

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION

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MARINE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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THURSDAY, MAY 26, 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

ERIC SCHWAAB

JOSHUA STOLL

NICK VALENTINI

ALSO PRESENT:

JIM BALSIGER

SUSAN BUNSICK

DAVID DETLOR*

LORENZO JUAREZ

EMILY LINDOW

JOHN STEIN*

* Participating via telephone.

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

2 8:04 a.m.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: We're going to
4 start with Mr. Joner.

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: They didn't hear the
6 gavel, I don't think.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, they did.
8 Some people did. Okay. Mr. Joner, you're
9 going to be first.

10 MR. JONER: On our report?

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

12 MR. JONER: I'll never complain
13 about being last.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: I know you won't.

15 MR. JONER: We have a little
16 problem. I didn't have any internet in our
17 room, there's none here, and this committee
18 has the -- we're hot off the press.

19 MS. LOVETT: The internet has to be
20 actually be turned on. It's just been turned
21 on.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: I see. Mr. Franke?

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1 MR. FRANKE: Good morning.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Good morning.

3 MR. FRANKE: For planning purposes,
4 our report out will take approximately ten
5 minutes.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yours will? Thank
7 you. Here's what I'm thinking, and I was kind
8 of kidding, but, you know, Mr. Joner is
9 always, pretty much always last or, if it's
10 not Mr. Joner, it's Ms. Foy. So I think it
11 would be good to start with either one of the
12 two of them and then potentially go from
13 there. I don't know if anybody has to leave.

14 Let's see a show of hands. Who has to leave
15 before noon?

MR. WALLACE: Him.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Other than Eric?
17 Okay. Anybody else leaving like immediately
18 after lunch or early afternoon? Who's not
19 going to be here until 4:30? Great. That's
20 good. That's wonderful.

21 MR. JONER: So if we could have
22 enough time to -- because we finished this

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1 last night.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Mr.
3 Raftican, are you prepared to give your report
4 first? Your and Cathy's, your co-chaired --

5 MR. RAFTICAN: I suspect so.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: What's the answer?
7 I'm sorry.

8 MS. FOY: Probably.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. All right.
10 Who is prepared to give their report?

11 MR. FISHER: Is there anybody who's
12 prepared?

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. We're going
14 to go recreational fisheries. We're going to
15 go the subcommittee combined of Raftican and
16 Foy. And then we're going to do Joner, and
17 then we're going to do Cathy's protected
18 resources. Is that all right?

19 DR. DANA: We can or I can quickly.
20 I just have a verbal.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. First, we're
22 going to have a little housekeeping, and

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1 Martin has information about check out with
2 the --

3 MR. FISHER: If you're staying at
4 Truman Annex and you don't want to go to
5 Trumbo Point, you can make a phone call from
6 the front desk and be nice and sweet, and they
7 will allow you to check out via the phone, as
8 long as --

9 MS. MORRIS: So I called and said I
10 was checking out. They asked for a fax
11 number, and they will fax you -- receipt.

12 DR. CHATWIN: And I did the same,
13 and they just emailed.

14 MR. FISHER: What's the number?

15 MS. MORRIS: The number is --

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: The number is?

17 MS. MORRIS: -- 305-293-4141.

18 MR. WALLACE: Could you repeat it?

19 MS. MORRIS: 305-293-4141. And
20 it's posted on the door of the building, too.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: So are there any
22 other housekeeping details and questions that

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1 people need to bring out? Yes?

2 MR. VALENTINI: Just a brief one.
3 Did anyone lose a flash drive last night? It
4 was found in the women's bathroom.

5 MS. BUNSICK: Is it a black one?

6 MR. VALENTINI: Yes.

7 MS. BUNSICK: That's probably me.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, Keith.

9 MR. RIZZARDI: Lunch count for
10 Kelly's today?

11 MR. FISHER: Is it good?

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Kelly's is great.
13 It's a restaurant. I think it's on Whitehead.
14 It's local food, local seafood. Wouldn't you
15 say local seafood, Keith? Yes. Okay. So
16 just to recap what we're going to do. We're
17 going to start with the recreational fisheries
18 report out. We're going to go to the joint
19 subcommittee. Then we're going to go to
20 commerce, and then we're going to go to
21 protected resources. And then we're going to
22 not do managing fisheries through workshops

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1 until after lunch, unfortunately. I don't
2 know whether you were here when we did that.
3 Apparently, we can't change the seafood safety
4 update, but those folks are calling in and
5 they have a set time. And so that's the only
6 time that can work for them. Hopefully, it
7 will be relatively short and informational
8 only, no action. And then we're going to
9 discuss the quota allocation project, which is
10 Emily Menashes is, I believe, going to still
11 be on the phone, but Eric has agreed to brief
12 us on that. And that's a really important
13 discussion, so I'd like to get to that,
14 obviously, before Eric leaves. And then we're
15 going to have the election, hopefully, all
16 before lunch. So let's hope it works quite
17 smoothly.

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: Excuse me, Madam
19 Chair. At 8:30, we were going to check to see
20 if there was anybody who wished to make a
21 public comment.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you for

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1 reminding me. I did note that there was at
2 least one member of the public here the first
3 day, but I haven't seen anybody since then, so
4 perhaps that person will come back. I
5 certainly hope so. Well, you don't count.
6 You're not a member of the public. Okay.
7 You're on leave. All right. Okay. Let's go
8 with Mr. Franke.

9 MR. FRANKE: Thank you, Madam
10 Chairman. The Recreational Fishing
11 Subcommittee met. We'd like to welcome Phil
12 Dyskow to our ranks, and also we had the honor
13 of Vince O'Shea joining us yesterday, as well.

14 The summary report is as follows. The MAFAC
15 recognizes that as NOAA Fisheries moves
16 forward with implementing the recreational
17 fishing action agenda, it is imperative that
18 strong communication is established between
19 the NOAA leadership, NOAA regional
20 coordinators, impacted constituency groups,
21 and, when reasonably appropriate, the
22 recreational angling community at large,

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1 because we recognize the regional coordinators
2 are going to be overwhelmed because getting
3 down to the individual anglers could be
4 extremely difficult. However, we recommend
5 that contact with the constituency groups
6 might be an appropriate and quick way to get
7 the message out and input back.

8 The MAFAC concurs with the product
9 of the 2010 Recreational Fishing Summit and
10 the identification of the core initiatives
11 intended to create a critical infrastructure
12 for future success. Improved open
13 communication, cooperation, and trusting
14 interaction is the number one priority.
15 Improved robust, timely, and accurate data and
16 science on fisheries, habitat, and water
17 quality we also recognize is extremely
18 important, especially that data collection
19 piece and identification of what is out there
20 as far as habitat. Fishery management
21 decisions based on more complete understanding
22 of the social and economic contributions of

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1 both recreational and commercial saltwater
2 fishing communities. Ensure broad access to
3 the greatest possible range of recreational
4 fishing. So those were the four primary items
5 regarding the critical infrastructure.

6 The MAFAC recognizes there were
7 many recent accomplishments beyond holding the
8 recreational summit and releasing the action
9 agenda, which is the document at the
10 conclusion of the summit that was created with
11 the input from the 177 constituents that were
12 there. This action agenda, which demonstrated
13 significant positive shifts in NOAA fisheries'
14 responsiveness to the recreational fishing
15 community and its priorities. These include
16 implementation of the National Angler Registry
17 to increase efficiency and developing
18 recreational fishing effort estimates;
19 implementation of an improved methodology to
20 provide more accurate recreational catch
21 estimates; hosting a workshop; examining the
22 science supporting the determination of

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1 recreational and commercial annual catch
2 limits; hosting an expert workshop examining
3 methods to improve the timeliness of delivery
4 of recreational catch estimates and associate
5 tradeoffs; implementation of multiple pilot
6 recreational data collection projects such as
7 the For-Hire electronic logbook to streamline
8 and improve data collection; implementation of
9 the 2011 National Angler Expenditure Survey to
10 provide better and updated economic data on
11 recreational fishing; initiative of a review
12 to identify gaps in our fisheries'
13 recreational socioeconomic data and the data
14 collection systems; and, finally, provide an
15 increase in funding for recreational data
16 collection programs and improve stock
17 assessments. So that's the work that's been
18 done.

19 Taken in combination along with
20 many other projects and actions not cited
21 here, the MAFAC applauds the NOAA Fisheries'
22 effort to improve how data is collected and

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1 used. This will result in providing managers
2 with better information on which to base
3 decisions.

4 On a go-forward basis, the MAFAC is
5 establishing an effective communication link
6 with the recreational fishing community as a
7 high priority. After reviewing the actions
8 accomplished to date as applied to the
9 recreational fishing community, the MAFAC
10 recommends the following four items. Number
11 one, that NOAA Fisheries provide guidance to
12 the newly designated regional recreational
13 fishing coordinators so there's one been
14 designated in each region. It is recommended
15 the regional coordinators utilize the
16 Recreational Fishing Working Group members in
17 their region and the known local constituency
18 to help develop the contacts data. Local
19 media outlets should also be identified for
20 future outreach efforts. This recommendation
21 is intended to assist NOAA Fisheries in
22 developing infrastructure for a solid

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1 communications network with the recreational
2 fishing community. Number two, that NOAA
3 Fisheries publish on the NOAA web site and an
4 appropriate media the contact information of
5 the regional recreational fishing
6 coordinators, as well as a description of the
7 duties this position holds.

8 Item three, that the regional
9 coordinators obtain input from the RFWG
10 members in their region regarding any draft
11 action plans as it pertains to recreational
12 fishing. The issue there is we recognize that
13 the regional coordinator has been identified.

14 They're going forward with developing a
15 regional plan because there is a sensitivity.

16 It doesn't fit all. So the Recreational
17 Fishing Working Group, when they were
18 selected, it was divided based on region. So
19 they're a great resource as experts that the
20 NOAA coordinator can use for tasking. As an
21 example, in setting up their network, using
22 the local fishing clubs, for instance, to data

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1 mine who are all the clubs, we don't think
2 it's a reasonable expectation to have one
3 person in NOAA be tasked with finding out
4 where everybody is. The regional clubs can
5 probably help with that.

6 And then item four, that the RFWG
7 be utilized when appropriate to develop input
8 on initiatives that would be vetted through
9 the MAFAC Recreational Fishing Subcommittee
10 for recommendations. And in simple terms,
11 these are great people with a lot of
12 knowledge. So as issues come up, whether it
13 be any of the topics that have already been
14 presented here or other things that will
15 impact that region, they be the first group
16 that we work with. And what would be
17 envisioned is having our subcommittee get on a
18 phone conference with them, discuss whatever
19 the issue is, and then be able to come back to
20 you all with some substantive information
21 prior to our next meeting.

22 So that would be in our go-forward

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1 basis. At this point, I'd like to turn it
2 over to questions, Madam Chairman.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Mr.
4 Franke. First one, let me just make sure. I
5 can barely see that; but it's my eyes, not the
6 screen. But NOAA provide guidance to the
7 regional rec fish coordinators?

8 MR. FRANKE: Correct.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: And use those
10 working group members in the area as resources
11 and outreach helpers essentially?

12 MR. FRANKE: Correct.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: All right. And
14 then number two is: have NOAA publish on their
15 web site and in the local media the contact
16 information for the regional coordinator and
17 the working group members and so on?

18 MR. FRANKE: Yes.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Number three, I
20 didn't get it when you said it, so maybe when
21 I read it I will.

22 MR. FRANKE: Regional coordinators

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1 will obtain input from the RFWG members in
2 their region regarding any draft action plans
3 as it pertains to recreational fishing.
4 Russell Dunn has already instructed them to
5 start developing action plans. Our input
6 would be instead of having the regional
7 coordinators figuring out what the issues are
8 in region with recreational fishing that they
9 actually contact the RFWG members for that
10 input, and it will help them make their job
11 easier.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. And then
13 number four is, I understood that. The Rec
14 Fish Working Group would be used to develop
15 initiatives which would then be vetted through
16 your rec fish committee and then --

17 MR. FRANKE: Let me clarify that.
18 It's as issues are brought forward by NOAA to
19 be discussed by this committee that, prior to
20 the meeting, we engage the Recreational
21 Fishing Working Group with our subcommittee
22 and discuss whatever the issue is so that we

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1 can come back to you all with some leg work
2 done ahead of time.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Do you
4 envision anything springing actually from them
5 and coming up through that process to us?

6 MR. FRANKE: We would be taking the
7 topic to them and accepting their input. But
8 any recommendation coming to our committee
9 would come from our subcommittee.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you anticipate,
11 you said at the next meeting, and that's just
12 generally speaking, not necessarily the next
13 meeting? In general?

14 MR. FRANKE: Correct.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you have in mind
16 as of the recreational subcommittee any such
17 topics for the next meeting, for example?

18 MR. FRANKE: I think some of the
19 materials in the presentations that we had,
20 like climate change, also the licensing
21 processes because we're still going through
22 the MRIP process and there's still states

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1 being brought online. Texas is an instance as
2 an issue because the MRIP process calls for 16
3 and above, yes, 16 and above, and they have
4 issues there. So those are some of the things
5 that we would bring them online for input.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Because we
7 talked earlier or I guess yesterday about
8 having between meetings of the subcommittees
9 and bringing forward topics that could be, you
10 know, carried through one or more meetings so
11 that we know what we're going to be talking
12 about at the next meeting so that we can get
13 exactly the kind of input that we're talking
14 about.

15 MR. FRANKE: I would agree. If
16 they have something, that would be a great
17 opportunity to bring it up.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. We're going
19 to have to talk more about how that process is
20 going to work, but I think it's fruitful
21 territory. Thanks, Ken. I was just going to
22 ask if Eric has any input or questions and

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1 then air it open to other people.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: So, no, I think these
3 are good recommendations. I certainly
4 appreciate your recognition of the progress
5 that we've made. The only comment that I
6 would make is perhaps, and it speaks to this
7 process question, is as there's sort of a
8 matrix kind of arrangement envisioned here
9 where the regional recreational workgroup
10 members would interact with the regional
11 coordinators, which is certainly appropriate.

12 But perhaps, at some point down the road,
13 there would be an opportunity for the
14 workgroup to get together with the
15 subcommittee and talk about their perspectives
16 as it relates to the progress of their
17 respective regions and that could roll them up
18 into some further observations and
19 recommendations that might come through.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

21 MR. FRANKE: That is a good point,
22 and we discussed yesterday how to better

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1 harness the energies and expertise of the
2 working group with our subcommittee, and that
3 falls hand in hand with it.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: And then, Eric,
5 then you're assuming that Rec Fish staff folks
6 be engaged in that process to a certain
7 extent, too?

8 MR. SCHWAAB: Correct.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: It wouldn't be a
10 MAFAC staff function necessarily at that
11 level. It could be that they could get help
12 from the whole Rec Fish organization
13 essentially.

14 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh, no, absolutely.
15 Yes, yes. And Russ can coordinate that with
16 the regional coordinators.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Mark, do you
18 have any comments? All right. Yes, Phil?

19 MR. DYSKOW: I just have one
20 comment. I'm new to that committee, but just
21 recognizing the progress that has been made
22 over the last year, you certainly have to

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1 commend, you know, Eric and his entire
2 organization for that. Thank you. That said,
3 we get it. We understand. We see those that
4 go to your web site understand it, and they
5 will see what is taking place. Where the
6 communication process has the risk of
7 unraveling is at the regional level. That's
8 why we're so concerned with how this
9 communication process takes place and with the
10 regional recreational coordinators and their
11 duties, and I think what Ken articulated is
12 they're going to need all the help they can
13 get and we want to make sure that they are
14 resourced and that they have the opportunity
15 to communicate with us. If we can help them
16 on a regional basis, you know, Pam and I have
17 exposure to these groups in Florida and we
18 would certainly, we certainly have a vested
19 interest in making sure that the communication
20 process at the regional level works as well as
21 it has at the national level because that's
22 where we have the risk of this thing

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1 unraveling.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. Are
3 there other members of the Rec Fish Committee
4 who --

5 DR. DANA: I just want to thank --
6 we saw your video yesterday, Eric. Eric did a
7 really nice video, and it's a very, when you
8 see it you trust it. He did a nice job, and
9 it's addressing recreational fishing and what
10 NOAA has done in recognition that perhaps they
11 hadn't been as strong in working with that
12 community in the past. So I appreciate you
13 taking the time. You did a nice job.

14 MR. SCHWAAB: Thanks. A tribute to
15 the wonders of modern film editing.

16 DR. DANA: I was wondering why you
17 were wearing the tie and the suit and stuff,
18 you know.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Wasn't he fishing
20 at the very beginning of it? Wasn't that you?
21 Mr. Raftican, do you have any comment?

22 MR. RAFTICAN: No. I had the

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1 privilege of working with Cathy on the Ocean
2 Policy at the same time, but what I would like
3 to do is again commend Eric for taking the
4 lead on recreational fishing. And along with
5 that, commend Ken for doing a great job at
6 putting this together. My recommendation
7 would be adopt the report as written.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is that a motion?

9 MR. RAFTICAN: That's a motion.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second?

11 DR. CHATWIN: I'll second.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Seconded by Tony.

13 Is there any discussion on the motion, which
14 would be, what we normally do, because there's
15 new folks, is we normally have sort of minutes
16 and discussion, as well as recommended action.

17 And these four would be the recommended
18 action from the Rec Fish Committee. And so
19 that would be the actual motion is that MAFAC,
20 as a group, would adopt those four points and
21 make that our recommendation to NOAA, and so
22 that's what we would be voting for in voting

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1 on this motion. Vince, did you have any
2 comments at all?

