  
8 wordsmith Number 3?

9 MR. WALLACE: Yeah, I - well, I  
10 guess after -

11 CHAIR McCARTY: Emily.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Emily.

13 MR. WALLACE: - Emily's comments,  
14 you know, I looked at it in a completely  
15 different way, you know. This is a  
16 recommendation.

17 Our recommendation to - and I  
18 thought that we were going to make sure  
19 because I had said DOI, I didn't say NMFS  
20 could do it because that's not their  
21 responsibility.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Let's try to examine

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1 the - let's try and tee it up a bit.

2 MS. DOERR: Yeah, I mean, I was  
3 going to suggest why don't we take the same  
4 approach as we did with Number 4 and say work  
5 with the Department of Interior to ensure that  
6 an appropriate entity bears responsibility for  
7 decommissioning, blah, blah.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: I like that.

9 Is everybody comfortable with that?

10 And, you know, when you can't do anything  
11 about it, at least we can tee it up a bit and  
12 -

13 MS. LINDOW: Is it the entity that  
14 you're really worried about, or that the  
15 decommissionings are handled appropriately?

16 Because I think the entity issue is  
17 the one that's already basically said in the  
18 statute.

19 MS. FOY: The entity I don't think  
20 is what we're after. What we really want is  
21 input into ensuring that it's done properly.

22 DR. CHATWIN: So one question, one

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1 aspect of this that we haven't already talked  
2 about is that the use really at stake is the  
3 use of this booming area for that purpose and  
4 is that a permanent use, or is it not  
5 permanent?

6 So, if it isn't permanent, you  
7 would want that to be eligible or open to  
8 other uses once that time period is over.

9 And I think that's what the  
10 decommissioning is about, right?

11 MR. WALLACE: Once the array is new,  
12 it's obsolete.

13 DR. CHATWIN: So, it may be low  
14 priority now for fisheries, but who knows when  
15 decommissioning comes around.

16 So, I want to be sure that just  
17 because that structure is there doesn't mean  
18 it's permanently out of reach for the  
19 fishery's purposes.

20 So, that to me is the -

21 MR. RAFTICAN: I think you're really  
22 stepping on Interior when you start looking at

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1 something like that.

2 I mean, you know, you've got oil  
3 and gas leases. You've got, you know, I mean,  
4 I look at things that we went through, you  
5 know, California State Lands Department.

6 I mean, there are a lot of people  
7 looking at stuff like this. And I'm not sure  
8 that this is - I think we're getting as close  
9 as we can to the edge of NOAA's purview on  
10 this.

11 And again like I said, I'm not sure  
12 on all these things in OCS water, but, you  
13 know, let's tee it up.

14 And we'll probably get another bite  
15 at this, because this is not going to go  
16 through I think flawlessly the first time  
17 around.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Mr. Chairman, there  
19 is one other thing that I recall came up in  
20 the discussion. I think it was Dave that was  
21 engaging - on multiple uses, because that  
22 reminded me when Tony said just the one use

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1 until they were done with it. And then they  
2 could go back to other uses.

3 Weren't you also discussing,  
4 weren't they talking about multiple use areas  
5 that some of these energy production spaces  
6 might not just be single usage?

7 Is that something that you picked  
8 up?

9 MR. WALLACE: Well, no. I would  
10 like to say that I'm an expert in this. And  
11 the reason that I keep bringing it up is  
12 because I know so little about it.

13 (Laughter.)

14 MR. WALLACE: And I was delighted  
15 that they were here.

16 MS. FOY: Put that on the list.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: One of the things  
18 that, I mean, you had a point that I've been  
19 trying to get this thing through as fast as  
20 possible so we can get something done.

21 NOAA's big push right now is the  
22 ecosystem-based approach on how we manage

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1 fisheries. And it should be an ecosystem-  
2 based approach on how we manage habitat.

3 And as you're creating subsea  
4 structures be it for energy or whatever, that  
5 that ecosystem-based approach also follow  
6 through because what you're doing, subsurface  
7 is also creating habitat. Creating or  
8 removing habitat, to some extent.

9 And I don't know if there's some  
10 way we can convey that into the context here,  
11 but I think that is very appropriate for NOAA  
12 and is something that we should be - and it  
13 actually in the long term, answers a lot of  
14 your questions on where we're going, you know,  
15 with these structures.

16 Now, that being said -

17 MR. CLAMPITT: So, the other thing  
18 is it's a free range out there for us for a  
19 long time.

20 I mean, we went through this thing  
21 just recently.

22 And I think it's absolutely

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1 appropriate for us to require that they put  
2 something up, we can take it down.

3 And, you know, all we could do is  
4 make advice.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, but we're not  
6 talking someone that has even the power,  
7 authority or even guidance to do that. And  
8 that's -

9 MS. MORRIS: I'm comfortable with  
10 that language.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

12 MS. DOERR: I also added a  
13 "therefore" at the end of that to here because  
14 it didn't sound like we were actually  
15 requesting anything.

16 So, is everybody comfortable with  
17 that?

18 CHAIR McCARTY: That's excellent.

19 MS. LOVETT: Is that moved to your  
20 Number 2?

21 MS. DOERR: No.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: You're going great,

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1 Patty.

2 MS. DOERR: Thank you.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Anything else? Are  
4 we good? Does everybody support that?

5 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. All right.

8 MS. LOVETT: Just one other thing I  
9 recall from your conversation was the fact  
10 that it's hard for you to know - I mean, this  
11 goes to Number 2 a little bit, but when  
12 activities are occurring and Federal Register  
13 Notices wasn't sufficient.

14 So, it seemed to me that he  
15 requested from you what you consider  
16 appropriate or improved methods for getting  
17 the word out to the public. Not just to you,  
18 but to the public at large who might have an  
19 interest.

20 I don't know if you have a comment  
21 on that, but that was something that you  
22 discussed with him yesterday.

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1 MS. LINDOW: Yeah, the point was  
2 raised and I thought it was a very good one,  
3 that the legal process also is not always the  
4 best way for people to interact because it  
5 kind of misses the bigger picture.

6 So, if there are some suggestions,  
7 we can take those.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: And I think relevant  
9 information helps us get the facts so those  
10 comments can be made down the line.

11 MS. LOVETT: But you're asking NOAA  
12 to do that. And I think the point is, is  
13 we're all federal agencies and tend to use the  
14 Federal Register, or is there some other way  
15 to better communicate to the public at large,  
16 not just the interested marine parties that  
17 kind of -

18 MR. RAFTICAN: All right. Well,  
19 that's part of what we do at MAFAC. We bring  
20 that back to our stakeholders, I believe.

21 MR. CLAMPITT: Well, the public at  
22 large, that's one thing, but I think, you

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1 know, the regional councils, and of course you  
2 have NGOs involved in that environmental  
3 organization. So, that wouldn't be bad.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: But that is NOAA's  
5 job and I, you know, we get -- I don't want to  
6 get way too far down in the weeds on this  
7 thing, you know.

8 I think, you know, NOAA usually  
9 does a pretty good job of that and, you know,  
10 plant things where they don't. We got our  
11 hands full there.

12 So, is everybody good enough with  
13 this that we can go forward with it and make  
14 recommendations?

15 CHAIR McCARTY: If we can do more  
16 work on this.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay, yeah. Sure,  
18 right. At 4:45 tomorrow afternoon.

19 (Off-record comments.)

20 I just remember Ken Franke on the  
21 rack there the last -- and it's like, oh, God,  
22 get them out of here, you know? I got a plane

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1 to catch.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: There have been  
3 times when it's nice to get - I have had the  
4 last slot at 4:45 and -

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, it makes it a  
6 lot easier.

7 MS. FOY: Some of the marine mammal  
8 stuff is just -- alone is -

9 (Laughter.)

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Energy down.

11 Gulf of Mexico, Keith has some  
12 suggestions.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14 All right, let me start by saying I  
15 think we have an opportunity to steer the  
16 dialogue on the post-Deepwater Horizon Gulf  
17 Coast Restoration.

18 And if our group of stakeholders  
19 can achieve some sort of consensus, I think it  
20 would make a strong statement.

21 So, the document in front of you is  
22 my attempt to try to provide some direction.

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1 Alaska, for example, we learned at  
2 our last meeting, one of their turning points  
3 after Exxon Valdez was when they made the  
4 commitment to shoreline acquisition.

5 So, I'm sort of trying to help us  
6 find a comparable concept in direction that we  
7 could assert.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: The document you've  
9 got in front is this.

10 MR. RIZZARDI: It's a two-page,  
11 stapled document.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay, yeah. I just  
13 want to make sure everybody knows that we're  
14 no longer looking at the -

15 MR. RIZZARDI: And let me say that  
16 document is totally flexible. And right now  
17 what I'm seeking is concept.

18 There may be some wordsmithing we  
19 still have to do on that. That's great. That  
20 document actually reflects concepts that I  
21 understood were discussed in past meetings and  
22 yesterday.

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1                   For example, Randy had made  
2                   comments about researching alternative and  
3                   internationally used oil response  
4                   technologies.

5                   Heather in the past has emphasized  
6                   the Endowment Fund. Tom Billy emphasized  
7                   seafood safety.

8                   Julie has recently given me some  
9                   additional comments with encouraging more  
10                  research on shelf habitat mapping and  
11                  understanding the ocean currents.