3 MR. O'SHEA: No.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: And anybody else?
5 So we're ready to vote? Is there any
6 opposition?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Hearing none, it's
9 passed. Thank you, Ken and everyone.
10 Appreciate that. Okay. Mr. Raftican, Ms.
11 Foy, are you ready to roll? I believe you
12 have two separate documents.

13 MR. RAFTICAN: There are two
14 separate documents. I don't know if you can
15 get those up. I think Patty had one of them,
16 and Heidi had the other one. Overall, we had
17 a combination of three of the subcommittees
18 working in concert, Ecosystem Subcommittee,
19 the Protected Species Subcommittee, and the
20 Strategic Planning Subcommittee all kind of
21 working together on the concept of putting
22 together something that we could get behind on

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1 National Ocean Policy.

2 I think the thing that came through
3 mostly is the different facets of National
4 Ocean Policy are going to require some
5 different levels of engagement. You know, we
6 came through a piece out on energy in the Deep
7 South -- actually on Gulf of Mexico
8 restoration. And there's still some other
9 areas that we're going to try and fine tune a
10 bit. Part of that will be we put together a
11 sub-subcommittee or an ad hoc committee that
12 will have a conference call on June 10th to
13 try and further resolve some of the issues on
14 Ocean Policy, in particular for climate. Part
15 of the climate we had Cathy, Julie, Bill,
16 Randy, Keith, Tommy, Dave, Paul to do some
17 work specifically on climate piece for the
18 National Ocean Policy, and I think also along
19 with that Cathy has kind of undertaken a long-
20 term look at climate. Do you want to kind of
21 touch on that?

22 MS. FOY: I'll jump in here if you

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1 don't mind.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, please do.

3 MS. FOY: So one thing that was
4 highlighted by some of the last slides Mark
5 pointed out were some key opportunities that
6 MAFAC had coming up for input on the climate
7 problem in the U.S. The National Fish,
8 Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation
9 Strategy has a draft coming out in December
10 2011. If we could get in some advice at the
11 draft stage it would be very apt to be
12 incorporated.

13 Then we have a National Climate
14 Assessment draft coming out in 2012, and a
15 NOAA Climate Adaptation Plan, an Agency
16 Climate Adaptation Plan, which are due by
17 2012. With that in mind, there was a
18 suggestion by Julie Morris that perhaps we
19 could take as a first piece of 2020 is
20 climate, and we could use as a starting point
21 the position that's being drafted that will be
22 vetted by the full committee in

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1 teleconference, the National Ocean Policy
2 stance, so we use that as a springboard. And
3 then I would suggest that we have further kind
4 of briefing early in the agenda at the next
5 meeting in October, and we could produce 2020
6 climate section later on in that same agenda.
7 It would be ready for the National Fish,
8 Wildlife and Plant's strategy two months
9 later.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So that's
11 quite a lot.

12 MS. FOY: It's a lot.

13 MR. RAFTICAN: This is, you know,
14 go back to something that Keith said early on
15 yesterday, how do you delve in? Well, it's
16 one bite at a time. This is a massive
17 undertaking here with the National Ocean
18 Policy, and what we're trying to do is
19 hopefully get a couple of good bites at least
20 partially off the table. We've also suggested
21 that there be a teleconference for all MAFAC
22 members, and a target date for that would be

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1 June 28th. I know this is a difficult time
2 with a lot of people being on vacation.

3 MS. FOY: We would have a draft
4 climate position out to you prior to that on
5 email for everyone to look at and make
6 suggestions.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Whose hand -
8 -

9 MS. FOY: Me.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: If I could just
11 interrupt a second. I believe it would be
12 helpful to me and probably the rest of the
13 group that wasn't at that meeting or even if
14 we were to -- I was there most of the time,
15 but I was doing some other stuff. So if you
16 could, could you just write it up real
17 briefly, bullet points, boom, boom, boom, time
18 line, so that everybody, I mean we could do it
19 right now or you could do it, just write it
20 longhand, and then somebody could put it up
21 there. I don't want to take a lot of time
22 going back and forth or wordsmithing at all.

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1 I just would like a list so that we know where
2 we are.

3 MS. FOY: A short-term list?

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, the things
5 that you were just talking about because they
6 pertain not only to, well, this meeting but
7 next meeting as well. Is that okay? Can you
8 do that? So let's hold off on that piece
9 until we --

10 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. The other
11 thing is regarding very specifically ocean
12 energy, I think we've got a piece that's
13 actually on the board right now is the Gulf of
14 Mexico restoration.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: On the ocean, Cathy,
17 do you want to take this on the ocean energy?

18 MS. FOY: Sure, I can do that.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: And I believe you
20 sent this out last night. Patty was the
21 scribe for this jigsaw.

22 MS. FOY: Specific requests from

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1 Emily were that we focus on what NMFS and NOAA
2 can actually do, not that we say the
3 Department of Energy should do but BOEMRE
4 should do this. So with that in mind, after
5 the NOAA energy program develops the energy
6 plan, they need to coordinate and provide
7 relevant information in a timely fashion on
8 marine energy use decision practices to marine
9 stakeholders, including MAFAC. The background
10 of this statement is that fishermen need to be
11 informed, both recreational and commercial
12 fishermen, informed as to decisions that are
13 going forth in BOEMRE that may impact their
14 fishing practice, that they need to be
15 informed about the opportunities that they
16 have to participate in the public process and
17 that NOAA and NMFS would be a good information
18 dissemination point.

19 Number two, we investigate MAFAC's
20 ability to provide MAFAC's relevant positions
21 to regulatory and planning bodies other than
22 NOAA, to other federal agencies' relevant task

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1 forces and regional planning bodies. And this
2 position would be disseminated through NOAA,
3 as is appropriate. Work with the Department
4 of the Interior to ensure that during the
5 ocean energy planning process an appropriate
6 entity and funding be identified to bear the
7 responsibility for the proper decommissioning
8 of ocean energy structures, and this point
9 speaks to Vince O'Shea's comment on the
10 necessity for decommissioning planning early
11 on in the process, where someone bears the
12 responsibility and the financial burden for
13 doing this. Otherwise, we have derelict
14 structures out in the water.

15 Vince, does this capture what you
16 were intending?

17 MR. O'SHEA: If Dave -

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, he was there
19 for the --

20 MR. O'SHEA: Okay, great.

21 MS. FOY: Good. And number four,
22 that we work with the Department of the

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1 Interior to ensure that biological assessments
2 of wind energy areas and specific leasing
3 sites include robust data gathering analysis
4 of cumulative impacts on avian resources and
5 opportunity for public review and comment.
6 Heidi, can you scroll down, please? Or Josh,
7 sorry. I don't know which one of you has it.

8 In addition, MAFAC is specifically
9 interested in providing advice on which of the
10 living resources are the most important for
11 the Department of Interior process to consider
12 in its selection of leasing areas. MAFAC
13 would also like to provide advice on the
14 criteria used to determine areas with low
15 probability of user conflict. Therefore,
16 MAFAC requests that NOAA provide the committee
17 with the appropriate guidance on how to
18 provide such comment.

19 Finally, MAFAC requests that the
20 National Ocean Service provide a briefing on
21 its role and the development of the
22 Multipurpose Marine Cadastre.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: What does that last
2 one mean, the role of NOS or the role of --

3 MS. DOERR: It was written as NOS
4 because it was the understanding that NOS was
5 providing the data but whomever.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: And Mark?

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: Just a point of
8 clarification. The Multipurpose Marine
9 Cadastre is a product of BOEMRE. So they are
10 providing that as one input into a national
11 information management system that is being
12 produced under the National Ocean Policy and
13 under the auspices of Coastal and Marine
14 Spatial Planning. They would be most helpful
15 for the committee to hear about the
16 development of the national information
17 management system and all the different
18 sources of data that are being developed with
19 NOAA's role in that and helping to develop the
20 architecture and the policies that go along
21 with it. I understand it's sort of what our
22 current understanding is, but I would suggest

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1 that broader briefing be provided.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Emily, could
3 you come up here in case there are any
4 questions that you might want to jump in on?

5 DR. DANA: I have just a burning
6 question. I feel like I should have looked in
7 the dictionary yesterday after I heard it.
8 What's cadastre mean?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Emily or Mark?

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's a means of
11 identifying legal lines that are drawn. It's
12 usually associated with land use planning so
13 when people are looking, say, for title of a
14 land property or, in this case, ocean, it's
15 the delineation of the boundary areas of a
16 specific plot or a specific -- it's basically
17 an inventory of the boundary records. So the
18 Multipurpose Marine Cadastre, that is actually
19 the geographic and legal term for this index
20 of all of these different boundary areas.

21 DR. DANA: Thanks, Mark.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Go ahead.

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1 MS. MORRIS: My understanding
2 yesterday was that your advice to the
3 committee was that if we found the BOEMRE
4 explanation of the Cadastre to be a little
5 opaque that what we would really be interested
6 in is what the National Ocean Service is
7 providing to the Cadastre and that that would
8 help us understand more how the living
9 resources, NOAA Fisheries kinds of things were
10 being integrated. And so I'm a little
11 concerned that the conversation is now
12 drifting to a much larger talk about
13 everything that's going on with the Cadastre.
14 So could you re-point us where you pointed us
15 yesterday?

16 MS. LINDOW: Yes. So based on the
17 discussion yesterday, there was interest in
18 understanding more of the technical components
19 of all of the data in the Cadastre and that's
20 why I directed us to kind of stay within NOAA
21 because NOAA does have the technical lead for
22 all of that. So what might make sense would

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1 be maybe two presentations, if you are
2 interested and you could focus in on the
3 Cadastre piece where we could have technical
4 experts from NOAA that really do understand
5 data that's being brought in and can talk
6 about it in more detail. And then we could
7 also have, if people are interested in the
8 broader perspective as well, the rest of the
9 folks that are working on the different other
10 data collection pieces for Coastal and Marine
11 Spatial Planning.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Mark?

13 DR. HOLLIDAY: I would just clarify
14 it's not the National Ocean Service who's
15 exclusively doing this work. It's a multi-
16 line office effort to incorporate data from
17 the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre into this
18 larger national information management system.

19 The integrated body that's doing this is
20 NOAA's Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning
21 Program. It's an interline office program
22 whose job it is to and they've created an

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1 interoffice team of people throughout NOAA to
2 work with Interior, to work with other
3 agencies who have data to bring into it.

4 So I just want to make sure that
5 when we're responding to the request of the
6 committee that we're looking to the right
7 agents to provide that. If you're looking
8 just to talk about the Multipurpose Marine
9 Cadastre and what's in it, the people who own
10 that are at the Department of Interior. If
11 you're interested in the larger perspective of
12 how data are going to be used in Coastal and
13 Marine Spatial Planning, what are the sources
14 and how are they going to be developed,
15 integrated, and then provided to the public,
16 stakeholders, regional planning bodies, the
17 best place to get that kind of information
18 would be through the Coastal and Marine
19 Spatial Planning Program.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So hold on
21 just one second. Just process wise, what I
22 would prefer is that somebody make a motion to

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1 adopt what we see on the board, and then we
2 make amendments to that. It's much easier
3 than trying to wordsmith by committee.

4 MR. JONER: So moved.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: You move this.

6 MR. JONER: Yes, as written.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Second?

8 DR. DANA: Second.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Pam, Cathy?

10 MS. FOY: So moved.

11 DR. DANA: Second.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: So that's the
13 motion right there. And then if people have
14 amendments that they would like to make to
15 that language to make any addition,
16 particularly that last part, then we would
17 entertain that language. And you have a
18 comment?

19 MS. LINDOW: Yes. The conversation
20 that we were having yesterday related to the
21 Multipurpose Marine Cadastre was because of
22 the fact that Department of Interior indicated

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1 that this is what they're using for Smart from
2 the Start because Coastal and Marine Spatial
3 Planning process is taking longer. So that's
4 why the focus was on the Cadastre, and I can
5 just clarify that, although Department of
6 Interior pays for the Cadastre, all the
7 technical expertise is at NOAA within the
8 Coastal Services Center at the Ocean Service.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Which made us feel
10 really good. If there are folks who would
11 like to suggest additions to this.

12 MR. DEWEY: I just had a question
13 based on Mark's comment.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead.

15 MR. DEWEY: I guess I'm confused
16 now as to whether that last sentence should
17 say NOAA's Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning
18 Program.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: It depends on what
20 you want. I think that's what I was trying to
21 clarify, what the intent of the committee was,
22 what kind of information did you want, if it

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1 was specifically about the Smart from the
2 Start use of the Marine Cadastre, for that
3 purpose, versus the broader role of what kind
4 of information are being captured for using
5 Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning.

6 MR. DEWEY: I defer to Julie on
7 that because she's raised that issue. It
8 sounds like it don't matter --

9 MS. MORRIS: This was a discussion
10 about wind energy and ocean energy stuff, and
11 it was Smart from the Start focused. We'd
12 like to refocus it during this discussion, but
13 I think this was appropriate for what we -- we
14 wanted to better understand both how the
15 layers are being developed, what the data is
16 behind the layers, particularly for this wind
17 energy Smart from the Start thing. And so it
18 seemed like NOS was the right people to ask.
19 But maybe the committee would like a broader
20 presentation.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: And that's
22 completely fine. Just because that was where

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1 the subcommittee focused doesn't mean that the
2 broader group cannot add additional pieces as
3 they are interested in doing so. Was there a
4 hand over here? No? Heidi?

5 MS. LOVETT: I was just going to
6 suggest that, rather than saying who we want,
7 it's what you want. So it's the technical, if
8 you want a presentation of the technical
9 inputs to the Cadastre just, you know, state
10 that that's what you want and what kinds of
11 data versus saying NOS and rely on us to find
12 the people that you want. We'll find the
13 appropriate people.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Are there
15 any amendments or other discussion on this?
16 And, Mark and Emily, if you want to make
17 recommendations as to any changes we might
18 need to make in order to make it more clear,
19 please be specific in that.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: We're taking notes -
21 -

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. There's a

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1 motion on the floor -- sorry. I didn't mean
2 to -- there's a motion on the floor to adopt
3 this as a MAFAC position and request these
4 items. Other discussion? Is there any
5 opposition?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Seeing none, it's
8 passed. Thank you.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Thank you. We're
10 going to have a review subcommittee. This
11 could come up -- if people have comments very
12 specific to this they can engage on June 27th.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

14 MR. RAFTICAN: The other piece that
15 we got out of the committee yesterday was on
16 Gulf of Mexico restoration after extensive
17 review, and I'd like to ask Keith Rizzardi to
18 kind of walk us through that. Heidi, could
19 you get . . .

20 MR. RIZZARDI: This shouldn't be my
21 document.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: No, it should be

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1 the subcommittee --

2 MR. RAFTICAN: It is a subcommittee
3 document, but I think Keith did a lot of the
4 work getting it through and it would be good
5 if you want to help walk us through this,
6 Keith.

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Thank you, Mr.
8 Chair. For discussion purposes, I put out a
9 strawman for post-resolution to MAFAC to pass,
10 and the concept is to try to get to the
11 direction of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem
12 Restoration Task Force and big-picture
13 thinking about where should that money that's
14 going to come out of the natural resource
15 damage assessment process and Clean Water Act
16 penalties be directed.

17 The fundamental concept here is
18 ecosystem management and taking an ecosystem
19 approach to the Gulf of Mexico as a whole. I
20 think everybody recognizes the Mississippi
21 River is absolutely critical and restoring the
22 Delta is critical to the Gulf, but you could

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1 probably pour every penny of those dollars
2 into the Mississippi River and still not fully
3 solve the problem.

4 And so one of the points that we've
5 made here is to take the bigger picture, and
6 we recommend two fundamental points. The
7 first one is a focus on estuary restoration,
8 and the second one is an endowment fund for
9 research. So what you'll see in this document
10 is, the first part, recognizing that a good
11 amount of money needs to be directed to the
12 Mississippi River but also needs to be
13 directed to the other major estuaries in the
14 region, from Galveston, Texas all the way
15 around the Gulf to Charlotte Harbor, Florida
16 and further trying to lay out some criteria
17 for how we select those estuary projects.

18 The good news is it's not like
19 MAFAC is inventing anything here. Those
20 projects all exist. The National Estuary
21 Program has long identified potential projects
22 that are out there, and we're just trying to

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1 give folks some encouragement and some
2 direction to really take a hard look at those
3 ideas.

4 And then the second piece is the
5 research and monitoring suggestion, and
6 there's a list of bullets of concepts that we
7 believe should be funded to ensure that we
8 have better information to manage the Gulf.
9 Some of the research and monitoring is
10 directly relevant to the oil spill and
11 understanding the consequences of oil and how
12 oil gets moved by the currents in the Gulf and
13 other stuff, this bigger picture, for example,
14 at our last MAFAC meeting we encouraged the
15 use of some of this money to implement the
16 Habitat Assessment Improvement Process
17 document that NOAA has generated, and that
18 concept is reiterated in this document.

19 So what I'd like us to do is take a
20 look at the language and, as we get to the
21 research and monitoring language in
22 particular, I point out there are a lot of

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1 concepts there. I believe that we would speak
2 with greater force and clarity to be able to
3 distill our priorities. And to the extent we
4 can, if we can pick and choose amongst those
5 items and narrow down the list, I think it
6 would make the document more powerful and
7 persuasive.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I ask a
9 question? Are you going to walk us through
10 this piece by piece or --

11 MR. RIZZARDI: I guess that's what
12 we need to decide. It's on the screen so --

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So we should
14 just walk through it quickly. I'm a little
15 unclear on what exactly you mean by narrowing
16 the priorities. Is it narrowing beyond --
17 well, never mind. When we get there, would
18 you speak to that yourself, and then we'll
19 have the other members of the committee jump
20 in when they want to. Mr. Raftican?

21 MR. RAFTICAN: I was going to say
22 Keith walked you through in terms of putting

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1 this thing together, and I think a lot of the
2 priorities will fall out as you go through
3 this --

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Should we just move
5 through the document, or would it be more
6 efficient to get some printouts of this and
7 get people to take a few minutes to look at
8 the document and have the discussion?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: If I may, I know
10 that people got it last night. I'm hoping
11 that people read it online, but if some people
12 don't have that access it might be helpful to
13 have it in printed form. But I really don't
14 want to wait while that happens. I don't know
15 how long it takes, but I don't want to wait.
16 So why don't you walk through it?

17 MR. RIZZARDI: Do you want me to
18 read each item or --

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: No. I just want
20 you to say there's --

21 MR. RIZZARDI: We have all the
22 whereas's on the screen.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Josh, do you have
2 something to say?

3 MR. STOLL: Would you like a pointer
4 at all?

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: And, boy, this is a
6 great piece of work, Keith. Thank you so much
7 for doing this. And for the other members of
8 the committee, the committee did a great job
9 of working through this. I really appreciate
10 it. Go ahead.

11 MR. RIZZARDI: So the logic of the
12 whereas clauses is simply to, all right, so we
13 have a disaster, we've got money, the Gulf
14 Coast Task Force needs to consider how to use
15 the money, we want to suggest some priorities
16 and we support the priority goals that have
17 already been identified by the Task Force. We
18 support an ecosystem-based approach. There's
19 one of the critical points on why we all
20 focused on estuaries. Nearly 90 percent of
21 the fish are estuary-dependent, and many
22 projects already exist but lack funding that

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1 could benefit those fish and estuaries. The
2 disaster response revealed uncertainties, and
3 there is a need for additional data,
4 especially on habitat and water quality.

5 So with those concepts set forth,
6 we recommend focusing on estuary restoration
7 and improved research and monitoring to
8 generate lasting benefits. Priority number
9 one - this is not the document. This is not
10 the document.

11 DR. CHATWIN: This is the original
12 before we changed it?

13 CHAIR McCARTY: The one that was
14 sent out last night was the one that we -

15 MS. FOY: Who sent it out?

16 CHAIR McCARTY: I think Heidi did.

17 MS. FOY: Who did?

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Heidi.

19 MS. FOY: Okay.

20 MS. LOVETT: No, I have it.

21 MR. STOLL: This is a good
22 opportunity to see how much work has happened.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: So while staff is
2 working on that, perhaps I can report out that
3 no member of the public has signed in today
4 and requested time on the agenda to offer
5 comments to MAFAC. So for the record, we're
6 going to say that we provided an opportunity
7 for public input and none was requested and,
8 therefore, we've completed that section of the
9 agenda requesting public comment.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Thank you, Mark.
11 Tom and Cathy, do you have that other part
12 written up for us? Do whatever you need to do
13 to make sure we get it on the screen next.

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: Who has the document
15 right now?

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Keith. Go ahead,
17 Keith.

18 MR. RIZZARDI: All right. So
19 priority one, invest in ecosystem and
20 community restoration through estuary
21 improvement project. What we're suggesting is
22 expand the ecosystem approach and directing

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1 funding. Paragraph A, we're recommending that
2 projects be directed towards things that have
3 already been identified, planned, designed,
4 and evaluated by, whether it's a federal
5 entity or a local entity. There's a universe
6 of projects out there for estuaries.

7 Paragraph B, scroll down, please.
8 Thank you. We recognize really the
9 significance of the Mississippi River is the
10 foremost priority. We also emphasize the need
11 to restore the regional ecosystem, and we
12 recommend that the funding and benefits be
13 distributed to multiple and diverse ecosystems
14 spread geographically throughout the Gulf.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Can I interrupt one
16 second? I just want to make clear that the
17 red lines were accepted by the Subcommittee;
18 is that correct?

19 MR. RIZZARDI: That's correct.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. So they're
21 red lines, but they're accepted by the
22 Subcommittee. Thank you. Sorry.

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1 MR. RIZZARDI: So the other
2 estuaries, Galveston, Mobile, Pensacola,
3 Apalachicola, Tampa Bay, Charlotte Harbor.
4 And then, first, trying to flush out how
5 projects would be selected, we encouraged that
6 the criteria include benefits to commercial
7 and recreational fisheries, benefits for
8 biodiversity, fish habitat, and marine
9 protected resources, benefits to waterfront
10 communities, and benefits to water quality,
11 salinity, nutrients, sedimentation, dissolved
12 oxygen.

13 Priority two, the concept of
14 enhancing our research during data collection.

15 We believe that there needs to be increased
16 spending on this. We want accurate and
17 comprehensive information to the Gulf
18 ecosystem, and we encourage the creation of an
19 endowment fund to ensure continued funding.

20 The two concepts here, the first
21 one is research. We note that the disaster
22 revealed the limits of our knowledge about the

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1 way that oil and consequences affect our
2 natural resources. The second concept is we
3 want to improve the data. As a threshold, we
4 suggest that the data gathering use electronic
5 methods rather than handwritten logs, and we
6 further recommend using the data to improve
7 not only the effective regulation of oil but
8 also the long-term management and protection
9 of the Gulf. So then we encourage a series of
10 priorities.

11 DR. DANA: When you say the log
12 notes, is that meaning like universally across
13 to - I don't understand.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: It went too quick.

15 MR. RIZZARDI: Sorry. We are
16 encouraging that all data gathering use
17 electronic methods rather than handwritten
18 logs. One of the comments and alterations in
19 the discussion points in the Committee was
20 that when it's just handwritten sometimes the
21 data is lost. It's not necessarily as
22 reliable, and it's better used and shared and

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1 analyzed if it's stored electronically, so
2 Pam, please -

3 DR. DANA: I'm not arguing with
4 you. I'm just trying to figure out the data
5 gathering. Who's gathering the data? We
6 don't know yet?

7 MR. RIZZARDI: You want to talk a
8 little more?

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Martin?

10 MR. FISHER: Yes. I'm catching up.
11 Well, as you know, Pam, in our fisheries
12 management issues in the Gulf and elsewhere,
13 one of our biggest hurdles is data collection.
14 So my point here was that the quicker that we
15 can get to a universe of electronic gathering,
16 our stock assessments are going to improve,
17 increase, and be more reliable. And if
18 somebody is going to be collecting data on any
19 of these issues, it certainly needs to be
20 easily disseminated and shared.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Thank you.

22 DR. DANA: It just seemed a little

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1 misleading because it doesn't talk about
2 fisheries until the very end. So what you're
3 essentially saying on electronic methods is
4 that your data gathering on fisheries.

5 MR. FISHER: I don't think it says
6 fisheries. Does it, Keith?

7 MR. RIZZARDI: No. We're not
8 talking about just fisheries.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Could I interrupt
10 again, please? I would like to just have this
11 be questions, and then I don't want to get
12 into the discussion yet but I appreciate the
13 discussion. I just want to have questions on
14 the content.

15 DR. DANA: I already have
16 electronic log book, you know, for my
17 business. I'm just trying to get
18 clarification for that paragraph if I'm going
19 to be voting on something.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Yes, that's good.
21 And then when we're done with the questions, I
22 would like somebody to move this, and then we

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1 will go through it and see if there are any
2 amendments to it. And, Pam, you may want to
3 get that back.

4 MR. RIZZARDI: So Paragraph C is in
5 the list of concepts that we are supporting
6 for investments on data collection and
7 monitoring. Effectiveness and risks of oil
8 spill containment, mapping the Gulf of Mexico,
9 especially hard bottoms, live bottoms,
10 habitats at the coast and the shelf,
11 understanding the currents of the Gulf of
12 Mexico, understanding the deep water
13 environments, especially the ecosystem roles
14 in deep water coral ecosystems, documenting
15 the effects of oil interactions with those
16 ecosystems and understanding the long-term
17 persistence of oil and other chemicals in the
18 deep water environments, learning about oil
19 spill technologies and regulatory options for
20 the international community, seafood safety
21 and the presence or absence of oil or
22 chemicals.

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1 This next bullet was a big one.
2 Two big concepts are here. Investing in
3 additional data gathering and supplementing
4 existing data using the NOAA Habitat
5 Assessment Improvement Plan and the NOAA
6 Marine Fisheries Stock Assessment Improvement
7 Plan. Next, developing a long-term program
8 for monitoring the effects on fisheries and
9 water quality sediment management in the dead
10 zone downstream from the Mississippi Delta.

11 It's my observation that that's a
12 long list, all right? And not to personally
13 pick and choose items on that list, but,
14 again, the point I was simply making is there
15 are a lot of things there. And if, as a
16 Committee, we can agree that some of these
17 items should be prioritized and other ones can
18 be taken off the document, I think that would
19 help the document be persuasive and more
20 effective. That said, you know, it's a point
21 I'm throwing out there for discussion.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: I'd like to have a

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1 motion.

2 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes. I think we
3 view the document as it was written, and that
4 probably was more appropriate taking care of
5 that in the Subcommittee. We had a larger
6 list because the people in the Subcommittee
7 were very interested in getting these out and
8 gone.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: I'd like a motion.

10 MS. MORRIS: I move.

11 CHAIR McCARTY: You move this?

12 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay, thank you.

14 MR. FISHER: I'll second it.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: And seconded by
16 Martin. Okay. If people would like to focus
17 on changes to this, either additions or
18 subtractions or clarifications, I'm happy to
19 entertain those. Mr. Raftican?

20 MR. RAFTICAN: Call for questions
21 from the floor.

22 DR. DANA: I just have a comment.

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1 At the beginning of this document, which I'm
2 not opposed to per se, but if the beginning is
3 talking about looking at the health of the
4 estuaries and from the Mississippi River
5 floods and the Deepwater Horizon spill, that's
6 the beginning of it. And then it transitions
7 kind of into fisheries and the health of the
8 fisheries. Still okay. But if through the
9 research and data collection the health of the
10 fish stocks is impacted to the point then
11 where species or the seasons or catch has
12 continued to be reduced then something needs
13 to be addressed as how do the impacted
14 parties, the commercial fishermen, the people
15 that make a living off that fish stock, how
16 then do they, who's going to assist them? Is
17 BP, is part of your fund, the endowment fund
18 or whatever going to assist the parties that
19 are impacted like perhaps the findings from
20 the research? Does that make sense?

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Pam, I don't think
22 anybody on the Committee talked about that.

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1 MR. RAFTICAN: A couple of things.
2 I think this is basically a clean water
3 action. I think that there will also be
4 direct actions with BP. Although both are
5 related, I think this is trying to take a long
6 term as opposed to - and, granted, some of the
7 fishery responses very well may be long term,
8 but I think that should be handled probably
9 independently. That's the feeling I got from
10 the Committee yesterday anyhow.

11 DR. DANA: Again, the research and
12 looking at the health of our waters and the
13 health of fisheries is important, no doubt
14 about it. And the efforts to make sure that
15 we enhance our waters and our fisheries,
16 that's a big goal. And to use the Clean Water
17 Act and the funds that we're getting from
18 Deepwater Horizon, that's a good use of those
19 funds. But if the fisheries or species, if
20 they get reduced and it impacts on certain
21 user groups because the health of the
22 fisheries, through the research, is found to

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1 be, you know, in serious danger, then the user
2 group needs to similarly have some structure
3 in place or at least a comment where it says
4 that there will be resources available to
5 them, the result of what you're prioritizing
6 through this bullet point document.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Could I just ask
8 one quick question, and then I'll let you
9 answer that.

10 DR. DANA: I'm just sensitive about
11 it.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: I understand.

13 DR. DANA: I know that there are
14 interests out there to close fisheries.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Are you suggesting
16 that that kind of compensation, which is what
17 you're -

18 DR. DANA: I'm not necessarily
19 talking about compensation. I'm just saying
20 that there may be one bullet there that
21 addresses that if the findings do show that,
22 you know, there needs to be some - well,

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1 Martin, help me. You know what I'm talking
2 about.

3 MR. FISHER: Wow. Isn't Heather
4 echoing what you're actually ultimately
5 saying, that, if through this document or
6 through the actions of this document would
7 create, that there is a finding that the fish
8 are imperiled in some way, that we have to
9 reduce catch, that there is some mechanism
10 within the document to take care of the
11 industries that it affects. Is that what
12 you're saying?

13 DR. DANA: That said it very well.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: That's
15 compensation. That would be my description.

16 MR. FISHER: So, basically, what
17 Pam is asking for is another bullet point that
18 addresses that issue and how do we accomplish
19 that as a result of the actions -

20 DR. DANA: There are some sectors
21 that would love nothing more than to use all
22 the funds to close some fishing activity. We

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1 know this. So we just, I just want to make
2 sure that if we use this mechanism to fund a
3 closure of a fishery, convince them how those
4 user groups aren't -

5 MR. FISHER: Well, I would rephrase
6 that. I wouldn't say that we use this to
7 close fishery because that's not the intent of
8 this document or anybody's thinking -

9 DR. DANA: Not this document, but
10 there are interests out there that would love
11 nothing more.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Here's what
13 I'm going to suggest, and I know this is kind
14 of an awkward part of the meeting we always
15 have where we have Subcommittee chairs and
16 then we have the chair chair, and so I'm going
17 to be the chair chair and I'm going to say
18 that if, I think the discussion has been good,
19 but I would like to see it framed in an
20 amendment of some kind because, otherwise,
21 we're going to go round and round the post, so
22 if we could do that -

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1 DR. DANA: I don't mean to go round
2 and round, but I think the way that you and -

3 MR. RAFTICAN: As a bullet point
4 added on to the end. Does that -

5 DR. DANA: I'd be happy with that.

6 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, that's what I'd
7 like to address. I think we're getting into
8 three concepts. I think this one is reaching
9 a little bit beyond the scope of this
10 document. One concept that's out there is the
11 concept of compensation, and there are
12 different mechanisms for compensation. When
13 the fishermen are affected by BP, there is a
14 compensation process. That's not what this
15 document is addressing.

16 The second thing is the natural
17 resource damage assessment process and the
18 Clean Water Act penalties process where
19 there's going to be a fund, \$5 billion
20 potentially, and the money from that fund will
21 be used to try to mitigate for the
22 consequences of the BP oil disaster on the

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1 environment. That's what this document is
2 speaking to.

3 Pam, you're getting to a third
4 issue, which is what's the long-term
5 ramifications of getting better data and
6 better monitoring on the management of the
7 Gulf, which is really a Magnuson-Stevens
8 implementation issue. What happens if, as a
9 result of learning more, Magnuson triggers new
10 requirements on the fishery? I would suggest
11 that that's outside the scope of what this
12 document is addressing.

13 DR. DANA: It normally would have
14 been, except for you put it in there with the
15 electronic log books and the fishery stuff.

16 MR. RIZZARDI: And I would suggest
17 we strike that line rather than have that
18 conflict -

19 DR. DANA: I don't have a problem
20 with that whole paragraph. The one bullet
21 that -

22 CHAIR McCARTY: So would someone

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1 please make that as a motion so that we can
2 get it on the floor?

3 MR. FISHER: Pam, please?

4 DR. DANA: No, you said it. I
5 couldn't say it right.

6 MR. FISHER: Well, you want to
7 strike that line. Just make a motion to
8 strike that language.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Strike what
10 language?

11 DR. DANA: I don't want to strike
12 the language.

13 MS. MORRIS: I would move that we
14 strike "MAFAC encourages that all data
15 gathering use electronic methods -"

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Hold on a second.
17 Julie, I think you made the motion, the
18 original motion.

19 MS. MORRIS: Oh, so I can't do -

20 CHAIR McCARTY: You can't do -

21 MS. MORRIS: Sorry.

22 MR. RIZZARDI: Pam, you're saying

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1 it's not resolving -

2 MR. FISHER: I'm confused, too,
3 Pam. I'm not sure exactly what it is you
4 want. If that's causing you grief then why
5 not just eliminate it?

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Let's take a five-
7 minute stand down and let those people discuss
8 it and come back. If you don't have language
9 you don't have language. Five minute stand
10 down. Five minutes.

11 (Whereupon, the foregoing matter
12 went off the record at 9:11 a.m. and went back
13 on the record at 9:17 a.m.)

14 CHAIR McCARTY: I'd like us to come
15 back to order. Is there an amendment to be
16 proposed or amendments? I'm not saying that
17 we can't go through the document and read the
18 whole thing. Pam?

19 DR. DANA: I rescind it.

20 MR. RIZZARDI: What I'd like to
21 suggest is I think that we need a parking lot
22 of issues that need to be taken back up by the

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1 Ecosystem Committee, and I think there may be
2 other issues like this that are important
3 where MAFAC needs to speak up, but it may not,
4 you know, to direct its concern to the Task
5 Force and the suggestions to the Task Force.
6 They may be suggestions for NOAA. At the end,
7 I think Pam's concern is one that is relevant.

8 I don't know that it's relevant, I'm not sure
9 that it's relevant to the interim process or
10 in our penalties process, but it is a valid
11 concern for the fishery that needs to be
12 thought about. So we need a parking lot for
13 these kinds of issues, and I'd suggest that,
14 Tom, at our next Ecosystem Committee meeting,
15 we take them up.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: I think we actually
17 do have a bit of a vehicle to handle that, and
18 I think, in trying to get the document done,
19 prior to a conference call from the
20 Subcommittee on June 10th and, obviously, we
21 can slide this on. Anybody else that has
22 interest in it, I'd suggest you take it with

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1 Pam. We had Mark in there before, but get
2 engaged in a conference call and we can deal
3 with that. Cathy, do you got a list of the
4 dates?