12                  Tom, you've emphasized ecosystem  
13                  restoration and ecosystem management, which  
14                  I'm incorporating.

15                  And Martin has emphasized  
16                  electronic data gathering; I'm adding that.  
17                  Tony gave me some great comments that we  
18                  should reuse the material from the Ecosystem  
19                  Management Committee last time around, and  
20                  emphasize the need to implement the Habitat  
21                  Assessment Improvement Plan.

22                  So, I plan to incorporate

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1 everybody's comments. And again my objective  
2 here, if I can achieve it, is to get  
3 stakeholder consensus because I think that  
4 would be meaningful.

5 But the bottom line is there are  
6 two concepts reflected in this document. The  
7 first one is an ecosystem approach through  
8 estuary restoration.

9 And we - I'm proposing that we  
10 recognize that the Mississippi River is the  
11 foremost priority. However, we also need to  
12 recognize the need to invest in the whole Gulf  
13 of Mexico ecosystem.

14 Because as a practical matter even  
15 if there's \$6 billion on the table, it's  
16 entirely possible we could spend all six  
17 billion trying to solve the Mississippi River  
18 and leaving the other pieces of the ecosystem  
19 out.

20 MR. WALLACE: And not solve it.

21 MR. RIZZARDI: And then solve  
22 nothing, right. So, I would like our group to

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1 be able to speak to that point.

2 And secondly, I'm suggesting that  
3 there be an endowment for research and  
4 monitoring.

5 What I've tried to do is come up  
6 with some criteria for those two concepts in  
7 encouraging both the task force and other  
8 policymakers to take our comments into  
9 account.

10 And again, the big picture vision  
11 here is to try to help lead people to that  
12 turning point much the way that Alaska  
13 achieved it with Exxon Valdez.

14 So with that opening, I'll lastly  
15 point out the time frames here are tight. The  
16 first draft of the document that will start  
17 shaping that direction is going to come out in  
18 the end of June. The final document will come  
19 out in October. The time to speak up is now.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Heidi, can I ask -

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Heather.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Have you already

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1 incorporated the comments that you've  
2 mentioned, or -

3 MR. RIZZARDI: I have a version on  
4 my screen that is not there, that has a bunch  
5 of red type on it to insert things like  
6 ecosystem restoration, the additional research  
7 on subsurface and deepwater currents.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: If Heidi could get  
9 that - if we could get that up on the screen,  
10 do you think -

11 MS. LOVETT: I need to get - no, I  
12 have the cable now. I just need the document.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Oh, okay.

14 MR. RAFTICAN: So, if you can send  
15 it over, it would -

16 MR. RIZZARDI: So, are we trying to  
17 advance directly to wordsmithing?

18 MR. RAFTICAN: I think we're  
19 probably - are we close enough -

20 MR. RIZZARDI: That's kind of what I  
21 wanted to do first.

22 MR. WALLACE: Yes, I think that

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1 we're close enough.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: That's fine.

3 MR. WALLACE: We're going to take  
4 it to the whole committee.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

6 MR. WALLACE: And so, let them  
7 wordsmith it. Let's not wordsmith it, because  
8 I read it and I didn't have any objections.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: My only -- it wasn't  
10 objection, it was the thing as I don't think -  
11 - there are a lot of people got their hands  
12 out for this money. And if you start saying  
13 you're going to spend it all on the  
14 Mississippi River, although that might be the  
15 actual answer on this thing, we're not going  
16 to get anywhere.

17 So, you take an ecosystem-based  
18 approach looking at marine systems and the  
19 Mississippi River. And then go everything  
20 else right down the line as you wait it out,  
21 and it's just simply the politics of it.

22 And one thing I want to say that I

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1 think is incredibly important, if we're ever  
2 going to take an ecosystem-based approach to  
3 fisheries management, it's right now in the  
4 Gulf of Mexico.

5 This is a real opportunity to do  
6 it, and I think it's incredibly important to  
7 get off the ground on it.

8 That's why if you can get that  
9 document, you know, if we can get it up, let's  
10 look at it.

11 MR. RIZZARDI: What's on the piece  
12 of paper in front of you, I hope, Mr. Chair,  
13 reflects exactly that in Priority 1 B. The  
14 very concept you just spoke I think is already  
15 there on the page.

16 MR. WALLACE: There's going to be a  
17 lot of pushback, as Tom said.

18 MR. RIZZARDI: But you're speaking  
19 up on the point and saying, don't sink every  
20 dollar into the Mississippi. Spread it  
21 geographically. Take an ecosystem approach.  
22 Yes, absolutely emphasize the Mississippi.

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1                   We recognize that's a priority, but  
2                   the other estuaries need to be addressed as  
3                   well.

4                   CHAIR McCARTY: I also have a  
5                   question.

6                   MR. RAFTICAN: And Fisheries.

7                   CHAIR McCARTY: Fisheries is not  
8                   explicitly dealt with in here.

9                   MR. RAFTICAN: Right. That's what I  
10                  was getting to.

11                  CHAIR McCARTY: Understandably,  
12                  because it's focusing on environmental things.

13                  I just perhaps would suggest  
14                  essential fish habitat is mentioned, but I  
15                  believe that there's a lot of interest both at  
16                  the Agency and in the public, I'm sure, about  
17                  the restoration of any - we don't even know  
18                  yet, any damage that there might have been to  
19                  the fisheries' resources.

20                  MR. RAFTICAN: Absolutely, yes.

21                  CHAIR McCARTY: It all comes from  
22                  the bottom up.

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1           But the monitoring aspect in  
2 particular, there should be a conditional  
3 piece that refers to fisheries resources.

4           MS. FOY: So, what about -- make a  
5 suggestion.

6           CHAIR McCARTY: At the very least.

7           MS. FOY: In Keith's whereas  
8 statement, whereas nearly 90 percent of the  
9 fish, including most of the commercially  
10 exploited populations in the Gulf of Mexico,  
11 are estuary-dependent, would that give it the  
12 context that you are -

13          CHAIR McCARTY: That would  
14 definitely provide context. And so do the  
15 other whereases where they talk about fish  
16 habitat and so on.

17          MS. FOY: Right. Okay.

18          CHAIR McCARTY: I think that  
19 explicitly it would be not only important to  
20 the ecosystem, but it's important to the  
21 stakeholders to have that mentioned in more  
22 than the whereases and more in just fish

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1 habitat context.

2 MS. FOY: Did you capture that,  
3 Keith?

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay, Julie.

5 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, inserted it  
6 including commercial -

7 MS. MORRIS: So, when we did our  
8 essential fish habitat cross-cutting areas in  
9 the Gulf, we discovered that every part of the  
10 Gulf, every part of the water was essential  
11 fish habitat. So, it's pretty meaningless to  
12 say monitor essential fish habitat.

13 I think what we need to say here is  
14 fisheries independent monitoring -- monitoring  
15 the long-term effects on Gulf of Mexico  
16 fisheries independent - however you say that.

17 Fisheries independent - long-term fisheries  
18 independent monitoring of the Gulf of Mexico  
19 stocks.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Instead of essential  
21 fish habitat.

22 MS. MORRIS: Right.

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1 MR. RIZZARDI: Instead of what?

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Instead of essential  
3 fish habitat.

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Well, okay. Our  
5 committee has actually spoken in the past to  
6 the point of using BP monies to invest in the  
7 implementation of VHAIP.

8 CHAIR McCARTY: Right.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: I think she's saying  
10 the same thing, but they had already  
11 recognized that it was all essential fish  
12 habitat.

13 MS. MORRIS: When we did our EFH  
14 amendment in the Gulf of Mexico, everything  
15 was essential fish habitat.

16 MS. FOY: Right, but was that on  
17 Level -- what level of data was that at?

18 MS. LOVETT: We're on Level 2.

19 MS. MORRIS: Data Level 2.

20 MS. FOY: Right, so it's not - what  
21 we had asked before was that when the research  
22 starts to take place, that the NOAA scientists

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1 keep in the back of their mind that as they go  
2 out there in collecting restoration data, that  
3 they, where possible, overlay the scientific,  
4 you know, data needed for further delineating  
5 essential fish habitat based on Level 3 and  
6 Level 4 data instead of just Level 1 and Level  
7 2.

8 MS. MORRIS: Okay. Well, then this  
9 should say that.

10 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, and it does have  
11 -

12 MS. FOY: Yes.

13 DR. CHATWIN: It does have some  
14 language -

15 MR. RIZZARDI: That's exactly what  
16 Tony gave them.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

18 MS. FOY: Good.

19 MR. RIZZARDI: Are there any other  
20 big concepts that I need to be adding on  
21 before I send it off and we start  
22 wordsmithing?

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1 MS. MORRIS: So, you have included  
2 something in the current version about ocean  
3 surveying and modeling the currents, and  
4 you've included something on the mapping of  
5 hard bottoms and live bottoms on the West  
6 Florida Shelf.

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Should we limit it to  
8 the West Florida Shelf, or do you want to make  
9 it -

10 MS. MORRIS: I guess we don't need  
11 to do that, but, you know, just much better  
12 mapping -

13 MR. RIZZARDI: What I have is -

14 MS. MORRIS: -- of hard bottoms and  
15 live bottoms.

16 MR. RIZZARDI: -- making focused  
17 research of the following topics a priority:  
18 Mapping of the Gulf of Mexico, especially the  
19 hard bottom habitat of the coastal shelf.