5 CHAIR McCARTY: There's a motion on
6 the floor for this document to be approved for
7 the MAFAC recommendation for the Task Force.
8 Can we deal with that first? Is there
9 something that we need to talk about from the
10 list of other things that pertains to this
11 directly? I'm not saying there isn't. I'm
12 just asking.

13 MR. RAFTICAN: No, not the -

14 MS. FOY: Let's separate the two
15 issues.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: Well, I think we
17 already have the climates tasked, so we're
18 okay on that. But I would suggest that we
19 pull this off the agenda and deal with it.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: If people are
22 uncomfortable with it, I would say we put this

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1 back on the conference call and discuss, come
2 prepared on June 10th in Subcommittee and come
3 out with a full document, which we'll bring
4 back for review on June 27th.

5 DR. DANA: I'm fine. I pulled my
6 opposition.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: So that was my
8 question to you was do you want to continue
9 with this as-is without -

10 MR. RAFTICAN: I'm comfortable with
11 the document as-is, but if there was any
12 concerns out there -

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: And I think Pam's
15 concerns are valid and need to be taken back
16 up by the Ecosystem Committee.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: So do I. I think
18 that's fine. So what you're suggesting,
19 Keith, is that we go forward with this
20 document in some form or another, but without
21 an embodiment of Pam's concerns at this point,
22 and that Pam's concerns and maybe others be

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1 put in a separate place, a parking lot, to be
2 spoken about by the Ecosystem Subcommittee at
3 a subsequent meeting. Okay. Is that
4 consistent with - okay. So that doesn't mean
5 we can't still amend this document, so if
6 there are other folks who have questions or
7 concerns we can certainly take those up now.

8 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay. That leaves
9 the motion on the floor.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Right now. Until
11 somebody moves to table, unless somebody moves
12 to table. I'm asking, as the Chair, if there
13 are any other amendments to be made to this
14 document. I'm not seeing anybody's hand
15 raised. Yes, Terry?

16 MR. ALEXANDER: Keith, I think,
17 brought up a really good point, that I think
18 there's way too much detail in there for what
19 we're trying to do, like with the DMR and
20 stuff like that. That should be a council
21 action, I think, rather than - and I'm sure, I
22 don't think that we need to put stuff like

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1 that in there. I think he had a better point
2 if you just made an overall statement that
3 we're going to take care of the environment
4 somehow, not put all the details in there. I
5 think we'd be better off.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Terry, are you
7 referring to this specific section that's on
8 the screen right now in green?

9 MR. FISHER: I've got a motion.

10 MR. ALEXANDER: I think that that's
11 just an extra bullet that we don't need. But,
12 I mean, I'm fine with it, but I think make
13 them smaller, tinier, because the longer
14 things are, people tend to lose interest
15 further down in the document, I think.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Terry, so
17 thank you for the comment. Martin, you said
18 you had a motion.

19 MR. FISHER: Well, an amendment.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay.

21 MR. FISHER: Make that "encourages
22 that all data gathering use the most expedient

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1 and verifiable methods available."

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Are you suggesting
3 that language as a substitute for -

4 MR. FISHER: As a substitute, yes.

5 CHAIR McCARTY: - B? The whole B?

6 MR. FISHER: No, no, just that
7 sentence.

8 MR. RIZZARDI: The threshold
9 matters sentence.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Just the threshold
11 matters sentence.

12 MR. FISHER: Yes. That all data
13 gathering use the most expedient and
14 verifiable methods available.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: The most expedient
16 and verifiable methods available. That's your
17 amendment?

18 MR. FISHER: That's my amendment.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: Is there a second?

20 MR. DEWEY: Seconded.

21 MS. DOERR: I've got a question.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Seconded by Bill.

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1 Patty?

2 MS. DOERR: I'm sorry. Are you
3 then striking everything after that?

4 MR. FISHER: Yes, striking
5 electronic methods and rather than handwritten
6 logs. Take that all off.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: So then the
8 sentence would then read, "As a threshold
9 matter, MAFAC encourages that all data
10 gathering use the most expedient and
11 verifiable methods available." That would be
12 the new language.

13 MR. FISHER: That would be the new
14 language.

15 CHAIR McCARTY: Terry?

16 MR. ALEXANDER: Well, I guess I
17 don't understand how you guys operate down
18 here for some reason. It's taking 18 months
19 for your data to get through the system.

20 MR. FISHER: Pretty much.

21 MR. ALEXANDER: Okay. I thought we
22 took a long time then. We know two days later

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1 what we've got for them, within two days
2 because they have to allocate it, so it's
3 unreasonable for it to take that long, very
4 unreasonable. And I'm surprised that they
5 even let you get away with it.

6 MS. FOY: Can I speak to that real
7 quick, please? We're not just talking about
8 trip data and fishing data. We're talking
9 about the scientific data collection and
10 verification.

11 MR. ALEXANDER: There's peer review
12 and all that stuff.

13 MS. FOY: Not just peer review but
14 even just getting it analyzed and back into
15 the -

16 CHAIR McCARTY: Does that help,
17 Terry?

18 MR. ALEXANDER: It does, so it's
19 not just fishery-related.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Martin, you
21 want to -

22 MR. FISHER: Just a brief response.

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1 To the best of my knowledge, stock
2 assessments in the southeast region are billed
3 upon logbook data, even though we have an IFQ
4 and we have a point of sale, instant
5 electronic data available to the Fishery
6 Service, the way that the data, the way that
7 the data collection is handled for stock
8 system purposes is through a voluntary logbook
9 system from the vessel, even though we have
10 the instant electronic data. And the process
11 for the ALS, which is the state landings
12 ticket, and the federal, it takes up to 18
13 months for verifiable data.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: Go ahead, Mr.
15 Raftican. Go ahead. I have a comment.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: I was just going to
17 say we've got a motion on the floor, and we're
18 getting into the weeds a little bit.

19 MR. FISHER: Sorry.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: We are, indeed.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Did we have a
22 discussion on -

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1 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, I'd like to
2 comment on the motion.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: I'd like to comment
4 on the motion, too. I believe that we are
5 dealing with process of how this is going to
6 take place rather than the essence of what
7 we're asking to have done, and I don't have
8 any problem with that if we can agree on it
9 but I certainly don't want to take a lot more
10 time on disagreeing on that sort of element.
11 So that's my comment, and I'm going to allow
12 one or two more comments, and then we're going
13 to vote on the amendment. Keith?

14 MR. RIZZARDI: I actually oppose
15 the amendment, and I suggest that we strike
16 the sentence completely. And I think, much
17 like Pam's point about the consequences of
18 gathering additional information on the
19 fishery, I think this is another important
20 point but I think it should go to the parking
21 lot and I think it's another issue that we
22 should take up in a separate document and

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1 direct it to NOAA.

2 MR. FISHER: I'll accept that as a
3 friendly amendment.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Friendly amendment
5 to remove the sentence entirely. So that's
6 the amendment, to remove that sentence
7 entirely from the document. Is there any
8 opposition to that? Seeing none, that's a
9 done deal. That sentence is gone. We're back
10 to the - pardon?

11 MR. DEWEY: I was just going to
12 second Martin's motion -

13 CHAIR McCARTY: Do you object to
14 that?

15 MR. DEWEY: No, I agree to it.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: I'm sorry, Bill.
17 Thank you very much. Appreciate that. Okay.
18 So we're back to the original document.
19 Thank you.

20 MR. RIZZARDI: On Paragraph C, I
21 just want to point out that when we were in
22 Committee there were two things that took

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1 place. We got squeezed for time, and there
2 were two observations that came out. One of
3 them was Tony made the point that, you know, I
4 want to think about the priorities of these
5 items and I want to sleep on it because
6 smarter heads will prevail after a night of
7 working the document. And the other point was
8 we said we wanted to have a discussion of
9 these items, which we did plenary session, to
10 figure out where we were as a group. So this
11 list of bullets is still up here, and I just
12 don't want us to rush through because I don't
13 think that this last piece, part C, is
14 anywhere near as polished as the rest of the
15 document. And at a minimum, I'd like us to
16 spend a little bit more time on part C and
17 make sure we get this, you know, in better
18 shape.

19 CHAIR McCARTY: Is that all of it?

20 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes.

21 MR. STOLL: No. And I was
22 wondering can I copy and paste, get that on

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1 two pages -

2 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, please.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Please do. Okay.
4 Julie?

5 MS. MORRIS: So Keith started with
6 an original draft of this, and his priority
7 focus was on the making sure that MAFAC spoke
8 to the Gulf Restoration Task Force about the
9 importance of using some of the money to push
10 forward estuarine projects around the Gulf in
11 the geographical area that would improve the
12 management of the National Estuary Program
13 areas, and I think that - and all of the money
14 might go to the Mississippi Delta, but you
15 could, of course, use all of the money. And
16 so that's the first part of this motion, and I
17 think that's really important.

18 And then when we get down to what
19 kind of data and collection and monitoring
20 we'd like the money to be used for, it's been
21 very clear that it's going to be hard to
22 actually directly mitigate the very deep water

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1 effects on corals and sediments from the
2 disaster. And so there's this concept of
3 compensatory mitigation in which the money can
4 be used to better support fisheries
5 management, better support essential fish
6 habitat, sort of understanding and mapping in
7 the Gulf of Mexico. And so everybody accepts
8 that. And a lot of what's going on in C now
9 is a mixture of looking at, understanding
10 better what the long-term oil spill effects
11 are, and just some basic information that we
12 need in order to better manage the living
13 systems of the Gulf of Mexico. And I think
14 it's fine to include all of that in this
15 motion. I don't think that the Gulf
16 Restoration Task Force is going to be
17 overwhelmed any more than it already is with
18 suggestions about how to spend the money, and
19 I think these are all solid things that have
20 been supported by the Gulf of Mexico and the
21 Fishery Management Council in terms of better
22 understanding the hard bottoms, the live

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1 bottoms, better fishery-independent
2 information about the stocks, and certainly
3 some long-term monitoring of what the effects
4 on the fisheries of the Gulf will be from the
5 oil disaster.

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Thank you. Thank
7 you, Julie. Other comments? Yes, Bill?

8 MR. DEWEY: I just had a question
9 as we looked at this priority two and the -

10 CHAIR McCARTY: That's A.

11 MR. DEWEY: We advise NOAA. We can
12 make recommendations to NOAA. It's not clear
13 to me, these recommendations here we're
14 making, it almost seems like we're making it
15 to the Task Force, which is, in my opinion,
16 probably not appropriate. So I just wanted to
17 raise that question and pose whether we want
18 to think about rephrasing this, advising NOAA
19 as they interact in their role on the Task
20 Force.

21 CHAIR McCARTY: That's a very good
22 point. Mark, do you have a comment on that?

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, I think the
2 eventual recommendation is from NOAA or the
3 department to the Task Force itself.

4 CHAIR McCARTY: That's a very good
5 point. Can we make the appropriate changes on
6 that without going through a lot of -

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: If I could suggest,
8 we would be able to do that in the cover
9 letter, taking these recommendations
10 formulated by MAFAC in its meeting in Key West
11 on behalf of the Committee reporting this -

12 CHAIR McCARTY: Thank you, Bill.
13 Thanks very much. That's great. So we have
14 the document in front of us again, and it
15 seems there are two schools of thought here.
16 One addressed by Julie, I think eloquently;
17 and one expressed by Keith and understandably.

18 I mean, there is a need to focus. I'm
19 assuming the Task Force will focus. I'm
20 assuming the public will cause them to focus.

21 This is one voice. I have no opinion on
22 this. I'm just trying to summarize. Are

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1 there any other comments or motions to be made
2 on this? Keith?

3 MR. RIZZARDI: Could we scroll
4 down?

5 CHAIR McCARTY: Sure, sure.

6 MR. RIZZARDI: Keep going. Okay.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Just a second.
8 Keith still.

9 MR. RIZZARDI: The last two bullets
10 I think are much less thought out than all the
11 others. So my suggestion, at a minimum, is
12 the last one, I'm not sure how to do that and
13 I'm not sure if that's where we want the
14 priority. But what I would like us to think
15 about is for the last two can we strike them,
16 can we reword them in some way with folks who
17 helped shape them? And then also can we put
18 these in maybe an order of priority? Can we
19 agree that some are more important than
20 others?

21 CHAIR McCARTY: You know what,
22 Keith? I think if we got into trying to order

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1 these, I think we'd be here for a while. That
2 would be my supposition. But if you want to
3 make a motion to take off those last two
4 bullets or in some other way to deal with
5 them, I'd appreciate it, if that's what you
6 want to do. I understand that Julie wants to
7 speak. Do you have a -

8 MR. RIZZARDI: I'd like to hear
9 from people in the group on the motion.

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Julie?

11 MS. MORRIS: My suggestion would be
12 to table and keep an eye on anyone else who
13 wants to help us over lunch at Kelly's, or
14 whenever, do the kinds of clean-up things that
15 Keith is interested in and then bring it back
16 off the table this afternoon.

17 MR. RIZZARDI: With a clean
18 document and -

19 CHAIR McCARTY: Tabling the entire
20 motion?

21 MR. RIZZARDI: Clean document and
22 no more underline/strike through. I would

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1 like that opportunity.

2 CHAIR McCARTY: Can someone who
3 makes the motion also move to table it? I
4 don't know that. I don't know the answer.

5 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

6 MR. RIZZARDI: I'd like to move to
7 table that.

8 MR. DEWEY: Second.

9 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Motion has
10 been made and seconded to table this, and
11 there's no discussion on that usually.
12 There's just a vote up or down. I know that
13 Randy had his hand up earlier. I'm going to
14 let him speak.

15 MR. CATES: My former line of work
16 makes me a little nervous about things, so did
17 somebody leave a bag by the door? There was
18 a big backpack that was just placed by the
19 middle of the door entranceway.

20 CHAIR McCARTY: Does that belong to
21 anybody? Okay. There's a motion to table on
22 the floor, and I believe that there's no

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1 discussion on a motion to table. So we'll
2 vote it up or down. All in favor of tabling
3 the motion until after lunch raise their hand.

4 All opposed? It's tabled. Thank you. Okay.

5 We're going to move on to the Commerce
6 report.

7 MR. JONER: Do you have
our latest there?

8 MS. LOVETT: Yes.

9 MR. JONER: Okay. Can you put it
10 up, and I'll just read.

11 DR. CHATWIN: Can I make a
12 suggestion? It's just for purpose of
13 procedure. When a Subcommittee has discussed
14 a document and it's being presented to the
15 whole Committee, restoration and approach, I
16 think it would make it just simpler if the
17 chair of that Subcommittee make the motion on
18 behalf of the Subcommittee for MAFAC to accept
19 that as a MAFAC recommendation. I just think
20 that would make it easier for people to know
21 who should put the motion in, and there's
22 plenty of support behind it because it got to

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1 this stage and it's been accepted at the
2 Subcommittee.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: I think in the past
4 we've done that sometimes, so, yes, I think
5 that's a fine idea. If it works that way,
6 it's great. I have operated that way as the
7 chair of a Subcommittee, making the motion,
8 putting it on the floor. So I think that's a
9 good clean way to do it. There's always this
10 sort of - I'm going to let you speak in a
11 second, Tom. I just wanted to address this
12 process point because, in the past, as a chair
13 of a Subcommittee, it's been kind of weird
14 because, you know, you present the
15 Subcommittee report and then you take
16 questions and there's discussion. Then it has
17 to revert back to the chair to have the
18 discussion of the MAFAC Committee's point of
19 view as a whole. So there's some fine lines
20 there, and it always gets kind of blurred. So
21 I just wanted to point that out. Tom?

22 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes, I appreciate

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1 that. Tony, I appreciate what you're saying.

2 I think this past one was rather dicey. Not
3 only was this a Subcommittee report, it was
4 essentially three Subcommittees reporting,
5 which our chair was one of the Committee sub-
6 chairs, at least beforehand -

7 CHAIR McCARTY: I turned it over to
8 Cathy.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: - and turned it over
10 to Cathy. So there was very mixed involvement
11 on this one.

12 CHAIR McCARTY: There was. Thanks,
13 Tom. Okay. Mr. Joner?

14 MR. JONER: All right. Good
15 afternoon. Oh, wait, it's not 4:00 anymore.
16 So we had, I thought, a very productive
17 meeting yesterday, and I want to thank Lorenzo
18 and Susan for joining us and helping our
19 discussion.

20 The Commerce Subcommittee convened
21 and discussed the NOAA and Commerce
22 aquaculture policies and the NOAA aquaculture

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1 program. Concerns were expressed regarding
2 funding to aquaculture-related research and
3 how priorities are established. There is an
4 interest in potentially having input provided
5 by MAFAC. We don't currently understand and
6 Susan or Lorenzo were not aware of a formal
7 process on how priorities are established.

8 The Subcommittee recommends MAFAC
9 request information from NOAA regarding how
10 the agency currently establishes priorities in
11 aquaculture-related research. MAFAC seeks
12 this information to ensure the agency is
13 adequately seeking broad aquaculture
14 stakeholder input in establishing aquaculture-
15 related research priorities necessary to
16 advance the industry.

17 We learned at this MAFAC meeting
18 that the NOAA and Commerce aquaculture
19 policies will be finalized soon. MAFAC will
20 want to ensure media and significant progress
21 in advancing finfish, shellfish, sea
22 vegetable, integrated multitrophic aquaculture

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1 and offshore EEZ aquaculture.

2 And so here's our motion, our
3 proposed motion: to advance domestic
4 aquaculture production and make a strong
5 statement to the aquaculture community and
6 citizens that encouraging and fostering the
7 immediate increase in domestic aquaculture
8 production is a high priority of the United
9 States, MAFAC recommends that NOAA and
10 Commerce, with the release of their finalized
11 policies: one, to launch a national shellfish
12 initiative; two, immediately develop
13 regulations for the Gulf of Mexico aquaculture
14 fishery management plan; three, enable
15 aquaculture to proceed in federal waters by
16 introducing or supporting legislation
17 establishing a regulatory structure for
18 aquaculture in the EEZ and/or urging other
19 regional fishery management councils to adopt
20 aquaculture regulations consistent with the
21 principles of aquaculture in federal waters on
22 the draft policy; number four, immediately

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1 work with MAFAC to update the ten-year plan
2 for marine aquaculture to make it consistent
3 with policies and include actionable items and
4 time frames for accomplishing them; number
5 five, request that JSA update their
6 aquaculture research and development strategy
7 plan to reflect the finalized NOAA and
8 Commerce policies and develop an
9 implementation plan that includes short and
10 long-term deliverables to achieve the goals
11 and objectives of JSA's strategic plan; number
12 six, implement aquaculture working waterfront
13 projects to foster coastal job creation;
14 number seven, work through all appropriate
15 venues to strengthen links between
16 aquaculture, fishing, and food supply working
17 waterfronts; number eight, create an office of
18 aquaculture within the National Marine
19 Fisheries Service; number nine, that NOAA
20 routinely report back to MAFAC regarding the
21 implementation progress and to reevaluate
22 implementation priorities; number ten, request

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1 a representative of the Office of Policy from
2 the Department of Commerce attend the next
3 MAFAC meeting to discuss their finalized
4 priorities and, in particular, the
5 implementation of it. In addition, MAFAC
6 requests that Commerce routinely report back
7 to MAFAC regarding implementation of their
8 aquaculture progress and to reevaluate the
9 priorities.

10 Sensitive to the input MAFAC
11 received regarding the dire state of the
12 federal budget, MAFAC recommends that
13 implementable actions identified and updated
14 in the ten-year plan for marine aquaculture,
15 the national shellfish initiative, and other
16 recommendations be prioritized based on
17 availability of existing resources.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: Bill?

19 MR. DEWEY: No, I'm just trying to
20 type while Steve was reading that back.
21 Number ten should say aquaculture policy and
22 progress.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Are there
2 any other comments from the rest of the
3 Committee?

4 MR. JONER: George had one point he
5 wanted to add. He came in after -

6 CHAIR McCARTY: Go ahead, George.

7 MR. NARDI: And I hesitated because
8 it had maybe some effect on the discussion
9 before, but I think it would just put that in
10 a little bit in left field, so maybe it's more
11 appropriate here. I wanted to raise a bullet
12 or a point that MAFAC support the use and
13 development of the marine hatcheries for stock
14 enhancement activities, especially in the Gulf
15 of Mexico restoration efforts.

16 CHAIR McCARTY: That would be added
17 as a Committee recommendation? Has the
18 Committee agreed to that, Mr. Chairman?

19 MR. DEWEY: I'm fine with it. The
20 Committee hasn't really discussed it. George
21 just raised it -

22 MR. NARDI: I'm fine with it.

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1 MR. JONER: That would be an
2 addition, last-minute addition.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. If you could
4 capture that, Josh, that would be great.
5 Randy?

6 MR. CATES: I just wanted to
7 comment on - we had a discussion yesterday
8 that was quite important. At our last MAFAC
9 meeting -

10 CHAIR McCARTY: Could you - yes.

11 MR. CATES: Go ahead.

12 MS. DOERR: Activities especially
13 in the Gulf of Mexico restoration efforts. I
14 apologize.

15 MR. CATES: So at our last MAFAC
16 meeting, Monica was there and we got into a
17 discussion on how aquaculture priorities from
18 NOAA were established, and it was a very
19 important moment because what it did, and Mark
20 highlighted on it, it showed that the
21 priorities came out of the GAO report. The
22 GAO report was addressing environmental

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1 concerns.

2 And so from the industry, what
3 we've been saying for a long time, and I think
4 it's an important issue for MAFAC, is if you
5 want to have an industry and you want to
6 increase production, we're not going to get
7 there with the existing priorities that NOAA
8 has for research. It's not balanced. And so
9 I think MAFAC should address that and look at
10 that and maybe update those priorities because
11 they're not going to do anything to increase
12 production. They're only trying to answer
13 concerns of environmental groups.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: You brought that up
15 in the past. That is embodied in that
16 recommendation that is not one of the listed
17 ones but that one paragraph that came before
18 that. So, essentially, your recommendation
19 for adoption by MAFAC, when you make the
20 motion, would be the list and that one
21 paragraph; is that correct?

22 MR. CATES: Exactly.

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1 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Other
2 questions of the Subcommittee? We can do that
3 first.

4 DR. CHATWIN: To this last point,
5 can someone explain what the need for hatchery
6 for stock enhancement is, what are the goals,
7 how much stock needs to be enhanced, what
8 species? I'm a little troubled with a blanket
9 statement like that. Let me just explain
10 where I'm coming from. We, at the foundation,
11 get a number of requests for actually funding
12 hatchery efforts in the Gulf and in other
13 places. And as part of our due diligence, we
14 propose these questions for what are the
15 species, what's the conservation status of the
16 species, why is stock enhancement the way to
17 go, and it's rare to get a good answer to all
18 those questions so we haven't, we wouldn't
19 embrace a blanket statement that way.

20 MS. FOY: If I may?

21 CHAIR McCARTY: Go ahead, Cathy.

22 MS. FOY: Perhaps we could just

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1 change the language that MAFAC urged that NMFS
2 consider the use of marine hatcheries.

3 MR. NARDI: That's fine. And,
4 Tony, I can't answer any of those points you
5 just brought up because there is no, right
6 now, at least in my mind, any particular
7 species. I just wanted to recognize it as a
8 tool that if there were a species that was
9 identified through all the data collection and
10 monitoring that the hatchery resource be
11 considered as a tool to assist in that
12 restoration effort. I wasn't meaning, you
13 know, MAFAC push NOAA to put up three
14 hatcheries around the Gulf and immediately
15 start producing red drum or cobia or snapper.

16 It's just that I think it's a useful tool and
17 that should be recognized that it could
18 supplement and, you know, enhance restoration
19 efforts, where appropriate, for a particular
20 species identified, you know, by other bodies,
21 suggested as a help.

22 CHAIR McCARTY: Do you have another

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1 comment on that?

2 DR. CHATWIN: Well, I'm interested
3 in hearing other -

4 CHAIR McCARTY: Do you have your
5 hand up, Bill?

6 MR. DEWEY: I do, yes.

7 CHAIR McCARTY: Okay. Bill, Randy,
8 and then Julie.

9 MR. DEWEY: Just to make the list
10 read correctly following from the statement at
11 the beginning, consider delete MAFAC and just
12 say consider the use of to try to incorporate
13 that into the suggestion.

14 CHAIR McCARTY: Randy and then
15 Julie.

16 MR. CATES: To the point of marine
17 hatcheries and aquaculture, it is just a tool
18 and it's been successful in Hawaii and in
19 other areas in the Pacific it's going to be
20 vital. I mean, there are areas that are so
21 affected by other factors there's no other
22 choice other than stock enhancement from

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1 hatcheries. It's going to be an increasingly
2 important tool for fisheries.

3 CHAIR McCARTY: Julie and then
4 Steve.

5 MS. MORRIS: In the Gulf of Mexico
6 Fishery Management Council, when we were
7 developing an aquaculture amendment, we
8 explicitly decided as a group not to frame the
9 aquaculture amendment as a stock enhancement
10 measure. It's a very controversial issue,
11 lots of divided opinions about it. The kinds
12 of questions that Tony was pointing to come up
13 when you start talking about the details,
14 specifically in the Gulf of Mexico. And so I
15 would be a lot more comfortable with this
16 motion if number 11 was not part of it.

17 CHAIR McCARTY: The motion hasn't
18 been made yet. We're getting to the point
19 where it needs to be. I don't know if that's
20 what you had your hand raised for.

21 MR. JONER: No, I just want to add,
22 as Randy said, it is a tool and it's been used

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1 successfully in other parts of the world. I'm
2 personally familiar with rockfish enhancement
3 in northern Japan right when that tsunami hit
4 where they had, their fisheries were so
5 depleted from overharvest that there was
6 almost nothing, and the prefectures that
7 worked with the federal agency to establish
8 these kinds of regional cooperatives and they
9 worked in concert with the commercial
10 fisheries. They actually developed
11 recreational fisheries, and they took periods
12 where there was almost no fishing and built
13 fisheries to capturing wild fish, releasing
14 them. They went through a long process of
15 establishing the protocols for selection of
16 stock and so on, and that's an example of
17 something that's been very successful. I
18 don't know what it's like now with the
19 tsunami. It would be interesting to see how
20 all of that survived.

21 But as with salmon hatcheries,
22 sometimes it's the only thing to do. In the

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1 northwest, there are watersheds that are so
2 heavily impacted from logging, building,
3 urbanization, and so on that without hatchery
4 supplementation the stocks, they wouldn't have
5 recovered. They would have gone into
6 extinction. And I've been personally involved
7 with those. And as with anything, there's the
8 right way to do it and there's other ways of
9 doing it.

10 And so that is my pitch, that it is
11 a tool, that, done properly, would include
12 everybody into the development of it that has
13 an interest in it, and it can be done
14 successfully, and I'll just add that it is
15 part of our Vision 2020, that stock
16 enhancement be used as a tool in stock
17 restoration.

18 CHAIR McCARTY: I'm going to just
19 stop that and do a little process thing here,
20 like we did with the other Subcommittees. I
21 think at this point it would be sensible for a
22 motion to be made, and it's been suggested

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1 that the chairman of the Subcommittee make
2 that motion of the Subcommittee
3 recommendations. Now, you guys have agreed
4 that number 11 is one of your Subcommittee
5 recommendations. So unless you've changed
6 your mind, I'd like you to make a motion, make
7 it explicit, so we can get it on the floor for
8 possible amendments.

9 MR. JONER: I make a motion that
10 MAFAC adopt these seven points on our
11 recommendations, including the recently added
12 number 11.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: The seven points,
14 plus the 11? Sorry. All of those points and
15 the one that preceded it that MAFAC
16 recommends. Could we just go back to that
17 one, please, Josh, so that -- before the list,
18 there was a paragraph that said, I just want
19 to make clear what the subcommittee
20 recommends. So that paragraph, plus the
21 paragraph that includes the list; is that
22 correct, Steve?

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1 MR. JONER: Yes.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. And was
3 there a second?

4 MR. DEWEY: Second.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Seconded by Bill.
6 So that's on the floor for discussion.

7 DR. CHATWIN: So I have a motion to
8 amend that bullet that we were discussing,
9 number 11.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: All right.

11 DR. CHATWIN: And I hear what
12 you're saying, and so I think what's a common
13 theme, what Randy said, Steve said, and my own
14 experience is that hatchery efforts are used
15 when stocks are extremely depleted, severely
16 depleted, and that there are a few other
17 options. So I would move to amend that to add
18 the words "in the case of severely depleted
19 stocks, consider the use of."

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: At the end of that
21 sentence?

22 MR. DEWEY: At the beginning.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: At the beginning.

2 Okay. Go ahead again.

3 MR. CATES: I would disagree with
4 that.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, just a
6 second. Let's get it on the screen. In the
7 case of -- say it again, Tony.

8 DR. CHATWIN: Severely depleted
9 stocks.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, thank you.

11 DR. CHATWIN: I mean, I think it
12 can be a useful tool, but I also think it can
13 be used as an alternative to not addressing
14 the issues that drive the stocks to what they
15 are.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Was there a second
17 to the amendment? Sorry. Was there a second
18 to the amendment?

19 MS. MORRIS: Second.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Julie
21 seconded it. I'm sorry.

22 DR. CHATWIN: So in the case of

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1 salmon, there are a lot of land use issues,
2 water use issues that have driven stock to
3 this condition, and the hatchery doesn't solve
4 those issues. So for long-term recovery, you
5 might need -- you need the hatchery to avoid
6 the extinction of that species. But if you're
7 going to get to a long-term recovery, you do
8 need address some of those drivers, as well.
9 So I'm recognizing here the tool, as you guys
10 have described, but I do think that we need to
11 -- well, I believe that that tool should be
12 used when appropriate, and it's appropriate
13 when there's severely depleted stock.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Tony.
15 Now here we are at almost 10:00. We haven't
16 had our break, Julie, except for that five-
17 minute break. Mark has given me the time-out.

18 It's close to 10:00. They're going to call
19 in the folks who are going to make this
20 presentation on seafood safety, and there's no
21 way we can change that, according to what we
22 discovered yesterday.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. The people
2 calling in are from Seattle and D.C., and they
3 have other commitments and time zone issues
4 that they have been accommodated to. They'll
5 talk to us at ten.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. So much
7 as I hate to leave this discussion with an
8 amendment motion on the floor, I think we're
9 going to have to do that. We'll take a short
10 bathroom break, very short. I need a bathroom
11 break. I don't know about you guys. And
12 we'll be back here as soon as we can, like
13 right away for the 10:00 piece. And we'll go
14 immediately back to this as soon as we can.

15 (Whereupon, the foregoing matter
16 went off the record at 9:57 a.m. and went back
17 on the record at 10:14 a.m.)

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Mark is going to
19 explain where we're at with this, and then
20 we're going to go back to the motion that was
21 on the floor. We're having logistical
22 problems.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: We're getting an
2 intermittent dial tone to the teleconference
3 connection. I'm trying one last time. Let's
4 see if it sticks. In the interim, we're going
5 to try to get back on the track, because we're
6 losing time identifying these. So once we do
7 get a successful connection, we'll let the
8 Chair know and try to get back to the
9 conference call speakers.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Mark.
11 And thanks, staff, for trying. Don't get too
12 sweaty. It's okay. All right. So right now
13 let's just recap. We have this motion to
14 amend on the floor, and it would be helpful,
15 Josh, if you could perhaps put that document
16 back on the screen and let them deal with the
17 phone. And you just made a motion. It was
18 seconded. You had spoken to it?

19 DR. CHATWIN: I wasn't focusing on
20 the break, so when we resume we can talk about
21 that.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Sorry about

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1 that. Where are we at, Heidi?

2 MS. LOVETT: We just have to wait
3 another second.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So we can go
5 ahead with this motion. I'd like to complete
6 it. I don't want to stop, and they just need
7 to understand that, that we're going to
8 complete this motion before we take them at
9 this point. Tony, speak to your motion,
10 please.

11 DR. CHATWIN: Okay. So it was
12 pointed out to me that --

13 MR. STEIN: Hello?

14 MR. FISHER: Go ahead, Tony.

15 DR. CHATWIN: Okay. So it was
16 pointed out to me that in 2020 that MAFAC had
17 already discussed this issue and that the
18 makers of the motion, which I am proposing to
19 amend, would be amenable to sticking with the
20 language already discussed and accepted by
21 MAFAC in the 2020 document. In the language,
22 it talks about stock enhancement as a viable

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1 management tool to be considered for
2 rebuilding depleted marine stocks, and so I
3 would be happy to take the "severely" out of
4 my motion to amend, if the seconder concurs,
5 and just leave "depleted" -- in the case of
6 depleted stocks or depleted marine stocks,
7 whatever. So if we delete "severely" I think
8 that's consistent with the MAFAC's position in
9 2020. And if the seconder agrees, that will
10 satisfy my concerns.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Does the seconder
12 agree?

13 MS. MORRIS: Yes, but I would also
14 like to suggest dropping the "especially in
15 the Gulf of Mexico restoration efforts" part
16 of the sentence, since it seems like MAFAC's
17 position is to do this everywhere. I don't
18 know why we need discussion on the Gulf of
19 Mexico restoration efforts.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: So address that to
21 Tony. Is that a friendly amendment, Tony?

22 DR. CHATWIN: Sure.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So the
2 motion as it reads for amending the original
3 is, "In the case of depleted stocks, consider
4 the use of marine hatcheries for stock
5 enhancement activities." That's the motion to
6 amend that language that was put forward by
7 the subcommittee. Is there any objection to
8 that? Seeing none, that's passed, that
9 amendment. So we have in front of us then the
10 original motion, which is the recommendation
11 in that one paragraph, and then the listed
12 recommendations. Randy?

13 MR. CATES: Can I make a comment?

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Of course.

15 MR. CATES: We've been through this
16 issue pretty in-depth on the Vision 2020
17 document, and one of the things is, as
18 friendly advice for new members, the language
19 we put into these documents is very important,
20 and try to think more in terms of the whole
21 nation and whole nation's needs and not one
22 area's needs or viewpoints. And in this case,

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1 stock enhancement is just a management tool.
2 It doesn't mean that one area has to do it,
3 but don't eliminate that tool, and don't
4 handcuff that tool. And the wording in there
5 previous would have handcuffed that tool.
6 It's subjective to -- who determines what
7 severe is, for example. And so that's why I
8 was objecting, but it's a really important
9 thing. Whatever the issue is, the wording is
10 critical and how others are going to use the
11 wording later.