20 MS. MORRIS: Hard bottom and live  
21 bottoms.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: What was that second

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1 thing? I'm sorry. Hard bottom and what?

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Live bottoms.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: I'm not familiar  
4 with that term. What does it mean?

5 MS. MORRIS: It means -

6 MS. LOVETT: Corals -

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Oh, corals.

8 MS. MORRIS: Some of the places  
9 where we just, where we snorkle.

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Some of the places we  
11 were drinking last night, too.

12 MS. LOVETT: Live bottoms?

13 (Laughter.)

14 MS. MORRIS: And what you may not  
15 know is that when Heidi was in the private  
16 sector, she was a contractor to write the  
17 essential fish habitat plan for the Gulf of  
18 Mexico.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: Cool.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. How we doing?

21 MS. LOVETT: I'm waiting for the  
22 document and I just --

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: Oh, okay. Okay.  
2 We're getting close on that.

3 Any other suggestions on the  
4 document while we're waiting for it to get -  
5 do you want to jump out of line and do you  
6 want to touch anything on climate or --

7 MS. FOY: I can speak on climate  
8 right now while Keith is doing the  
9 wordsmithing.

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

11 MS. FOY: We're going to jump  
12 ahead. Climate is my little baby right now.

13 So, we have an immediate response  
14 that's going to need to take place to climate  
15 for the - now, I've lost the - for the  
16 National Ocean Policy implementation.

17 And so, I would like us as we go  
18 through this working group to respond to the  
19 National Ocean Policy, to also formulate a  
20 climate - a detailed climate response that  
21 captures some of the viewpoints in MAFAC.

22 And where we can, come up with what

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1 we do have consensus on and bring that to the  
2 full committee when we do our teleconference  
3 then.

4 So, we have - I forget who said  
5 that they would join with me on kind of  
6 emailing and calling informally.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Hang on.

8 MS. FOY: But then since we have  
9 some further opportunities that Eileen had in  
10 her PowerPoint presentation that -- one of the  
11 slides she didn't get to. And I'm not going  
12 to try and unlock my computer right now and  
13 make it go there, but this upcoming two years  
14 there are some big policy documents that are  
15 coming out that we could, as a group, weigh in  
16 on.

17 And I think we may want to appoint  
18 a temporary working group to come up with  
19 MAFAC's stance on climate change and ocean  
20 acidification and use that to formulate  
21 responses.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Cathy, let me give

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1 you - I found that list of names from before.

2 MS. FOY: Go ahead.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: And perhaps if  
4 anybody else is interested, they could join  
5 that subcommittee.

6 MS. FOY: Right.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Yourself, Julie,  
8 Bill, Randy, Keith, Tony, Dave. And I think  
9 that was it.

10 MS. FOY: Yes. And so, we will be  
11 specifically working on climate issues; is  
12 that okay?

13 MR. RAFTICAN: If somebody else  
14 wants -- Paul.

15 MS. FOY: Yeah, Paul. He's on -- I  
16 think Paul was on there. He should be.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

18 MS. FOY: He should be.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: You're on there.

20 MS. FOY: He's on there.

21 So, that would be my suggestion  
22 that we bring to the full committee is that we

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1 have kind of an ad hoc working group right now  
2 to formulate the MAFAC position and our -

3 MR. RAFTICAN: And have that ad hoc  
4 for the call for -

5 MS. FOY: Yes.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: June 10th call for -

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Climate adaptation  
8 and National Policy implementation.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

10 MS. FOY: Right, but there's a two-  
11 pronged approach here.

12 We need an immediate response, but  
13 then we also need a long-term --

14 MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

15 MS. FOY: -- well thought out  
16 response to each of those four opportunities  
17 that Eileen has on her slide to comment on.

18 So, I really don't think we should  
19 miss the opportunity to weigh in on those.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

21 MS. MORRIS: Is the immediate  
22 response the -

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1 MS. FOY: National Ocean Policy.

2 MS. MORRIS: Right. The strategic  
3 action plans.

4 MS. FOY: Right, right.

5 MS. MORRIS: Okay.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: Right.

7 MS. FOY: So -

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Cathy, head that up.

9 MS. FOY: Yes. So, as you're  
10 reading the outline that has come up, just  
11 keep in the back of your mind that we need a  
12 response on climate specifically.

13 You good with that?

14 MR. CLAMPITT: Yeah, could you - I  
15 wrote something up. Did you email that?

16 MS. FOY: I did, but that was going  
17 to be something that was -

18 MR. CLAMPITT: Not related?

19 MS. FOY: No, it is related, but  
20 then Mark suggested - I was trying to go for a  
21 complete consensus statement.

22 MR. CLAMPITT: Not getting it to

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1 fly?

2 MS. FOY: Well, it would fly. But I  
3 think what we need is not only the consensus  
4 statement that the whole - we can bring to the  
5 whole committee on that last - on that  
6 teleconference, but I think we need different  
7 viewpoints as well.

8 Some of the committee members feel  
9 this, this, this and this. Some of the  
10 Committee members are at this standpoint.

11 And I think that would have a  
12 stronger impact than just a very generic and  
13 very watered down, frankly, stance on climate.

14 So, you know, the only way we were  
15 going to get all of us to agree on it is to  
16 make it very, very generic.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Quick time-out.

18 Heidi, would it make a difference  
19 if we moved the table back about -

20 MS. LOVETT: No, it's not that.  
21 It's the vision that - it's how it's  
22 projecting from the computer through the

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1 projector.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

3 DR. CHATWIN: So, just to your  
4 point, I'm not sure - I think it depends on  
5 what it is, what the message is that this  
6 recommendation is kind of communicating  
7 because there may be differences of opinion on  
8 what is causing the changes.

9 MS. FOY: Right.

10 DR. CHATWIN: Maybe the differences  
11 of opinion might be narrower if we're just  
12 focusing on our recommendations of what should  
13 be done in terms of adaptation.

14 MS. FOY: My first response to that  
15 is that I would like us to stay out completely  
16 of the causes. I don't think that that's the  
17 purview of this committee, MAFAC.

18 I think we need to focus on how we  
19 are advising NMFS and NOAA to respond to the  
20 issue and how we would like them to deal with  
21 the stakeholders specifically with that issue.

22 Randy, and I think to a lesser -

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1 no, maybe not to a lesser extent, but Randy  
2 specifically has had problems when he is  
3 discussing climate change with NMFS staff,  
4 granted, lower level NMFS staff, that they're  
5 not - they're very disrespectful, would be the  
6 way that I would say it, that they consider  
7 any viewpoint other than that to be --

8 MR. ALEXANDER: Stupid.

9 MS. FOY: Stupid, yes. Yes, really.

10 I mean, and so partly, I mean, there's a - I  
11 was trying to figure out how to word this, but  
12 I really would like NMFS to adopt an education  
13 component to it to continue to - well, like I  
14 said, you continue to audit their climate  
15 models to keep it as current as possible, and  
16 to really - to really focus on out -  
17 respectful outreach to their constituents,  
18 because some parts of NMFS are better at that  
19 than others, you know.

20 So, as long as you give a little  
21 bit more direction there - I never have any  
22 trouble with higher-up NMFS. They're, as a

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1 rule, respectful and wonderful. But the lower  
2 NMFS staff can be fairly superior and cutting  
3 to fishermen and users.

4 So, that's what I was trying to get  
5 at.

6 DR. CHATWIN: That sounds -

7 MS. FOY: Yes.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

9 MS. FOY: But I think we should stay  
10 out of the who caused it.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

12 MS. FOY: That's not what I'd like  
13 them to focus on.

14 MR. RAFTICAN: Paul.

15 MR. CLAMPITT: Well, I don't have a  
16 problem with that approach. But, you know,  
17 I've been reading this document, you know,  
18 National Ocean Policy, and, you know, they  
19 talk about climate adaption.

20 Then they say specifically they  
21 want to integrate adaption and mitigation  
22 efforts.

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1           And, you know, these are - what  
2           does that mean? I mean, I'm reading the  
3           document and they talk a lot about that, but I  
4           really don't know what they mean.

5           How are they going to integrate  
6           adaption and mitigation efforts to species, I  
7           mean, you know?

8           Nobody spoke to that. I haven't  
9           heard any description of it. I've been  
10          looking for the information.

11          MS. FOY: Heidi, do you have a  
12          comment on this?

13          MS. LOVETT: So, the email that Mark  
14          forwarded, which I can get that if you want to  
15          see it.

16          MS. FOY: Please.

17          MS. LOVETT: Let's do that.

18          MS. FOY: Which one? Which email  
19          from Mark?

20          MS. LOVETT: Well, this is going to  
21          be hard to read, but this is from, in response  
22          and Eileen was copied and she sent some

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1 further information.

2 But essentially, there is a  
3 congressional mandate to develop a national  
4 fish, wildlife and plants climate adaptation  
5 strategy separate from other efforts.

6 It's its own mandate and it's on -  
7 it's moving forward and there is going to be a  
8 congressional deadline, I don't know when that  
9 is, of when their report is due.

10 MS. FOY: Right.

11 MS. LOVETT: And NOAA is engaged in  
12 that effort and possibly can lead the effort  
13 because obviously we, like DOI, have  
14 responsibilities with marine resources.

15 So, they need input from others on  
16 what we think, what you think being climate-  
17 ready for fisheries means. That's what's  
18 needed.

19 Because we as an agency, we don't  
20 have all the answers to answer your question,  
21 really.

22 MS. FOY: Right.

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1 MS. LOVETT: It's something we're  
2 all moving towards how do we, you know, we see  
3 stocks shifting.

4 You probably have some examples up  
5 in the Northeast that you could describe about  
6 - not mackerel. Is it mackerel?

7 MR. ALEXANDER: Yeah, mackerel.

8 MS. LOVETT: Mackerel are not to be  
9 found on the Cape right now.

10 So, they're looking for expertise  
11 and input on how do we prepare our fishermen  
12 who went -

13 MR. RAFTICAN: Could you make that  
14 smaller?

15 MS. LOVETT: -- or how do you  
16 figure out how to develop an ocean strategy  
17 that allows for adapting when the fish stocks  
18 move?

19 MS. FOY: Right. So, one of the  
20 things we're going to have to ask for is  
21 clarification language, obviously.

22 So, I'm going to bring the climate

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1 part - wrap it up for a minute here.

2 MS. LOVETT: Well, I just wanted to  
3 say that we thought the best step was bringing  
4 a need here first --

5 MS. FOY: That's good.

6 MS. LOVETT: -- to --

7 MS. FOY: Yes.

8 MS. LOVETT: -- provide the science  
9 and try to answer the questions about validity  
10 of the science and models and the assessments.

11 And as a follow-on, I know Roger  
12 Griffis is very interested in coming to speak  
13 to MAFAC. And he is the climate - I believe  
14 within NOAA fisheries for climate adaptation.

15 And so, he's sort of ready.

16 MS. FOY: Heather.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: And I believe the  
18 report is due May '12, isn't it?

19 MR. ALEXANDER: I thought she said  
20 October 3rd.

21 MS. FOY: There's different ones  
22 coming on.

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1 MR. ALEXANDER: Okay.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: And Eric is the co-  
3 chair of the group. That's all in the -

4 MS. FOY: Right, right.

5 CHAIR McCARTY: I don't know too  
6 much about it.

7 MS. FOY: I mean, there's four  
8 opportunities to respond. We have an  
9 immediate deadline that we need to work on,  
10 but it might not be a bad idea to have it on  
11 the agenda again and further discussion with  
12 the whole group about what stance MAFAC wants  
13 to take on climate.

14 So, perhaps we - that could be a  
15 motion that we bring before the full  
16 committee, is that we would like to have on  
17 the agenda again further climate and maybe  
18 another briefing.

19 MR. RAFTICAN: Paul had a comment.

20 MS. FOY: Paul.

21 MR. CLAMPITT: Well, I, you know,  
22 when I was reading this, you know, I just - it

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1 didn't seem to me they were talking much about  
2 - there was a little bit in there about human  
3 adaption, but it seemed mostly it was like  
4 ecosystem adaption.

5 And I'm sitting here going, well,  
6 how are we going to have ecosystem to adapt?  
7 And I did think of one way, actually, and that  
8 is preserving wetlands.

9 And, you know, it's been in the law  
10 already that there's supposed to be no net  
11 loss of wetlands, and I don't think they're  
12 achieving that, actually.

13 And I think, you know, anybody  
14 involved in fisheries has got to support, you  
15 know, that loss of wetlands.

16 So, I mean, I would reiterate that  
17 as we're trying to get it, you know, have  
18 preserving ecosystem. That to me, is the  
19 heart of it. So, I guess I would - that would  
20 be one comment.

21 As far as humans go in the  
22 fisheries for adaption, the worst you can do

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1 is catch-share.

2 Now, I've been proponent of catch-  
3 share, but, you know, if we're going to come  
4 up with a way for fisheries to adapt to  
5 climate change, catch-shares isn't it because  
6 you just put everybody in a box. So, there's  
7 a comment.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: I'm glad we're  
9 getting it wrapped up.

10 (Off-record discussion.)

11 MS. FOY: Okay. Wait, wait. Okay.  
12 I'm going to wrap this up then before we get  
13 too off of topic, and very onto topic in  
14 another way, but let's just bring a motion  
15 before the full committee to further explore  
16 climate and climate issues.

17 And then with the working group,  
18 have some immediate recommendations on  
19 National Ocean Policy before the  
20 teleconference comes up.

21 Is everybody happy with that?

22 Tony, you had one last hand raise.

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1 Are you happy with going forward a little  
2 bit?

3 DR. CHATWIN: Yeah, I have a motion  
4 and then I would like to make a comment.

5 It's not relevant to the outcome of  
6 this motion.

7 MS. FOY: No, I'm suggesting that we  
8 bring a motion before the full committee, just  
9 that we put this on the agenda again, climate.

10 DR. CHATWIN: Okay.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. I've got a  
12 question here too.

13 Does that mean we've got an ad hoc  
14 committee that's going to try to tune in on  
15 the 10th?

16 MS. FOY: Right.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: We're going to do  
18 that, and we're also -- but does this preclude  
19 doing some work on the 28th, or you want to do  
20 this in addition to the 28th and the overall  
21 MAFAC conference call when we deal with  
22 National Ocean Policy?

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1 MS. FOY: I would like the ad hoc  
2 group to hammer out something to bring us, so  
3 that we can put a straw man in front of the  
4 full committee on the teleconference. Because  
5 I think trying to get a statement on climate  
6 from MAFAC from the full committee with  
7 nothing to start from is just going to be  
8 impossible.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. And in  
10 addition to that, do you want to further  
11 explore at the following MAFAC meeting -

12 MS. FOY: I do. Not a statement for  
13 this, but I would like further climate  
14 explorations.

15 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

16 MS. FOY: Tony.

17 DR. CHATWIN: So, just to say I  
18 think that the type of recommendation that  
19 Paul just made is precisely what we should be  
20 discussing.

21 MS. FOY: It is.

22 DR. CHATWIN: And I think that's

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1 good type of recommendation. I would be very  
2 interested in and I support the first  
3 recommendation on the wetlands.

4 And then the second one I would  
5 like to learn more about how that relationship  
6 doesn't work.

7 MS. FOY: Would you like that  
8 further for the ad hoc group with National  
9 Ocean Policy?

10 DR. CHATWIN: Yes.

11 MS. FOY: Okay. Do that. And if,  
12 after that, if you feel that it needs to be  
13 pursued a little further, then maybe we'll put  
14 it on the next agenda.

15 MR. CLAMPITT: I can write something  
16 about how catch-shares doesn't work with  
17 climate adaption.

18 DR. CHATWIN: I think that's true.  
19 I think catch-share -

20 MS. FOY: No, I agree. I agree.

21 DR. CHATWIN: - the Agency and the  
22 way they need to tweak it so that it works

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1 better. Because if it doesn't work, it either  
2 doesn't work or it can be improved.

3 MS. FOY: Right.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. So, I want to  
5 make sure that we're on the same page.

6 MS. FOY: I think we're on the same  
7 page.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. So, we're  
9 going to put together documents. You have a  
10 teleconference. This is part of a  
11 subcommittee teleconference call on June 10th.

12 And hopefully we can come out of this with  
13 some type of urgent resolution as part of the  
14 overall recommendations on National Ocean  
15 Policy that will run in front of the entire  
16 MAFAC on the 28th --27th, 28th of June.

17 MS. FOY: Heather has a further  
18 comment.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: I have a suspicion.  
20 The reason Mark brought this to our attention  
21 was that he and I guess all the rest of us  
22 would like to know whether - okay. We know a

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1 couple of things.

2 One is that NOAA, NMFS in  
3 particular, is deeply involved in this climate  
4 adaptation and mitigation effort. Eric is the  
5 co-chair of that committee, which I don't know  
6 very much about.

7 I think the question for MAFAC is  
8 whether we want to participate in that in any  
9 way by providing advice or anything else.

10 And so, we have to meet and decide  
11 at this meeting is whether we do want to or  
12 not.

13 I don't know whether we need to  
14 decide exactly how we -

15 MR. RAFTICAN: I got a question,  
16 Heather.

17 Were we asked by Eric to get  
18 engaged in that? I mean, has there been an  
19 ask, you know?

20 CHAIR McCARTY: We were asked by  
21 Mark if we wanted to get involved. And I'm  
22 assuming that's coming down the line.

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1 I have not had a conversation with  
2 Eric about this particular thing.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Because I  
4 noticed that there was one part of that that  
5 required a response early on. And I forget  
6 what the date was, but I'm thinking it was  
7 this June.

8 MS. FOY: No, that's the National  
9 Ocean Policy.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: It's two things  
11 separate.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: I understand that  
13 this is the one that engaged New York State,  
14 but also there was an earlier response within  
15 that if you check back. No?

16 CHAIR McCARTY: No.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

18 MS. LOVETT: There's a meeting, a  
19 particular meeting publicly going on in Silver  
20 Spring. And it's not so much - and maybe  
21 somebody from this committee would be  
22 available to attend.

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1                   But it's not in this message. It's  
2 in the original message, but it's more of the  
3 long-term of input to -

4                   MR. RAFTICAN: All right. So,  
5 they're not going to need input by this April.

6                   And that was one of the things that I saw in  
7 there that it looked like that there was an  
8 initial go around.