12 And just thinking the whole nation
13 and not just one region. I mean, the example
14 I gave was Saipan. Saipan is an area that is
15 begging for stock enhancement, and if they
16 heard what was going on here, we'd probably
17 get beaten up in the room, because they're
18 desperate. It's a cultural thing for them.
19 They need it.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Randy.
21 Are there further comments on this motion,
22 which is our MAFAC recommendation? If not --

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1 sorry, Bill.

2 MR. DEWEY: Just following on
3 Randy's comment, because it brings value --
4 and I'm going to be rotating off MAFAC here
5 after the December meeting -- to share
6 perspective because we've got some new people
7 here that -- when I came to MAFAC I was
8 impressed with the diversity of, obviously,
9 stakeholder interests that are represented
10 around this room, with the level of support
11 that there was for aquaculture, knowing that
12 aquaculture has historically been
13 controversial amongst a number of the groups
14 that were represented here. While people
15 didn't necessarily fully embrace it, the
16 openness to consider it and the recognition
17 both by the commercial fisheries' interests
18 that our wild fisheries were not going to be,
19 even when they're all sustainable and managed,
20 not going to meet the demand of our U.S.
21 consumers, and that aquaculture is a tool to
22 supplement those wild fisheries to help

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1 achieve that demand, and that both the wild
2 fishers and the rec fisheries recognize to
3 this point that some of the technologies
4 that've evolved from the aquaculture
5 community can benefit their communities as
6 well, through stock enhancement that will
7 increase both wild fish catch and rec fish
8 catch.

9 So there becomes a broad
10 recognition within MAFAC of the potential
11 benefits of aquaculture and, gradually, this
12 group has matured its thinking around
13 aquaculture, and I think it's reflected in our
14 comments on the aquaculture policies that were
15 submitted and these recommendations today. I
16 just wanted to acknowledge that and sort of
17 offer that observation on my behalf -- of how
18 aquaculture has come to be supported and
19 encouraged by MAFAC. Thank you.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Bill.
21 Thank you to the entire subcommittee for the
22 work.

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1 MR. JONER: I want to give a
2 special thank you to Bill, who's our go-to guy
3 for written word.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: He certainly is.
5 So we have this motion on the floor. Is there
6 any opposition to this? Seeing none, this
7 recommendation passes, including the
8 recommendations for future agendas. I think
9 we need to circle back around to all the
10 agenda items at a certain point. Hopefully,
11 we'll have that opportunity. Okay. I think
12 we're going to, without further ado, go
13 directly to the phone call. Hey, John?

14 MR. VALENTINI: John, can you hear
15 the group here?

16 MR. STEIN: I can hear you.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Hey, John. Okay.
18 This is Heather.

19 MR. STEIN: You're a little far
20 away. It's going to be hard.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, it is. We may
22 have to pass you around, John.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: We'll repeat
2 questions.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. Okay.
4 I think you're on with your presentation.
5 Thank you so much.

6 MR. STEIN: Am I good to go?

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

8 MR. STEIN: Okay. So I guess you
9 have the title slide up there, and what I'm
10 going to do is go over the seafood safety
11 aspect of this Deepwater Horizon event, as
12 well as touch on some of the recent concerns
13 over lesions observed in mainly red snapper
14 and then just a bit on monitoring.

15 So this slide just depicts some of
16 the reason why it's hard to always convince
17 people that seafood is safe, because there are
18 two issues. There's the issue of what do
19 these contaminants, such as polycyclic
20 aromatic hydrocarbons, due to the animals in
21 the ecosystem, and then what does it mean to
22 the health for people that like to consume

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1 some of those species.

2 So, first, on the yellow slide, I'm
3 going to deal with the seafood safety side of
4 it. So next slide. So I'm going to spend
5 just a bit of time here, because I'm trying to
6 summarize this graphically what we know about
7 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in fish,
8 marine mammals, and us, as humans, as well, as
9 well as shrimp. And what we want to try to
10 depict here is that, certainly, the compounds
11 are taken up, but because these compounds have
12 been on the planet for a very long time
13 invertebrates have developed a very efficient
14 way to deal with them, meaning that they
15 change them, metabolize them, biotransform
16 them, whichever term works best for you, into
17 compounds that can be excreted. So in other
18 words, it limits their potential to be
19 accumulated. That occurs in the liver. The
20 metabolites, the changed compounds, go into
21 the bile, and you can see the chromatogram up
22 there in the right-hand corner, showing that

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1 we actually have techniques to be able to
2 determine the level of metabolites and the
3 level of exposure.

4 What also this means is that,
5 because compounds are taken up, the blood
6 takes it first to the liver and then
7 metabolizes it. The compounds, the parent
8 compounds, parent PAHs then do not have an
9 opportunity to get out of the liver and then
10 go to edible tissue, like muscle in fish and
11 even marine mammals and us. So that limits
12 the levels that can accumulate. Well,
13 drastically limits the level that can go into
14 the edible tissue.

15 At the same time, for the high
16 molecular weight compounds, that metabolism
17 needs to react to compounds that are actually
18 toxic, and that's what the bottom right-hand
19 diagrams are supposed to indicate. In other
20 words, the compounds are turned into things
21 that alter and affect DNA, and then can
22 actually lead to cancer, as one end point. So

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1 in short, there's really little risk from
2 accumulation of PAHs in edible tissue of
3 vertebrates. So next slide.

4 But that enzyme system is not as
5 developed in oysters and bivalves, so there is
6 a real risk for accumulation of PAHs in those
7 creatures, and there is a difference. It's
8 not quite linear. Really, it's more of a very
9 low in oysters and bivalves, pretty well
10 developed in shrimp, and very well developed
11 in fish and other vertebrates.

12 So next slide. Since I can't see
13 all of you, if there are questions that arise
14 or I'm not being clear, just speak right up.
15 So this is just a list of some of the key
16 questions that arise when an event like DWH
17 happens. And you certainly need to know what
18 it is you're dealing with. You need to know
19 the weight and toxicity of the oil. All oils
20 are not created equal. The oil that comes out
21 of the North Slope, for example, is pretty
22 heavy, pretty thick, Exxon Valdez type oil.

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1 The oil, we call it sweet crude from Louisiana
2 for a reason. It's a very light oil.
3 Actually, if you have a jar in front of you,
4 it's less viscous than olive oil. It's quite,
5 quite different.

6 You need to know the resources at
7 risk. You need to know, therefore, to help
8 define what it is you're going to do and
9 effective handling and analytical approaches.

10 I brought this up because more of the key
11 questions when it comes to assessing effects
12 in the ecosystem. They're also important for
13 seafood safety, but not quite as much.

14 So now I'll turn to what we've done
15 in response to the spill. And from a public
16 perspective, there really are two basic
17 questions: is the seafood safe to eat, and how
18 do we know? And, in essence, that's what
19 we've dealt with.

20 As you probably are aware, there's
21 a full range of perception on safety. We got
22 one end of the bell curve, if you will -- and

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1 I've had this told to me in interviews and
2 call-in shows related to this -- that the most
3 affected seafood globally: I know it's safe,
4 I'm actually buying it up and putting it in my
5 freezer because I'm confident in that safety.

6 And on the other end, you have individuals
7 that: no way can it be safe, and I'll never
8 believe you, no matter how much data you have.

9 And then we have the large number in the
10 middle that can be swayed one way or the
11 other, and I think those are the folks that we
12 are trying to move and convince in the
13 direction of safety.

14 So next slide. So this slide just
15 gives you a depiction of how we went about
16 devising an approach to assessing and dealing
17 with the seafood safety issue. I'm not sure
18 what color comes up on the screen, but the
19 greenish color is a depiction of the
20 cumulative information about the presence of
21 oil in the Gulf. It never looked like this in
22 any one day, but this is a cumulative picture.

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1 So we used that information, and then over
2 top of that in the pinkish color is the actual
3 extent at the maximum closed area of the EEZ.

4 And so we used that information
5 then to develop a sampling approach. Let's go
6 to the next slide. So, basically, we've
7 gridded off the area and conducted sampling
8 both at the height of the spill, when the oil
9 was still being released from the well. We
10 were sampling within the closed area to gather
11 information and, more importantly, we were
12 also sampling outside the closed area to
13 ensure that that closed area was being
14 effective. In other words, that fish from
15 outside the closed area were safe to eat,
16 could be caught and be part of commerce, and
17 that's what we found.

18 So let's move on to the next slide.

19 Just a pictorial to that analytical approach.

20 So we did the sampling of all those grid
21 areas. We worked our way from, if you
22 remember a couple of slides ago, we worked our

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1 way from the edges in. We worked our way
2 towards the wellhead. That's where,
3 obviously, the most oil was, the highest risk
4 of exposure of seafood.

5 So the analytical approach was two-
6 pronged and developed in collaboration with
7 MDA, NOAA, EPA, and the Gulf states. It had a
8 sensory component. Mr. Steve Wilson, who's
9 actually on the phone, showing sensory aspect,
10 and we had a lot of questions about that, as
11 some of you may have heard, but once we were
12 able to isolate, explain and show people the
13 rigor of the test, many people understood its
14 value and its rigor.

15 And so there's a three-part test to
16 the sensory analysis. It had to pass a raw
17 test. The sample is then cooked. It had to
18 pass the sensory test, and if it passed that
19 test then it also had to pass a taste test.

20 If it passed those, if the sample
21 passed those tests, then it could be put
22 forward for analytical GC/mass-spec analysis

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1 to confirm that PAHs were not present. If it
2 failed the sensory test, then it could not go
3 forward for analytical chemistry. Very few
4 samples failed the sensory test. And the
5 analytical test had been developed over time,
6 and it was very rigorous and it's considered
7 to be, in essence, the gold standard for
8 analysis of PAH.

9 So next slide. So this slide
10 summarizes a lot of work and a lot of effort
11 by many, many people to do this. And so I'll
12 take a bit of time to go over it. So on the
13 left-hand side, it's a log-scale plot, so it
14 goes by factors of ten. The green diamonds, I
15 think they're yellow diamonds at the top with
16 numbers by them, those are the levels of
17 concern. Those were determined also as part
18 of the protocol. In other words, if a sample
19 exceeded any one of those values, it would
20 fail and would be not fit for human
21 consumption.

22 There has been a lot of, there's

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1 been questions about whether or not these are
2 exactly the right levels of concern, that we
3 have the right -- that the U.S. government use
4 the most appropriate consumption levels for
5 that, and that's a legitimate question. My
6 point here is that the difference between
7 where those levels of concern are and then the
8 very low levels of PAHs, you could go ahead
9 and move those yellow diamonds and they would
10 drop down a little bit, but not get close to
11 the circles at the bottom.

12 So in referring to the circles at
13 the bottom, you'll see that most of them are
14 open circles. That means that the
15 concentrations, if present at all, were below
16 the levels of detection of the analytical
17 instruments. And you can see that, in many
18 cases, we're looking at levels of 0.1 part per
19 billion to less than one part per billion.

20 There's some filled circles there
21 that represent samples that actually had
22 detectable levels of a PAH, and you see that

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1 those were, in general, much less than the
2 number of samples with non-detectable levels.

3 And I should point out that, in going from
4 left to right, we're going from the most
5 toxic, the compounds that are carcinogens are
6 on the left, to the less toxic, lower
7 molecular weight on the right. Gasoline is
8 actually the smallest polycyclic aromatic
9 hydrocarbon, pretty abundant in crude oil, and
10 you see that we detected some of that.

11 There are three sets of symbols
12 there. Starting from left to right, for any
13 single PAH, we have the baseline data. That
14 is data on samples we collected from areas
15 before any oil had reached there. The data in
16 the middle is all the data that was used for
17 re-opening, and then the data on the right is
18 the data that we collected or data from
19 samples that we collected in surveillance of
20 the re-opened areas after the areas were re-
21 opened. Basically, what you can see is that,
22 overall, the levels were very low, well below

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1 the levels of concern, and that we really
2 didn't see any signal from a seafood safety
3 perspective, which the research would say
4 probably shouldn't be from the spill itself.

5 So if there's no questions there,
6 we'll go to the next slide. As you probably
7 have heard, there has been much concern about
8 the dispersants. I think, in my view, that
9 stems because it was an action we deliberately
10 could take or not take in introducing into the
11 environment. At the time that this occurred,
12 the level of public concern got to enough that
13 we decided that, you know, the U.S. government
14 decided that we should test for dispersants in
15 tissues. At that time, we did not have a test
16 for dispersants, and that's because the
17 research and the chemical properties of the
18 components of the dispersants gave no
19 indication that they would bioaccumulate in
20 tissues of marine species.

21 But, nonetheless, FDA, NOAA working
22 with the FDA during the height of the spill,

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1 we developed a test, validated the test, and
2 then applied the test to seafood samples from
3 the Gulf. It's actually quite a positive
4 event that we were able to pull that off and
5 dealing with surveillance during the spill,
6 starting to look at re-opening, developing a
7 test, and working so well collaboratively with
8 another agency. I think it was quite good.

9 So next slide, please. So there
10 are several components to dispersants, as you
11 might imagine. It's basically a mixture
12 that's full of surfactants so that it can make
13 the oil smaller, droplet size, and then allow
14 it to disperse into the environment, making it
15 more available to bacteria to be degraded as
16 well, and limits the amount that would be on
17 the surface and could potentially come to
18 shore. But the compounds chosen to be a
19 marker for the dispersant -- the primary
20 dispersant used was dioctyl sodium
21 sulfosuccinate -- and it's a compound that is
22 actually in commercial products, in certain

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1 medicinal compounds, mixtures. And as you can
2 see from this data, if I can summarize it,
3 over 95 percent of the seafood samples
4 analyzed had no detected DOSS, and the
5 conclusion was that, if we did not see DOSS,
6 the chemical properties to the other compounds
7 in dispersants would indicate that it was very
8 unlikely that they would be present.

9 We did see, occasionally, some very
10 low levels -- but, again, well, well below the
11 levels that's considered a level of concern.
12 Actually, all the components within the
13 dispersants -- because the dispersants in the
14 last few years have been reformulated because
15 of the concerns of the toxicity of the early
16 dispersants -- all of the compounds in there
17 are considered by FDA as generally regarded as
18 safe, a term called GRAS.

19 So, again, basically, no levels of
20 dispersants. This was given to the public.
21 We had a press conference call. I think,
22 having done that, having presented the data,

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1 the concern and inquiries to NOAA and FDA
2 dropped off considerably after we did that.
3 So I think that was a success --

4 MR. STOLL: John?

5 MR. STEIN: So the next slide.

6 MR. STOLL: John? Can we interrupt
7 --

8 MR. STEIN: So this is to sort of
9 get at why can't we just, why won't people
10 just, you know, move on and believe seafood is
11 safe? And this was actually, the quote at the
12 top is from -- MR. VALENTINI:
13 Hey, John?

14 MR. STEIN: -- an individual from
15 Florida testifying for the oil spill
16 commission. You just can't troop your way out
17 of it. And the point there is that we can
18 have the data and you can show that it's safe.
19 Just a simple statement is not going to get
20 you there, so you need to be persistent. I
21 think that's the main point. This slide is
22 just a bit older. That great grid was the

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1 last grid that we re-opened. The Gulf is
2 fully open to fishing. We opened all areas.

3 MR. VALENTINI: John? Hello?

4 MR. STEIN: Yes?

5 MR. VALENTINI: John?

6 MR. STEIN: Yes, I can hear. Have
7 you lost me?

8 MR. VALENTINI: No, we still have
9 you, but we had a question. Can you hear us?

10 MR. STEIN: Yes.

11 MR. VALENTINI: Okay.

12 MR. DEWEY: All right. John Stein,
13 this is Bill Dewey. Can you hear me?

14 MR. STEIN: Oh, hi, Bill.

15 MR. DEWEY: I had a question on the
16 dispersants. You know, I think we've
17 adequately addressed the question about
18 whether it's present, and safety issues from a
19 human standpoint, but my understanding with
20 the dispersants, obviously, that the main
21 purpose of them is to break these oils down.
22 Obviously, there's a lot of fish and larvae in

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1 the environment that have lipids in them
2 themselves, and so I'm curious if you can
3 respond to -- what the effects of these
4 dispersants are on the animals themselves that
5 contain lipids that might be broken down.

6 MR. STEIN: Okay. So I think there
7 are two questions, there's two aspects to
8 that, Bill. There is the question of the
9 dispersant itself. And as you can see, if you
10 go back to that slide, Heidi or Josh, whoever
11 is controlling the toggle switch there, and
12 look at the structure of DOSS, it has, as a
13 surfactant always does, all the little lines
14 there are carbons and then carbon bonds. So
15 that's the part that can stick into the oil,
16 and then you've got the X and the Os and the
17 sodium and the charged. That's the part that
18 likes water. So one part of the molecule sticks
19 into the oil, and the other part hangs into
20 the water, and that then can break the oil
21 down into smaller droplets.

22 Because of that charged component,

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1 these surfactants have a very low level, very
2 low potential to bioaccumulate in any
3 organism. So there were actually tests that
4 have been done with DOSS itself and with the
5 mixture of dispersants. During the spill, EPA
6 did some evaluations. We did a few here at
7 the Northwest Fishery Science Center. It's
8 pretty non-toxic. That's one aspect of it.
9 But because, like you said, Bill, it does
10 break it down into smaller droplets, that can
11 also potentially increase the bioavailability
12 of the oil itself for organisms. And so I
13 think that's still being a question that needs
14 to be looked at and is being looked at within
15 regard to this spill itself. So it's a two-
16 part there, a two-parter there.