9                   And if you don't ask to be engaged  
10 in that, that gives us the time to work within  
11 this other schedule and I think we're fine.

12                   CHAIR McCARTY: I think one of the  
13 questions I'm going to ask for tomorrow is  
14 sort of the timeline of when we need to make  
15 certain decisions on this particular issue.

16                   MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah.

17                   CHAIR McCARTY: So, I think given  
18 that information it would be a lot easier to  
19 determine what we need to do.

20                   MR. RAFTICAN: Thank you.

21                   CHAIR McCARTY: I don't think we  
22 know enough right now.

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: Is it in our best  
2 interest to ask -- give me one second -- to  
3 ask Eric to -- to share Eric's participation  
4 in this?

5 I don't know how we can do that,  
6 but, you know, can --

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Tomorrow, you mean?

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, we're going to  
9 have a couple of things that we're going to  
10 run through the entire MAFAC where we're going  
11 to ask for concurrence on.

12 And actually what it does is it  
13 helps check the box when we deal with National  
14 Ocean Policy on the conference call.

15 And if we can check the box on some  
16 of these things in advance, it seems to make  
17 enough, you know, if we can get the stuff out  
18 of the way right now, it would make it a lot  
19 easier on the conference call.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: That's why I'm  
21 saying if I may just really briefly put my  
22 chair hat on, you know, what I'm going to want

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1 to know from this subcommittee is, does this  
2 subcommittee want to recommend that we take  
3 steps in the direction of participating in the  
4 climate adaptation efforts of NOAA and NMFS.

5 So, that's what I think I need to  
6 know generally speaking.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Hang on before  
8 you - we'll run that in front of the entire  
9 committee, but Julie had a -

10 MS. MORRIS: My answer to that  
11 question is yes.

12 When we were talking earlier about  
13 the 2020 Vision update and we're supposed to  
14 be looking at the strategic directions, I  
15 mean, we have so much strategic information  
16 about climate change and what it's going to do  
17 to our fisheries.

18 It's just -- and when I looked  
19 through the 2010 plan, I don't really see  
20 climate change and adaptation as a theme  
21 there. So, it seems like it's a really  
22 important thing to add to our 2020 update. Of

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1 course we should be involved in those  
2 discussions.

3 And I have a question.

4 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

5 MS. MORRIS: It seems like you've  
6 scheduled a conference call to talk about the  
7 strategic action plans. And there's a  
8 Strategic Action Plan Working Group, but  
9 that's different than the group - the people  
10 who have people - this climate change thing.

11 MS. LOVETT: Yes.

12 MS. MORRIS: So, now you're kind of  
13 talking about both people participating in a  
14 conference - so, I just need that to be  
15 clarified because I'm in one group, and not  
16 the other group.

17 Which part am I participating in?

18 MR. RAFTICAN: I think the -

19 MS. MORRIS: And I have a third  
20 comment after that.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

22 MS. FOY: I'll answer that.

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: Go ahead.

2 MS. FOY: Climate is a subsection of  
3 the strategic plan that we are -

4 MS. MORRIS: Right.

5 MS. FOY: -- commenting on. So, my  
6 hope is that we as a climate group, could  
7 scramble to get this forward. And we could  
8 include it in what we're waiting for with the  
9 other working group since I am in both.

10 MS. MORRIS: Okay. So, we may have  
11 a little separate effort that we will feed you  
12 input for the conference call.

13 MS. FOY: Yeah, for the conference  
14 calls that is in the working group. And then  
15 as a working group, we would bring it forward  
16 to the full committee and have a full  
17 committee conference call.

18 MS. MORRIS: And then my third  
19 comment is I've been spending some time this  
20 afternoon on the website for the climate,  
21 plant and wildlife thing that is on a longer  
22 time frame, and these are some of the key

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1 words that are on that website: Shared  
2 principles and science-based practices for  
3 adaptation, strategic goals, key barriers to  
4 implementing these goals, specific solutions  
5 to overcome those barriers, international  
6 collaboration, conservation of resources over  
7 broad geographic ranges.

8 So, those all seem like they're  
9 high-level things that MAFAC is an appropriate  
10 body to begin to provide input for the living  
11 resources of the oceans.

12 And I think that this is a good  
13 task for us to engage in.

14 MS. FOY: I agree.

15 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

16 MS. FOY: And I appreciated your  
17 suggestion that maybe we ought to consider  
18 where this would fit into the 2020 document as  
19 well.

20 I mean, we have - I just pulled up  
21 the slide from Eileen, The National Fish and  
22 Wildlife, Plants, Climate Change Adaption

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1 Strategy.

2 That's the draft in December 2011.

3 So, maybe we do need to work on this at the  
4 next meeting.

5 But then the National Climate  
6 Assessment draft is 2012, final 2013 it could  
7 be brought up again. And then the National  
8 Climate Adaptation Plan is the last one.

9 So, I'm hoping we can do one major  
10 push on climate here that we use and refine a  
11 few times and resubmit.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

13 MS. FOY: Should we go back to  
14 Keith?

15 MR. RAFTICAN: Well, first of all I  
16 want to make sure that we go forward and this  
17 is going to help Heather with a recommendation  
18 for NOAA to stay engaged in -

19 MS. FOY: I'll work on it, Heidi,  
20 and bring it to you tomorrow.

21 MS. LOVETT: Okay.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Have you got it?

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1 MS. LOVETT: Yes.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Now, back to  
3 the Gulf of Mexico.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: So, can I just -

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Oh, I'm sorry.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Are we making a  
7 recommendation to move into this - I mean, I  
8 like what Julie said and I personally agree  
9 with that, but I just need to know -

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay, you're the  
11 wordsmith. If somebody would wordsmith it  
12 right now, I think everybody seems online with  
13 the -

14 CHAIR McCARTY: I thought it was  
15 fine as long as everybody -

16 MS. FOY: Does everybody agree that  
17 maybe it should go into the 2020 document, as  
18 well as having reiterations that are submitted  
19 to these bodies as they are planning their  
20 strategies and -

21 MR. RAFTICAN: In favor?

22 GROUP: Aye.

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1 MS. FOY: All in favor?

2 GROUP: Aye.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: So carried.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay, thank you.

5 MS. FOY: Good. So, I will  
6 wordsmith a motion tonight -

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Opposed? I'm not  
8 sure. You're shaking your head.

9 MR. WALLACE: I'm thinking about it,  
10 but -

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. All right.

12 MS. FOY: I will wordsmith a motion  
13 tonight to bring to the full committee so that  
14 we can move forward with the -

15 MR. RAFTICAN: Thank you.

16 MS. FOY: -- 2020 revision.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Now, can we jump back  
18 to the Gulf of Mexico and Keith?

19 MR. RIZZARDI: It's on the screen.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Could you get  
21 that in smaller print, do you think?

22 MS. LOVETT: If I make it bigger, it

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1 cuts off and I didn't know -

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. All right.

3 MS. FOY: Can you make the font  
4 bigger?

5 MS. LOVETT: I can try.

6 MS. FOY: That would work for me in  
7 my near blind state. There we go.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: All right. Perfect.

9 MS. LOVETT: It's not cutting it  
10 off. It's not on the -

11 MR. RIZZARDI: There's more.  
12 There's a third page.

13 MS. LOVETT: I see. Oh, there's a  
14 third page?

15 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes.

16 (Off-record comments.)

17 MR. RIZZARDI: In normal font, it's  
18 only front and back of a single sheet of  
19 paper.

20 MS. FOY: Yeah, it's not bad. I  
21 think we can cut through and just read the  
22 first whereas.

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1 MR. RIZZARDI: Well, nothing in this  
2 has changed.

3 MS. FOY: Okay.

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Everything that's  
5 right in front of you on your piece of paper  
6 on the whereases, is as it was.

7 MR. CLAMPITT: All the whereases are  
8 the same.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Until we get down to  
10 MAFAC recommends.

11 MS. FOY: Wait, wait, wait, wait,  
12 wait, wait, wait.

13 Did you change the third or fourth  
14 whereas to reflect the commercial fisheries?

15 MR. RIZZARDI: I did do a hyphenated  
16 insert of including commercial fisheries.

17 So, if you scroll down -- right  
18 there. Whereas nearly 90 percent of the fish,  
19 including commercially harvested fish in the  
20 Gulf of Mexico are estuarine-dependent.

21 MS. MORRIS: Actually, I thought it  
22 was 80 percent.

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1 MR. RIZZARDI: I think the number is  
2 87, which is why I wrote nearly 90. But I'm  
3 flexible on that one and however we want to do  
4 it, and I'll look it up.

5 MS. FOY: Okay. I'm good with that.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: I'm good with that.

7 MS. FOY: And did we want to insert  
8 recreational? I mean -

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

10 MS. FOY: That's fine.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: I was just going to  
12 let it go.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: All right. EPA says  
14 estuarine-dependent species constitute more  
15 than 95 percent of the commercial fishery  
16 harvests in the Gulf of Mexico.

17 DR. CHATWIN: Yeah, because if you  
18 do recreational -

19 MR. RIZZARDI: NBII says 98 percent  
20 are - of commercial fish are -

21 MS. MORRIS: Can we just say  
22 harvested fish?

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1 MS. FOY: I would be happy with  
2 harvested fish.