17 MR. DEWEY: That's helpful.

18 Thanks.

19 MR. STEIN: We did a few tests
20 here. We did not see a big difference between
21 the bioavailability of the PAHs and the
22 effects that would come from that

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1 bioavailability between oil alone and oil with
2 dispersants. And I think a point to recall is
3 that this is a very light crude, so it
4 probably has less of an effect than if it was
5 a dispersant used on a heavy crude.

6 MR. DEWEY: Thanks, John.

7 MR. STEIN: Did that answer it?

8 MR. DEWEY: Yes, that does. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. VALENTINI: Thank you.

11 MR. STEIN: So let's go back to the
12 can't-troop-your-way-out-of perception, and
13 then go to the slide after that one, continued
14 surveillance. So this is just to give you an
15 indication of a sampling design that we used.

16 The different colors indicate different
17 sampling techniques that had to be used,
18 because of the species that lived in the area.

19 And then you see boxes without hash marks and
20 boxes with hash marks, and that just indicated
21 that after the area was re-opened, except for
22 the red box in the middle, we had started this

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1 surveillance, we went across the Gulf in two
2 paths, in essence, sampling the areas of the
3 boxes without the hash marks and then coming
4 back in the second round and sampling the
5 areas with the hash marks. And that was to
6 provide additional data and information so
7 that we can present to the public that our
8 decision to re-open remains valid, that the
9 seafood is still safe to eat. And we're about
10 to complete -- this map will be completed
11 either late this week, early next week, and
12 that includes the red square which is now re-
13 opened. We'll have done surveillance, full
14 surveillance of the entire previously closed
15 area.

16 And I should probably point out
17 here that, as you may know, several of the
18 states in the Gulf have received substantial
19 amounts of money from BP to work on public
20 perception issues and seafood marketing
21 concerns, and they're keeping those efforts
22 going obviously into the future. And there's

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1 efforts and initiatives, such as the Gulf Wild
2 Initiative, which is, again, trying to both
3 help convince people that seafood is safe
4 post-spill, and also just to improve the
5 overall understanding of where seafood is
6 coming from in the Gulf and then ending up on
7 their plates, similar to efforts in other
8 parts of the country. So I think that should
9 help.

10 So next slide. So this just shows
11 you and gives you an idea of the level of
12 sampling we did. This is a pretty
13 comprehensive set of sampling. Again, the
14 blue dots represent the samples collected for
15 the surveillance after the area had been re-
16 opened. The red dot in the middle just shows
17 you the extensive sampling we did in that grid
18 around the wellhead, because it was the grid
19 around the wellhead. So I think we have been
20 comprehensive. If it's not totally random,
21 across the green map there just reflects where
22 fish habitat is.

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1 So at this point then, that
2 concludes what I had to present to you on the
3 seafood safety side. If there's no questions
4 there, I'll touch briefly then on some of the
5 fish lesion aspects and some of the longer-
6 term monitoring.

7 MR. STOLL: Hang on a second. I
8 think there are a couple of questions.

9 MR. STEIN: Sure.

10 MR. JONER: Hi, John. This is
11 Steve Joner.

12 MR. STEIN: Hey, Steve.

13 MR. JONER: I'm curious about, you
14 said on the taste test, the sensory ones, you
15 said very few failed. Did those fail because
16 somebody detected the taste of oil in them, or
17 why did they fail?

18 MR. STEIN: Steve Wilson, are you
19 still on, correct? Maybe Steve is not on. We
20 have the technical difficulty there. So they
21 failed -- well, one failed because it did
22 have, early on before the well had been

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1 capped, but as you can see in that early map
2 certain areas got more oil than others. We
3 were looking at re-opening an area that had
4 been minorly impacted. So one sample did
5 fail, and it was due to an odor of oil. But
6 in that case, the trajectories changed. Oil
7 came back into that area, and if there's oil
8 present, clearly the area is adulterated, and
9 we had to re-close.

10 So that was the one that failed,
11 and I think we had one other. There was some
12 fish down there that are a bit different. One
13 is called escolar. They're pretty lipid-rich,
14 and any decomposition could also lead to -- I
15 think one of those failed at one point.

16 So in essence, we detect oil down
17 to less than a part per million through the
18 sensory analysis, and they had been trained
19 specifically on oil. In essence, besides that
20 one sample, no other sample has detectable
21 oil.

22 MR. JONER: Okay. Thanks.

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1 MR. STEIN: Sure.

2 MR. STOLL: I see one more
3 question.

4 MR. STEIN: Sure.

5 MR. CATES: Were you surprised by
6 the results?

7 MR. STEIN: No. We've done this
8 before. We've done the research over several
9 decades on the disposition of polycyclic
10 aromatic hydrocarbons in a wide range of
11 species. We participated in a number of spill
12 events. I was not surprised, because the
13 efficiency that an invertebrate can metabolize
14 pH is extremely high, and the potential,
15 therefore, to find unmetabolized PAHs, which
16 are the compounds of concern, in muscle is
17 extremely low. So I was not surprised.

18 But having said that, and still
19 knowing all that from our past experiences, I
20 don't see any option other than having to do
21 this kind of response during a spill, because
22 the picture is all this oil entering an

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1 environment and it must be bad, and it is.
2 It's not normal. And I think you have to have
3 data. You can't just say, well, the research
4 shows. I think you have to have real data and
5 be showing real effort.

6 MR. STOLL: Any other questions?

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I ask John how
8 much more material he has?

9 MR. STOLL: Did you catch that
10 question, John?

11 MR. STEIN: I did not catch that.

12 MR. STOLL: There's a question from
13 Heather, asking how much more material you
14 have.

15 MR. STEIN: Just a couple of more
16 slides.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. I don't want
18 to rush --

19 MR. STEIN: Yes, this is much
20 shorter, this section.

21 MR. STOLL: Okay. I think you can
22 go for it.

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1 MR. STEIN: Go for it? Okay. So
2 next slide. This is just to indicate that, so
3 here's part of the perception. So the
4 compounds do not end up in flesh. However,
5 they indicated the high molecular weight,
6 they're metabolized. If there's a carcinogen,
7 that metabolism leads to the reactive compound
8 that is the carcinogen.

9 Having said that, the low molecular
10 weight compounds are toxic to early life
11 stages. So we say it's toxic and we say it's
12 safe. That's a difficult message to get
13 across in a sound bite.

14 So let's go to the next slide. So
15 I'll just go real quickly over this. It's at
16 the heart. I mean, there is real concern
17 about oil impacts on early life stages, and
18 these are just zebrafish which are like rats
19 in the aquatic field. And recent research has
20 shown that the low molecular weight, and
21 particularly the phenanthrenes, are very toxic
22 to the heart of fish larvae. And the thing on

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1 the right just shows you what occurs in pretty
2 low exposure to fish as they develop, and they
3 end up with this scoliosis and, at the bottom,
4 you can see an enlarged heart. But in the
5 slides on the right, those pictures on the
6 right show an animal not exposed to oil but
7 exposed to a compound that knocks out certain
8 gene products in the heart that causes heart
9 malformations, and you can see they look
10 exactly the same. So we've shown that these
11 things, the low molecular PAHs are specific
12 heart toxins. The secondary effect from that
13 poor circulation is malformation. They're
14 ecologically dead and this, as we've shown,
15 has population level consequences.

16 So that's where the real concern is
17 when you start to go. And there's less
18 concern for effects on adults -- not that
19 there aren't any, but I'll just stop with
20 that. So let's move on to the next slide.

21 So some of you may have heard there
22 are some reports of lesions in red snapper,

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1 and there's lesions, external lesions, ulcers.

2 There's reports of fin rot. We're taking
3 this very seriously, but it's a difficult
4 thing to get into, because it's a complex
5 interaction between the host, the pathogen,
6 and the environment. And we're ruling nothing
7 in and we're ruling nothing out as a cause at
8 this time, but we're really working to
9 understand the prevalence, that is the number
10 of affected fish versus those per pop and just
11 geographic distribution. Is this distributed
12 across the Gulf, or is it in a more isolated
13 area?

14 In short, in all the sampling we
15 did for seafood safety, we never saw a fish
16 with lesions. The Southeast Fisheries Science
17 Center has a survey underway for stock
18 assessments and enhancement. They have not
19 seen lesions to date. FDA and Dauphin Sea Lab
20 are conducting a survey as we speak and had
21 done one previously. They have not observed
22 any lesions. NOAA Fisheries is working to

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1 develop a qualitative research survey with
2 academia, industry, and others, and that will
3 give us additional information to determine
4 the prevalence of lesions and geographic
5 distribution. And when we see that, if it is
6 a hot spot, that will help us to define what
7 additional sampling is needed. So to date,
8 it's in a confirmation stage.

9 So long-term monitoring, Southeast
10 Fisheries Science Center will be doing surveys
11 in the Gulf to evaluate the status of the
12 stock. We'll certainly continue to look for
13 lesions or abnormal fish. As you all know,
14 there's natural resource damage assessment
15 investigations that are underway. Those are
16 pretty extensive, to look at any ecological
17 effects. And certainly BP has funded
18 investigations by academia to also look at
19 potential ecological impacts.

20 So with that, Heather, I'm done.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. Can you
22 hear me?

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1 MR. STEIN: Dave, are you on the
2 phone still? Heather?

3 MR. DETLOR: Yes, I am, John.

4 MR. STEIN: So Dave Detlor is on
5 the phone, in case there are any questions
6 about the Fukushima incident in Japan.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can he hear us now?

8 MR. STOLL: Could you hear Heather
9 just then?

10 MR. STEIN: No, I could not.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: But you can hear us
12 generally? Can you hear me now?

13 MR. STEIN: Yes.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, thank you.
15 Thank you, John. That's really, really good.
16 Are there any questions on this presentation
17 or comments? Vince?

18 MR. O'SHEA: Thank you. Thanks,
19 John. This is Vince O'Shea from Atlantic
20 States. On Tuesday, Dr. Crabtree said that
21 there has been a history over the years of
22 fish with lesions, and the challenge to you

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1 all now is deciding whether these reports are
2 greater than what may have been occurring all
3 along. And I was just wondering how much
4 confidence or how strong is your data set on
5 lesions prior to the Deepwater Horizon?

6 MR. STEIN: Yes, that's a good
7 question. And that's always the case that we
8 deal with, in an event like this -- is what is
9 the quality of the baseline? I would say it's
10 not that great, not that good. That's not,
11 you know, pointing a finger at anyone. But I
12 think what it seems to be pointing to, don't
13 know this for sure yet -- but it seems to be
14 pointing to that -- maybe there are an
15 isolated area or two. If it is that kind of
16 situation we are, in a sense, developing a
17 very good baseline right now from which to
18 compare to those areas where there could be an
19 elevated prevalence. If it was more
20 geographically distributed, then you'd have a
21 real question about what is, quote, abnormal,
22 because you would not have the baseline needed

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1 to compare and to make that comparison.

2 So in other words, if it is an
3 isolated, more localized -- well, I shouldn't
4 say localized -- an isolated, it's in a
5 specific region, then you can compare that to
6 other regions and, in a sense, you'd have a
7 baseline to compare against. So then we can
8 determine, you know, to what degree is this
9 above the other areas. And like I said, so
10 far, between Dauphin Lab, seafood safety, and
11 the current Southeast Fisheries Science
12 Center, we have not seen a fish with lesions.

13 MR. O'SHEA: Thanks, John. Good
14 luck.

15 MR. STEIN: Thank you.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are there any other
17 comments or questions? Are there any
18 questions about the Japanese seafood safety
19 issues, or comments? Are there any MAFAC
20 actions to be taken? I don't expect them, but
21 I just wanted to ask. Bill, go ahead.

22 MR. DEWEY: This is Bill Dewey,

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1 John. I guess I'm just curious -- not so much
2 of John, but of fellow MAFAC members in the
3 seafood-producing industry -- how much concern
4 have people heard from their markets on this
5 issue of contamination? I mean, on the West
6 Coast we've got some questions --

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Japanese or Gulf?

8 MR. DEWEY: Japanese. Some
9 questions from consumers, markets, you know,
10 whether we were seeing an effect of the
11 radiation in our shellfish from drift across
12 the ocean. We posed a question, and we got
13 the statement from the FDA -- that they've
14 done in conjunction with NOAA -- regarding
15 that there be no likelihood of -- I forget
16 exactly the wording. They had a statement
17 that they were issuing publically, that it
18 wouldn't be an issue potentially. There
19 wasn't any specific testing done on West Coast
20 shellfish or finfish, to my knowledge. I'm
21 just curious if anybody else had any market
22 concerns shared, and whether this has been

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1 issue for anybody here in the United States.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: At the beginning of
3 the incident, tragedy, there was a lot of
4 concern in the Alaska region. And that was, I
5 think, partially dissipated by the ongoing
6 reports. NOAA or NMFS put together a
7 briefing, a series, I think, of briefing
8 sessions, which was really responsive. And a
9 bunch of people from Alaska and the West Coast
10 got online and spoke about their concerns.
11 Since that time, more recently, I haven't
12 heard a lot of concerns about problems with
13 the Japanese seafood, but I have heard
14 concerns about the market issues. I think
15 those are ongoing. I think we've probably all
16 read about them in seafood.com or wherever.
17 Some people think there's opportunities
18 because of the situation. Some people think
19 that it's making it more difficult in some
20 areas. I think it's kind of a mixed bag.
21 That's my brief assessment of it. I don't
22 know very much about, you know, the exact

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1 moment right now -- how the markets are in
2 Japan. Randy?

3 MR. CATES: We have had an impact
4 in Hawaii, but it's been particular species in
5 Hawaii are being exported to Japan that were
6 caught in that area, particularly marlin,
7 which surprised us. So the price of marlin
8 has skyrocketed.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Exactly.

10 MR. CATES: Which is good or bad,
11 depending on -- if you're a consumer in Hawaii
12 you're not very happy.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. What about
14 other people's --

15 MR. CATES: Are we just limiting
16 this to Japan?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: No, we can talk
18 about the Gulf issues, too. And, Eric, if you
19 want to jump in or --

20 MR. SCHWAAB: Sure.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: -- anyone. I saw
22 Ken and then Martin and then Patty.

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1 MS. DOERR: I'm helping out Ken.

2 MR. FRANKE: On the West Coast,
3 next month we're expecting the albacore
4 schools to be along the coast. And just due
5 to their migrational pattern, we have actually
6 received quite a lot of inquiry from the
7 public about the safety of the fish, to decide
8 whether or not they're going to engage in
9 recreational sport fishing when they come to
10 the coast. And then also the head of the
11 albacore troll association, the commercial
12 association, asked me as recent as a week ago
13 what we knew about any plans within NOAA to do
14 any kind of sampling -- to assure the public
15 that what the commercial fleet catches on the
16 jig boats as they follow the migrational path
17 of the albacore. Basically, they're hopeful
18 that there will be some assurance to the
19 public that what that fleet is going to sell
20 is going to be safe. So that's feedback from
21 the West Coast area.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Interesting. Not

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1 surprising. Martin?

2 MR. FISHER: Thanks, Madam Chair.
3 There was an article that came out yesterday,
4 where NOAA is actually acknowledging that
5 there have been sightings of red snapper with
6 lesions in the Gulf of Mexico, and it includes
7 a warning to fishermen to not touch these fish
8 and to actually put them back overboard. When
9 this story first broke, it was like a month
10 ago and it was above the fold on the Sunday
11 paper in my hometown, which is a big hometown
12 for Florida, and I was afraid it was going to
13 go viral. My concern about this story is --
14 it's already going national. The other story
15 really didn't. This is a follow-up story to
16 that story, and it goes even further because
17 it's an acknowledgment by NOAA and a warning
18 from NOAA how to deal with the fish.

19 So last year during the events, my
20 business was impacted probably by 60 to 70
21 percent, especially in regards to red snapper.

22 So my concern now is that, depending on how

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1 the press picks up the story and what it does
2 with it, that we may be faced with another
3 round of market curtailment and, you know, I'm
4 not sure that there's a solution to that.

5 Certainly, the fish that seem to be
6 afflicted are coming from a certain area of
7 the Gulf that's fairly close to the spill. My
8 boats have not encountered any of these fish.

9 Through the years, I just want whoever, I
10 think it was you, Vince, to springboard off of
11 that, when I used to fish in the late '70s and
12 '80s, we always caught fish. You know, you'd
13 cut a filet and what have you. But the
14 biggest concern is the market, and the bigger
15 concern is that food safety and the health of
16 our consumers. But I'm not really sure
17 there's an answer for that.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you have
19 anything --

20 MR. SCHWAAB: So I don't know if
21 John heard that?

22 MR. STEIN: I only heard part of

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1 it, Eric.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: Well, let me make a
3 comment or two, and I'll speak up a little bit
4 so John can hear and then he can weigh in as
5 appropriate. I think it's probably what we're
6 dealing with here is not dissimilar to what we
7 dealt with during the oil spill, or what we
8 deal with when you get a lot of these reports.

9 And so you get some independent -- some
10 fishermen reports and/or some independent
11 academic reports that suggest a problem. And
12 our challenge is always to deal with those
13 reports responsibly; you know, to acknowledge
14 the legitimacy of the reports at whatever
15 level is appropriate and at whatever sort of
16 geographic scale might be warranted while, at
17 the same time, articulating the need for a
18 more thorough investigation. So it's a
19 responsible thing to follow up on those
20 reports, investigate the scope and scale of
21 whatever might be coming forward -- while at
22 the same time, you know, sort of trying to

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1 manage the public response. And that's always
2 a challenge, because in some cases these
3 things are real, but limited in geographic
4 scope. In some cases, it's just heightened
5 attention is bringing to -- you know, is
6 bringing to the public eye something that
7 might have always existed at some level,
8 because of the uncertainty or because of the
9 fears around fallout from the oil spill.