3 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

4 MR. WALLACE: It's more accurate,  
5 really.

6 MS. FOY: Yeah, let's go with  
7 harvested.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, isn't that what  
9 you had before?

10 MS. FOY: No, he didn't have that  
11 part of -

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

13 MR. FISHER: Do you want to take  
14 "including" out, please?

15 MS. FOY: No.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: Harvested fish -  
17 percent of the fish including - we got too  
18 much fish in there.

19 MS. LOVETT: Scroll down.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Just scroll down.  
21 MAFAC recommends.

22 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay. And then the

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1 next page starts the -

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Well, back up. That  
3 other sentence is important.

4 MS. LOVETT: I was just trying to  
5 pull it together. Sorry.

6 MR. RIZZARDI: They wanted to see  
7 the last paragraph of whereases.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes.

9 MS. LOVETT: Oh, that's what I was  
10 trying to put together and it wasn't -

11 MR. RAFTICAN: Well, there. "MAFAC  
12 recommends" is beyond the whereas.

13 MS. FOY: I'm happy with that.

14 MR. RAFTICAN: I'm happy.

15 MS. FOY: Anybody? All? Any  
16 dissents?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. RAFTICAN: No, okay.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: Can I ask a  
20 question, please?

21 Are you anticipating some sort of  
22 division between direct and immediate funding

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1 for Priority 1, and Endowment Fund for  
2 Priority 2?

3 MR. RIZZARDI: I think it's a great  
4 concept. I've thought about it. I think the  
5 Committee should think about it. You know,  
6 there's any number of ways to go about it.

7 Off the cuff, you can say 80  
8 percent of the funding should go to Priority  
9 1, and 20 percent should go to Priority 2 and  
10 down the line.

11 And then you could say of the 80  
12 percent, you know, half of it goes to  
13 Mississippi and half of it goes to everything  
14 else, but I think that's a worthy committee  
15 discussion to see if you can - if we can reach  
16 any kind of consensus on that.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, the trustee  
18 council did in the last -

19 MR. RIZZARDI: Did exactly that,  
20 yeah. And, in fact, Senator Nelson has  
21 proposed that in his legislation.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: That's what I'm

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1 wondering because to me, there's a division  
2 here between Priority 1 and Priority 2, and  
3 they're differently funded in this suggestion.

4 And I'm not opposed at all. So,  
5 what I'm thinking is that the short-term  
6 funding, and then longer-term funding, which  
7 is kind of like a longer-term funding project  
8 and that is appropriately funded by an  
9 endowment, I believe.

10 The short-term funding may be  
11 different. The needs, the short-term needs.  
12 And so, I was just wondering how - what you  
13 had in mind amount wise or time wise.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: I haven't.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Because a lot of  
16 times the short-term needs to be funded in  
17 large, you know, chunks. And then there's  
18 sort of a longer-term need that can be lesser  
19 terms that are -

20 MR. RIZZARDI: There are, I believe,  
21 a couple of legislative efforts already out  
22 there to try and round this up and push it in

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1 very specific directions.

2           And I'm going to give you, roughly,  
3 one I think is 50 percent of the dollars going  
4 directly to the states. Another one has - and  
5 then how that's divided among the states is  
6 still up for grabs. And the other was I think  
7 seven out of ten dollars going to the states,  
8 you know.

9           What I'm getting into is people  
10 have already - people who can make law are  
11 dealing with this. Our best recommendations  
12 are broad brush on how to utilize the funds.  
13 And this is before or afterwards.

14           I mean, this would fit in as well  
15 to the states, as well as the feds.

16           CHAIR McCARTY: Well, just a  
17 cautionary note that in the last, as Keith has  
18 mentioned, when people put a lot of money into  
19 acquisition - shoreline acquisition, I think  
20 we called it.

21           Most of it was for the premise of  
22 saving trees in shore, you know, areas. Big

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1 chunks of land with trees on it.

2 And one of the reasons that was  
3 acceptable with this money was because of the  
4 protected watersheds, the protected streams  
5 and the fish that live in them.

6 However, by the end of the day, the  
7 general consensus was, and, Cathy, maybe you  
8 can remember this too, was that too much had  
9 been spent on that. And that there was a huge  
10 amount, millions and millions and millions of  
11 dollars had been spent on trees.

12 And when you had - end of the day  
13 when you looked at what you had left in the  
14 fund, it wasn't as much as you had hoped it  
15 would be to do the real on-the-ground science  
16 and monitoring that needed to be done.

17 So, that's why it's important - if  
18 you feel strongly about what should be  
19 allocated to what, then I think you need to  
20 include that.

21 MR. RIZZARDI: What is already in  
22 Senator Nelson's bill, I think proposes a five

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1 percent fisheries endowment.

2           Personally, that struck me as  
3 probably on the small side. I was thinking  
4 about how much revenue does that generate over  
5 the long term.

6           We are talking about a \$5 billion  
7 fund from the folks at BP, you know, a billion  
8 dollars is going to generate hundreds of  
9 millions.

10           MS. FOY: My -- you don't mind me  
11 jumping in, Mr. Chair?

12           MR. RAFTICAN: No, please take it.

13           MS. FOY: My first response to that,  
14 that I'm not well enough informed to be able  
15 to quantify where the money should be spent.

16           However, I am well enough informed  
17 to be able to recommend that they need to look  
18 at the ecosystems and the - I am comfortable  
19 with this level of detail.

20           I don't know that I would be  
21 comfortable going into much greater -

22           CHAIR McCARTY: I'm not well enough

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1 informed either.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: That being said, how  
3 are we dealing with the text as it moves on  
4 down the line?

5 MS. LOVETT: I'm sorry.

6 MS. FOY: I would suggest one change  
7 to Priority 1 -

8 MR. RIZZARDI: Heidi.

9 MS. FOY: Just let me run this by  
10 everybody else first: I would say that to  
11 invest an ecosystem and community restoration  
12 through estuarine improvement projects. It's  
13 really the same thing.

14 You're going to be doing estuarine  
15 improvement projects, but hopefully it brings  
16 back the point that this is going to benefit  
17 our coastal community.

18 MR. MORRIS: You're talking about  
19 social communities.

20 MS. FOY: Social communities.

21 MS. MORRIS: That's fine.

22 MS. FOY: So, why don't we say that.

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1 Invest in ecosystem and social community,  
2 human community.

3 MR. RIZZARDI: The red lettering in  
4 the ecosystem restoration improvement, change  
5 it to invest in ecosystem and community.

6 MS. MORRIS: Restoration.

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Right.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Anything else?  
9 Julie, how you doing?

10 MS. MORRIS: I'm beat. So, I'm  
11 sorry I'm slow in doing this.

12 All of those bays need to be  
13 capitalized. At the end of 1B, we need  
14 Galveston Bay to be capitalized, Mobile Bay to  
15 be capitalized. Just capitalize all those  
16 bays.

17 (Off-record comments.)

18 MS. FOY: I would just put an "also"  
19 in there. However, MAFAC also emphasizes the  
20 need, in B.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

22 MS. FOY: But also.

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. C okay?

2 MS. FOY: Are these in any order of  
3 importance?

4 MS. LOVETT: I hope not.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: I do.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MS. MORRIS: So, Keith, the benefits  
8 to water quality such low oxygen, is that a  
9 way to get at the freshwater inflow issue?

10 MR. RIZZARDI: As well as the  
11 sedimentation issue.

12 MS. MORRIS: Okay. And it seems  
13 like nutrients are a really big issue as well.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: Yep, the nutrients  
15 and sedimentation and dissolved oxygen. Go  
16 for all sedimentation.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Heidi.

18 MS. LOVETT: I was just curious if  
19 you meant to when you say Mississippi River,  
20 to include the various estuaries around  
21 Louisiana.

22 MR. RIZZARDI: I did. It should say

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1 something along the lines of the greater  
2 Mississippi River complex. River complex.  
3 So, whatever the Committee believes the  
4 appropriate terminology is there -

5 MS. LOVETT: Mississippi River and  
6 its delta.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Are we done  
8 with C?

9 MR. RIZZARDI: Does that same  
10 concept need to be reflected in the first part  
11 of B with the reference to Mississippi River?

12 I think the subsequent concepts  
13 kind of capture it, but -

14 MR. RAFTICAN: I think you're good.

15 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: D.

17 MS. MORRIS: Moving right along.

18 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

19 MS. FOY: Okay. "Enhance" is my  
20 first hang-up.

21 Could you clarify what you meant by  
22 they should enhance spending on research?

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1 More money spent on research, monitoring -

2 MR. RIZZARDI: I think the idea was  
3 that was just recognizing that we already have  
4 a universe of information, and now we're  
5 hoping to build upon.

6 So, it didn't intend to have any  
7 special weight. The wording can be changed.

8 MS. FOY: Is anybody else  
9 uncomfortable with "enhanced"?

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Enhanced spending?

11 MS. FOY: With the word "enhanced"  
12 spending on research, monitoring and data  
13 collection, or -

14 MS. MORRIS: Provide or increase, is  
15 that - what is your concern about it?

16 MS. FOY: That it's vague.

17 MS. MORRIS: That it's fake?

18 MS. FOY: Vague, not fake.

19 (Laughter.)

20 MS. FOY: It's not fake. Anyway,  
21 it's vague.

22 MR. RIZZARDI: I think "increase"

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1 works better.

2 DR. CHATWIN: That's fine.

3 MS. FOY: Increase. So, "enhance"  
4 is up there twice.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

6 MS. FOY: There we go.

7 DR. CHATWIN: I had a question on  
8 that.

9 MS. FOY: Go ahead.

10 DR. CHATWIN: I would agree more  
11 with a statement that included a description  
12 of what that research would be for.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: I think that's what A  
14 is.

15 MR. RAFTICAN: Yeah, below.

16 MR. RIZZARDI: A then lays out the  
17 specific areas that we were proposing for  
18 research. And I think they reflect the many  
19 concepts that have been talked about by this  
20 committee.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: And we actually kind  
22 of read through that before.

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1                   Does that answer your question,  
2 Tony?

3                   MS. MORRIS: I mean, it's sort of  
4 that we wished we had known more about these  
5 things when we had to respond to the  
6 catastrophe.

7                   But we also need to know more about  
8 these things in order to fulfill our  
9 appropriate management role for the living  
10 resources. So, it's both of those things.

11                  DR. CHATWIN: Yeah, and I think  
12 that's where - there are big gaps in this.

13                  We get a lot of proposals on  
14 tagging because we don't really know - or the  
15 knowledge is limited on the use of habitats  
16 tarpon or tadpole, even some turtles.

17                  So, I'm glad that we are being more  
18 detailed.

19                  MR. RIZZARDI: One of the things I  
20 did try to focus on with the research concepts  
21 for keeping them focused on things that were  
22 relevant to responding to the oil disaster and

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1 the lessons from that disaster as opposed to  
2 trying to leverage the BP money into research  
3 on other things, I was really trying to keep  
4 it correlated to the experiences that we had.

5           Whereas when you move to the data  
6 and monitoring piece of it, that's where you  
7 see even more of the ecosystem and management  
8 approach and you're looking at a bigger  
9 picture and getting more information for the  
10 longer term.

11           But these specific research topics,  
12 I think, based on committee discussion, that  
13 was relevant to the disaster.

14           DR. CHATWIN: But I think that the  
15 ecosystem responses and the lack of knowledge  
16 thereof have limited our ability to understand  
17 the impact.

18           MR. RIZZARDI: I agree with that.  
19 And, you know, even today there was an article  
20 about the dolphin deaths and strandings and a  
21 scientist at UCF linking all of that to BP,  
22 you know.

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1           So, is that a worthy topic for  
2 research? And Martin sent that off to me  
3 earlier today.

4           I mean, it is certainly a worthy  
5 topic and some of -

6           MS. FOY: So, what I'm wondering is  
7 whether or not - could you scroll down a  
8 little bit, Heidi?

9           Further. If you could go a little  
10 further.

11          MR. RIZZARDI: That is the whole  
12 research piece.

13          MS. FOY: I know, but I'm wondering  
14 if maybe by bringing the essential fish  
15 habitat portion up, monitoring and data  
16 collection.

17          MR. RAFTICAN: Start, yeah.

18          MS. FOY: Bringing that up to  
19 research level might - I mean, I know it goes  
20 against your plan to kind of separate the  
21 deepwater horizon and the other collections,  
22 but maybe that would make Tony happy with

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1 bringing the essential fish habitat data up to  
2 the Level 3 and Level 4 instead of Level 1 and  
3 Level 2 that most of the designations are at.

4 DR. CHATWIN: That's in there.

5 MR. RIZZARDI: It's there. The  
6 whole - exactly what Tony suggested.

7 MS. FOY: Does that -

8 MR. RIZZARDI: That first bullet on  
9 the monitoring piece is exactly what this  
10 committee adopted and that MAFAC had  
11 subsequently ratified at our prior meeting  
12 discussions.

13 MS. FOY: Right, but what I was  
14 wondering is if - I know it's in. This is in  
15 the monitoring subsection though, right?

16 MR. RIZZARDI: Correct.

17 MS. FOY: Could we move it up to the  
18 research?

19 MS. MORRIS: So, you're suggesting  
20 separating the two things that Keith - you're  
21 suggesting taking the two things that Keith  
22 separated and blending them into one research

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1 and monitoring.

2 MS. FOY: Yeah, would that be okay?

3 MR. RIZZARDI: I'm not opposed. I  
4 was conceptually trying to keep them distinct.  
5 I had a logic to it.

6 If you guys want to reshape, I'm up  
7 for that.

8 MS. MORRIS: Well, because there's  
9 things on both lists that meet both goals;  
10 better preparation for the next catastrophe,  
11 plus better management of living resources.

12 MR. RIZZARDI: Sure.

13 MS. LOVETT: So, direction?

14 MR. RIZZARDI: Take the first bullet  
15 of that last part and slap it into the bullets  
16 of the research part.

17 MS. LOVETT: Just that one bullet,  
18 or more than that one bullet?

19 MS. FOY: All of the bullets. And  
20 then we're just going to combine the two.  
21 We're going to make it research and  
22 monitoring, instead of research and then a

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1 separate section.

2 MS. LOVETT: So, then the opening  
3 paragraph -

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Well, it sounds like  
5 we're sort of now talking - we need to reshape  
6 the whole piece.

7 MR. RAFTICAN: You know what? We're  
8 getting close to saying, hey, look, we've got  
9 a conference call coming up on fine tuning  
10 this stuff, you know.

11 My concern is as long as everybody  
12 is still okay for sitting this thing out and  
13 getting it - okay.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: I thought we had the  
15 opportunity to take this language -

16 MS. FOY: This is for tomorrow.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: This is discussion  
18 for tomorrow, isn't it?

19 MS. MORRIS: It's for tomorrow.

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

21 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay. So, here's my  
22 suggestion, Heidi.

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1 MS. LOVETT: Yes.

2 MR. RIZZARDI: Take the non-bulleted  
3 text after the words "data collection and  
4 monitoring" in Part B, the non-bulleted.

5 Well, we're going to use the  
6 bullets, too. Okay. That's fine. I see what  
7 you did. That's fine.

8 And then take the non-bulleted text  
9 and merge it into the -

10 MS. LOVETT: Right.

11 MR. RIZZARDI: Right. So, the stuff  
12 beginning with "To improve future decisions."

13 MS. MORRIS: So, are you suggesting  
14 that that whole paragraph there not be -

15 MS. FOY: No, she's going to merge  
16 it.

17 MR. RIZZARDI: So, it simply won't  
18 be divided into an A and a B. It will be one  
19 big concept of research and monitoring.

20 MS. LOVETT: Just give me a minute.

21 MR. RIZZARDI: Could I just before  
22 we go down that path, Heidi, could I suggest

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1 that we keep A like it was?

2 MS. LOVETT: Okay.

3 MR. RIZZARDI: Make a B, data  
4 collection and monitoring. And then make C  
5 the conclusion, which is we recommend the  
6 following.

7 MS. LOVETT: Okay.

8 MR. RIZZARDI: That will keep it  
9 straight forward.

10 MS. LOVETT: Okay. Is that what  
11 you're saying?

12 MR. RIZZARDI: Yeah, and you take  
13 the making focus on research and monitoring  
14 the following topics a priority.

15 MS. LOVETT: So, we just need to  
16 rearrange this last sentence.

17 MR. RIZZARDI: That "in addition"  
18 sentence I think we can strike.

19 MS. LOVETT: Strike?

20 MR. RIZZARDI: No, maybe not.  
21 Recommends improving.

22 In addition, MAFAC recommends using

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1 this data to improve protective regulation and  
2 improve long-term management.

3 So, after the concept that you have  
4 MAFAC recommends - in addition, MAFAC  
5 recommends using this data to -

6 MS. LOVETT: These data.

7 MR. RIZZARDI: These data, right.

8 And then you can keep the concepts  
9 that are there.

10 And, Julie, you had suggested the  
11 need for a long-term program that was intended  
12 to give us information on stock assessments.

13 And you had started previously when  
14 we were talking about the concepts, you had a  
15 piece of narrative that you gave and I wasn't  
16 fast enough to get it down. So, I have a  
17 blank bullet on that list.

18 When Heidi's done changing her  
19 language, that was intended to be a  
20 placeholder for the concept that you had about  
21 stock assessments.

22 And I think Mark and you had the

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1 same concept of more -

2 MS. MORRIS: Well, it's the fishery  
3 and the long-term monitoring. It's  
4 essentially the monitoring of long-term  
5 effects on stocks and is also fishery-  
6 independent data collection.

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Right. That curtails  
8 with my thoughts because you can't have a good  
9 stock assessment without the data.

10 MS. MORRIS: So, you've got  
11 fisheries independent in there and -

12 MR. RIZZARDI: No. You want that in  
13 there. What's in there right now is, Julie,  
14 your concept tied specifically to deepwater  
15 coral ecosystems, but not tied to the broader  
16 fishery.

17 MS. MORRIS: Okay. Then we'll work  
18 - get down to the empty bullet.

19 MS. LOVETT: Fishery independent.

20 MS. MORRIS: Well, so I think it's  
21 this hanging bullet at the bottom that we're  
22 talking about that doesn't have any text,

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1 Heidi.

2 MR. RIZZARDI: Go to Level 2 bullet.

3 MS. MORRIS: Oh, you've got it. I'm  
4 sorry. Developing a long-term program for  
5 monitoring the fisheries effects of the  
6 deepwater horizon -

7 MR. FISHER: The effects on  
8 fisheries?

9 MS. MORRIS: The effects on  
10 fisheries of the Deepwater Horizon, whatever  
11 we're calling it, events or release or -

12 MR. FISHER: Let's go with event.

13 MS. FOY: And is that a separate -

14 MR. FISHER: Disaster.

15 MS. MORRIS: Spill seems like such a  
16 diminutive -

17 MR. FISHER: It does.

18 MS. MORRIS: -- term for -

19 MR. FISHER: So, disaster.

20 MR. RIZZARDI: I think early on in  
21 the document I think we referred to it as the  
22 deepwater horizon disaster.

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1 MS. MORRIS: Okay. Good.

2 MS. FOY: Now, is that developing a  
3 long-term program for monitoring the fisheries  
4 effects of the deepwater horizon oil spill by  
5 promoting -

6 MR. FISHER: We want to focus on  
7 fisheries.

8 MS. FOY: -- promoting a fisheries  
9 independent stock assessment?

10 MS. MORRIS: Well, no, that's  
11 different. That seems like something else  
12 that we just need to better manage the  
13 fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico is a robust  
14 fisheries independent monitoring program.

15 MS. FOY: Okay. So, it's a separate  
16 and distinct bullet.

17 MS. MORRIS: Separate, right.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Did we capture the  
19 other concept that goes to talking about  
20 fisheries stock assessment/survey -

21 MR. RIZZARDI: No, that's part of  
22 all that was supposed to be - the bullet that

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1 I had.

2 The one point I want to make about  
3 this last piece now is just - I mean, this is  
4 a healthy discussion and it's exactly what I  
5 expected to happen.

6 I think it's important that MAFAC  
7 try to focus on what we really think the  
8 priorities are. And what's starting to happen  
9 with this second topic is you're getting a lot  
10 of bullets.

11 And the more bullets you put out  
12 there, the less weighty they are and the less  
13 meaningful they are.

14 If we have priorities and we can  
15 select amongst them, our statement becomes a  
16 lot more powerful.

17 I don't know if we can achieve  
18 consensus on that or not. We've got a laundry  
19 list of ideas up there. Can we do better?

20 MS. MORRIS: I'd be happy to think  
21 about priorities.

22 MS. FOY: Just to look at it again

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1 by a full committee.

2 MR. RIZZARDI: Absolutely.

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, and maybe let's  
4 try and bring up the full committee. I think,  
5 you know, let's put effects on fisheries,  
6 please. It's fisheries effects. Effects on  
7 fisheries. Thank you.

8 DR. CHATWIN: Not so subtle.

9 MS. FOY: We're not so subtle.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: I guess what I was  
11 trying to say earlier, and I'll try to do it  
12 again, is that I believe - the effects -

13 (Laughter.)

14 MS. DOERR: We're having problems  
15 over there.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: The effects from the

17 -

18 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Back on topic.  
19 Heidi.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Well, what my point  
21 was before was in part, certainly the effects  
22 on fisheries of the oil spill, but also

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1 continued efforts to increase the good  
2 management, as Julie has put it, through  
3 understanding and assessing the stocks.

4 And it's not just because of the  
5 oil spill. And I think one of Keith's hopes  
6 in this effort was to use the funds  
7 theoretically not just to add to the effects  
8 of the oil spill, but to enhance what you do  
9 have.

10 And so, that's why I was suggesting  
11 that.

12 MR. RAFTICAN: Heather, I think we  
13 take a look back where we started off from.  
14 It probably covers that with that broad  
15 ecosystem brush looking at the entire health  
16 of the Gulf, and the health -- including the  
17 health of the fisheries.

18 And I think, you know, we're kind  
19 of down in the weeds here, but I think that  
20 overall way back up at the top -

21 CHAIR McCARTY: The fishery resource  
22 is important to the ecosystem, but the fishery

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1 is important to the human part of the  
2 ecosystem.

3 And that's what I was trying to  
4 capture. I think that we're trying to do  
5 both.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: I agree, and I  
7 thought we did that with communities, but  
8 let's take a look. Go for it.

9 MR. RIZZARDI: Well, what we could  
10 do if we reflect on Heather's comment is just  
11 the way NOAA's got the habitat assessment,  
12 they've also got the stock assessment  
13 improvement plan.

14 So, we would mirror image that  
15 approach and say, you know, one piece of the  
16 funding should be used for the habitat -  
17 implementation of the habitat assessment  
18 improvement plan, and another piece of the  
19 funding should be used to implement the stock  
20 assessment improvement plan.

21 And then what's nice about that is  
22 you're building again on existing resources

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1 and existing work rather than creating new  
2 stuff.

3 And that's been one of the other  
4 things I tried to do throughout this document.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: How would you do that  
6 using the -

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Just the way that we  
8 have a bullet that says invest in additional  
9 data gathering, we can add to that.

10 Heidi, down, please.

11 MS. LOVETT: Oh, down.

12 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, please.

13 MS. LOVETT: Okay.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: The one in the third  
15 to the last red bullet. It discusses  
16 essential fish habitat and the implementation  
17 of the HAIP.

18 We could have a mirror image bullet  
19 that is implementation of NOAA's marine  
20 fisheries stock assessment improvement plan.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: I'm good with that.

22 MR. RAFTICAN: I'll live with that.

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1 Got that?

2 CHAIR McCARTY: What was the  
3 language you used, Keith?

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay. On the bullet  
5 above - go back up - related to essential fish  
6 habitat, EFH, after "EFH," put "and stock  
7 assessments."

8 Let's do it in the bullet and merge  
9 them.

10 MS. LOVETT: But then -

11 MR. RIZZARDI: Just trust me and  
12 just please - all right. Right there.  
13 Essential fish habitat and stock assessments.

14 All right. After the reference to  
15 habitat improvement -- assessment improvement  
16 plan, take the clause and make it a  
17 parenthetical to habitat assessment  
18 improvement plan.

19 So, "in order to," put a  
20 parentheses after habitat assessment  
21 improvement plan - sorry. Open parentheses  
22 there, not a closed.

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1 MS. LOVETT: Okay.

2 MR. RIZZARDI: Close the parentheses  
3 after EFH information. And implementation of  
4 NOAA's Marine Fishery Stock Assessment  
5 Improvement Plan.

6 And that can all be capitalized.  
7 That is a formal document that already exists.

8 DR. CHATWIN: If I may?

9 MR. RIZZARDI: One last  
10 modification. After she makes that, Tony,  
11 it's all yours.

12 Up above it says "investing in the  
13 NOAA's implementation" there. We're going to  
14 make it "investing in implementation of NOAA's  
15 habitat."

16 Okay, Tony.

17 DR. CHATWIN: So, I like the way  
18 this reads in terms of consistency.

19 MR. RIZZARDI: Right.

20 DR. CHATWIN: I -

21 MR. RIZZARDI: Break it out if you  
22 think we need to.

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1 DR. CHATWIN: I would recommend we  
2 don't do that now. I can't really do that,  
3 but I just wanted to point out that to me the  
4 -- when we reference the plan like that,  
5 there's a lot of things in there.

6 The habitat assessment improvement  
7 plan included, for example, recommendation to  
8 hire 500 new scientists.

9 And so - and that's something we're  
10 going to get to. So, I recognize that  
11 to me, the most important thing is the in  
12 order to obtain at least Level 2 information.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: Right.

14 DR. CHATWIN: Now, that to me is the  
15 most important thing.

16 MR. RIZZARDI: Right.

17 DR. CHATWIN: I wonder if there is  
18 something within the fisheries stock  
19 assessment -

20 MR. RIZZARDI: Totally agree.

21 DR. CHATWIN: -- plan that you want  
22 to highlight as really one of our priorities.

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1 MR. RIZZARDI: And I think that's  
2 where the opportunity comes from Julie's  
3 comment and Heather's comment. And what I  
4 encourage us to do is to take a look at the  
5 document itself.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: What I'd encourage us  
7 to do, I think we're 99 percent done here. I  
8 would adopt this as written, and then bring  
9 this in, in the general conversation tomorrow  
10 within the MAFAC.

11 Does that make sense?

12 CHAIR McCARTY: yes.

13 MR. RAFTICAN: Can you send it to  
14 us, Heidi, as it is now?

15 MS. LOVETT: Uh-huh.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. Is everybody  
17 good with that strategy? Okay. Adopt this as  
18 it was written or - I don't know.

19 MS. LOVETT: I'm just clarifying. I  
20 mean, we don't know who is -

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Send it to everybody  
22 since - I mean, they're going to get it

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1 tomorrow anyhow.

2           It's not like a secret surprise  
3 that's coming, but everybody is good with  
4 that.

5           All right.       All in favor of  
6 adopting it as written.

7           GROUP: Aye.

8           MR. RAFTICAN: Opposed?

9           (No response.)

10          MR. RAFTICAN: So carried.

11          New    business?        Old    Business?  
12          Dinner?

13          Back to you.

14          CHAIR McCARTY: We're adjourned.

15          MR. RAFTICAN: We're adjourned.

16          (Whereupon,       the       meeting       was  
17 adjourned at 5:42 o'clock p.m.)

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