10 So, you know, it's certainly
11 possible that there is some stress-related
12 outbreak, you know, of lesions caused by
13 vibrio or something else that's naturally
14 occurring in the environment. And I think the
15 big challenge is really both scientifically
16 trying to get a handle on that and then
17 communicating what the process looks like, so
18 that people have confidence in the collective
19 efforts of NOAA, the academic community, and
20 the fishermen to understand what's going on.

21 So I don't know, John. You might
22 have some more --

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1 MR. STEIN: Okay, I think -- I
2 follow what you say, Eric. Lesions, these
3 ulcers, fin rot, just like people. I mean, at
4 any one time some of us are sick, and that's
5 normal. These kinds of lesions happen at
6 times, and it can happen from a whole host of
7 things. And I didn't mention and probably
8 others recognize that you brought up Eric, a
9 pathogen of concern that is endemic to the
10 Gulf. Vibrios are everywhere. And situations
11 occur where either the host may be a little
12 more susceptible because of some stress. It
13 could be mild. It could be that there's more,
14 you know, red snapper are rebounding. There
15 could be a little more competition. There
16 could be, they could be nipping at each other,
17 causing an external lesion, and then you have
18 an opportunity for an opportunistic infection.
19 There could be something in the environment
20 in part of the Gulf that is allowing the
21 pathogen to proliferate and then, you know,
22 take on that opportunistic infection more

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1 effectively. So there is a normal
2 level. At times, the cause can be very
3 difficult to determine, and the cause can be
4 nothing related to what we, as human beings,
5 have done. But you're absolutely right in
6 managing that perception.

7 And you need to know whether it's
8 widely distributed or in an isolated area. In
9 an isolated area, that suggests there's
10 something about that area, that particular
11 area, different experimental design, than if
12 it's spread across the Gulf. Then you have to
13 think of something, well, what regionally that
14 could have changed -- that could have caused
15 this, the spill or something else?

16 So determining the prevalence of
17 geographic distribution is important. We've
18 taken a little bit of heat for doing that
19 without, you know, saying we're going to
20 sample every fish that we catch. Until you
21 know some basics about the outbreak, if it is
22 one, you need to know what it looks like and

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1 then design the right answer. The management
2 aspect is tough.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks, John.
4 Thank you. If there's nothing further on this
5 topic -- I'm sorry, Julie. I'm sorry. Go
6 ahead.

7 MS. MORRIS: I have three, I hope,
8 three focus questions. So the first is: do
9 you have the continuing funding for the
10 seafood safety monitoring for the foreseeable
11 future coming from NRDA or BP or some other
12 source?

13 MR. STEIN: That's to me, I assume?

14 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

15 MR. STEIN: Well, seafood safety
16 comes under the response stage of an oil
17 spill. We've had the funding. We used up
18 pretty much most of it. There's a little bit
19 in reserve in case something comes up. But at
20 this point in time, we're not -- how do I say
21 this? Well, there's not a lot of money left
22 in the response funding from that perspective,

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1 from BP. And as you saw from the data, we
2 have a pretty comprehensive data set from
3 which to work from and to show that seafood is
4 safe. I don't expect anything would change in
5 the future. We'll continue to make that data
6 available. We'll participate in conferences
7 and other things that get the word out. We'll
8 publish the information. But at this stage I
9 don't see that NOAA Fisheries will be going
10 forward. But like I mentioned, that's a
11 decision not that I make. That's a decision
12 for Eric, John, and others, and the government
13 because we have used up the response up to
14 this point.

15 But like I said, states do have
16 money that they've received from BP. They are
17 doing some of their own seafood testing and
18 analysis, and we'll certainly coordinate and
19 then work with them, as we have. So that's
20 going to continue into the future for, I think
21 potentially it could be for several years.

22 MS. MORRIS: Thank you. The second

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1 question is did any of your sampling include
2 deep water species that aren't harvested?
3 More like an ecosystem question rather than a
4 --

5 MR. STEIN: Well, if you mean like
6 the really deep, you know, the --

7 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

8 MR. STEIN: Is that --

9 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

10 MR. STEIN: Yes. No, we did not do
11 that. We focused on commercially and
12 recreationally important species.

13 MS. MORRIS: Okay. Now, the third
14 question is you raised this issue of heart
15 malfunctions in larval fish stages. How are
16 you planning to follow up on that in terms of
17 --

18 MR. STEIN: Well, we've done
19 extensive research on that, and I can tell you
20 that it's the key element within the NRDA
21 component.

22 MS. MORRIS: Thank you.

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1 MR. STEIN: That's about all I can
2 say about that.

3 MS. MORRIS: I understand. Thank
4 you.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: So I think, just to
6 add, if I could, to the second point, there is
7 likely also components of the NRDA
8 investigation that are looking at some of the
9 deep water --

10 MS. MORRIS: Yes, okay.

11 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: What about the
13 funding? Do you want to speak to that?

14 MR. SCHWAAB: Well, I think John
15 really spoke to it. I mean, we're sort of at
16 the tail end of the response funding. We
17 obviously will have to make some decision as
18 to whether some additional funding needs to be
19 drawn in from somewhere else, and that will be
20 based on what we see from the data.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there any
22 further comment or question? So if not, then

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1 thank you, John. And thank you, David,
2 wherever you are, if you're online.

3 MR. STEIN: You're welcome,
4 Heather.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks for your
6 time. Thanks very much for taking the time to
7 do this, and I appreciate your patience at the
8 beginning. We had a couple of problems and
9 stuff. So thanks again.

10 MR. STEIN: No problem.
11 Understand.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you.

13 MR. STEIN: Bye.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Bye-bye. Okay. So
15 where we are is we need to hear from you,
16 Eric, and Emily if she's going to join us on
17 the quota allocation project, which is the
18 next thing on our agenda. It was for 10:45,
19 but I think we can dispense with it quite
20 soon. And then we're going to move into
21 Mark's leading the election.

22 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes. So let me try

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1 to move quickly, if we can, through this quota
2 allocation project and then open the floor to
3 questions. I think we have a few slides.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: Just FYI, the slides
5 are on the web site, as well as the annotated
6 agenda for this.

7 MR. SCHWAAB: So, Josh, why don't
8 you go to the first slide? So this is a
9 project that we have initiated to look at
10 allocation issues around the country. This is
11 intended to do a number of things that are
12 really specific to identifying some of the
13 issues, some of the challenges, and some of
14 the different approaches that are in use
15 around the country in relation to some of
16 these allocation issues that we face.

17 What it is not, and we had
18 significant discussion about this project at
19 the Council Coordinating meeting, what it is
20 not is a prelude to some kind of a dictated
21 reevaluation of allocation issues to the
22 councils. You know, obviously, there are a

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1 number of factors that, from our perspective,
2 have contributed to the need to look at this
3 and the potential benefits associated with
4 looking at this issue. And one of those was
5 the national catch share policy which raised a
6 lot of questions in some communities about
7 what did catch shares mean in the context of
8 allocation issues, and there are certainly
9 specific languages in Magnuson with respect to
10 reevaluation of management plans, particularly
11 under lapse.

12 But one of the concerns that we
13 heard, and it was predominantly from the
14 recreational community, was the implementation
15 of catch shares obviously creates a market
16 mechanism in some cases, depending upon the
17 design of the program, for addressing some
18 longstanding allocation challenges, but it
19 should not be viewed as the only mechanism.
20 So in shorthand, the adoption of the catch
21 share program by a council should not be
22 viewed by the council or others as saying,

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1 well, therefore, henceforth, the only way that
2 you can deal with an allocation problem is by
3 simply employing a market mechanism. So one
4 of the things that we incorporated into the
5 catch share policy was an explicit statement
6 to that effect. Obviously, catch share
7 systems can be, again, depending upon design,
8 used to address allocation issues, but they
9 should not be looked at as the only mechanism
10 by which to address allocation issues. And
11 the inclusion of that in the catch share
12 policy I think raised a few eyebrows, but it
13 also brought this issue to the forefront
14 again.

15 The other thing that we talked
16 about is that, particularly as stocks rebuild
17 and as we see for the first time essentially,
18 if you will, new fish coming onto the scene,
19 is that a particular opportunity where
20 councils could and might take advantage of
21 some of the increase in quotas to address some
22 of the allocation issues that have arisen,

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1 whether that be between a recreational and a
2 commercial sector or within a commercial
3 sector between different users, different
4 communities, different gear types, etcetera,
5 etcetera.

6 And so the thought was that we
7 would benefit from some kind of a review that
8 went out and said what are councils doing now,
9 what are the concerns and perspectives of the
10 participants in the system, and is there a way
11 to gather that information, to aggregate it,
12 to summarize it, and to make it available back
13 to the council so that they could, number one,
14 see what other councils are doing and, number
15 two, perhaps share thinking about how some of
16 those tools might be applied going forward.
17 There is, as noted at the bottom, no
18 particular predetermined outcome. There is no
19 particular mandate that is anticipated to come
20 out of this beyond that which already exists
21 within statute and regulation related to
22 regular reevaluation of management plans.

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1 So did we get joined on the phone?

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is Emily --

3 MR. VALENTINI: We're working on
4 it.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh, he's still
6 working on it? So Emily was going to actually
7 give this presentation. She had some other
8 scheduling conflicts, and I said to her I
9 would be happy to give this. But the other
10 thing I would note is we were also, I thought,
11 going to be joined by George LaPointe. We
12 actually contracted with George to manage this
13 project for us. Many of you know George, a
14 long time director of the Division of Marine
15 Fisheries for the State of Maine, recently
16 left that position. George has also been
17 obviously heavily engaged in a lot of these
18 issues as a member of the New England Council
19 and as a longtime member of the Atlantic
20 States Marine Fisheries Commission. So we
21 asked George to come in and essentially manage
22 this process for us, so there are, as you see

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1 here, phased approaches that we envision. We
2 are now in the pretty early stages of this,
3 which is essentially scoping the issues.
4 George is conducting a series of discussions
5 with council chairs, vice chairs, executive
6 directors, our regional administrators. And
7 I'm not sure where he is on this, but there is
8 some envision some consultation with select
9 members from this committee -- he's done that
10 already -- and others. And then based upon
11 some of that feedback, there would be some
12 recommended, based upon that feedback and some
13 additional targeting, some follow-up
14 discussions around particular topical areas
15 back to both some of those people, as well as
16 others who may emerge as a part of that
17 process.

18 So as the project proceeds, we
19 would also envision some public-input
20 component through a web portal and to solicit
21 more comments. That's something that has
22 continued to be explored.

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1 So from a product perspective,
2 phase one would be summary of interview
3 results and then options back to us with
4 respect to what might come next. Phase two
5 then would be implementation of whatever
6 recommendations we accept from phase one.

7 So the only reason I'm hesitating
8 is it's unfortunate that George and Emily
9 aren't on the phone because they can give us
10 the most up-to-date sort of here is exactly
11 where we are in this process. But I think
12 that the important thing is that we're very
13 much in the early stages of scoping this
14 issue. We envision this to be primarily an
15 informational compendium. It may identify
16 some, might identify some best practices that
17 are in use at one place that could considered
18 in other places. It would certainly identify
19 any of a range of considerations that should
20 be on the table when any of these allocation
21 issues re-emerge for discussion. And,
22 ultimately, what we see this as is as an

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1 informational, as an informational product
2 that would be used to help the councils in
3 dealing with some, frankly, long-term and, in
4 many cases, intractable issues that they've
5 struggled with both in council business and in
6 the courts for a long time.

7 So let me open up to comment or
8 question there and see where your heads are.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. I have just
10 a couple of questions. One of them is, in
11 phase one, when you get those options that are
12 listed under phase one, are those going to be
13 provided by George? Is he contracted to do
14 the process of talking to everybody and then
15 coming up with options for your consideration?

16 MR. SCHWAAB: And reporting back to
17 us, yes.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So he's
19 going to do that. And the second question is
20 in terms of what elicited this, is the
21 community fishing association community
22 allocation part of what is driving this at

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1 all? Because some people have speculated
2 that. I noticed it wasn't on the slide, I
3 don't think it was anyway, your first slide.
4 Because that's another piece of the allocation
5 picture, the one that, I don't know about
6 other regions, but in our region in Alaska
7 it's a concern there.

8 DR. CHATWIN: What is the concern?
9 You said it was a concern, but what is the
10 concern?

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: In Alaska?

12 DR. CHATWIN: Yes.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: The commercial
14 fishermen are concerned that they're going to
15 lose fish to communities. To communities,
16 community fishing associations or any other
17 sort of community association. I mean, I'm
18 not advocating for that concern. I'm just
19 stating that that is a concern.

20 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes. So I would say
21 that I think that that will certainly emerge
22 as an issue in these interviews. I wouldn't

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1 say that that was a primary driver behind this
2 project when we first started on this road,
3 and I would say that one of the primary
4 drivers was the catch-share policy and some of
5 the discussions that we had particularly about
6 the implications of allocation issues in the
7 context of catch-shares as it related to the
8 interests of, you know, recreational sector
9 and/or the commercial sector.

10 The second thing that emerged
11 fairly prominently in this were related to
12 some of the New England issues that we were
13 dealing with as you looked at the sector
14 different use of the term program up there in
15 New England and how it was having potentially
16 unintended effects on certain communities or
17 gear types. And I would say those were really
18 the two primary drivers, but once we got onto
19 that road, clearly there were a number of
20 other issues that were going to emerge and
21 deserved to emerge in that conversation.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: And then one

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1 comment. I noticed in the slide you were
2 looking for feedback from the CCC and from
3 MAFAC. What would be most helpful to you in
4 terms of feedback? Sort of written feedback?

5 Just to kind of frame the discussion here. I
6 imagine there's lots of comments.

7 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes. So, you know, I
8 think, first of all, just to kind of recast,
9 because it was a pretty important discussion,
10 what occurred at the CCC was, again, some, I
11 think, some core concern that we were going to
12 come out and dictate some reevaluation of
13 allocation issues by fiat. So there was
14 initially a recommendation on the table that
15 we cease and desist in this project.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

17 MR. SCHWAAB: I think as the
18 conversation evolved there, and I don't have
19 it in front of me what the final
20 recommendation they made was, but it was much
21 different and it recommended, you know, it
22 supported the continuation of this project as

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1 an informational project, as the development
2 of a toolbox that might be used as the council
3 to go about their business but certainly
4 included a recognition on our parts that the
5 councils really have, you know, this is their
6 work.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

8 MR. SCHWAAB: And we need to make
9 sure that they're meeting the, you know, their
10 review requirements that are set forth in
11 Magnuson Act, but we're not going to dictate
12 to them a particular approach or a particular
13 outcome.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, they were
15 concerned about that. So do you want me just
16 to call on people and they can address you?
17 Martin, Vince, and Terry and Julie.

18 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Madam
19 Chair. Thank you, Eric. Thank you very much.

20 I have two questions. There was a fairly
21 extensive, similar analysis done by NOAA and
22 that I think was published in either late '07

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1 or '08 that did a comparative analysis of the
2 recreational contribution to the economy and
3 commercial. So I'm wondering what it was
4 about that particular analysis that was found
5 lacking and that wouldn't contribute to the
6 council process for the issue that it is?

7 And then my second question is just
8 one of curiosity. This is a huge undertaking.

9 What kind of budget, what kind of financial
10 resources are being expended for this
11 endeavor?

12 MR. SCHWAAB: So I'll take the
13 second one first. It's really primarily, it's
14 primarily a contract to George and some
15 ancillary money to help him get around and do
16 what he needs to do. So at least in this
17 initial scoping phase, it's fairly limited in
18 cost.

19 MR. FISHER: So it's not millions
20 of dollars.

21 MR. SCHWAAB: No, no. If Emily
22 were on, she would know. It's probably not

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1 six figures.

2 MR. FISHER: Okay.

3 MR. SCHWAAB: And to the first one,
4 I think what you're referring to was really
5 focused on a comparative economic analysis. I
6 think that this project certainly would
7 recognize that economics are an important
8 consideration in making these allocation
9 decisions and that there might actually be a
10 need, it might emerge that there would be a
11 need for more careful attention to the
12 comparative economic benefits in allocation
13 decisions. But, clearly, allocation decisions
14 go, you know, way beyond just simply an
15 economic calculation. It's their historical
16 allocations. There are all kinds of equity
17 issues and all kinds of community-based issues
18 that factor into the decisions that are made
19 by the councils. Obviously, there are some
20 people who want to weigh more heavily, you
21 know, some emerging economic trends. That's
22 just another factor that has to be considered.

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1 MR. FISHER: So if I may, I just
2 want to understand, so what you're saying is
3 this new endeavor really isn't just an
4 analysis of one sector contributes so many
5 jobs, so much of the GNP. This is way more
6 extensive.

7 MR. SCHWAAB: Right.

8 MR. FISHER: It looks at
9 communities and their contribution and the
10 possibility for allocation.

11 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes. What kind of
12 challenges are out there, economics being
13 among them, and then, ultimately, what kind of
14 approaches might be useful going forward. Are
15 there some additional tools that councils
16 might avail themselves of?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Vince?

18 MR. O'SHEA: Thank you. Eric,
19 after being in Charleston with CCC thing, I
20 think maybe the issue to think about is
21 managing expectations, and that was the signal
22 that I got from the council. So maybe the

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1 advice, not that you need necessarily today
2 here and now but going forward, is what things
3 might you be doing and thinking about to
4 manage that expectation so this thing doesn't
5 grow beyond your control, quite frankly.
6 Because as you said, this is serving issue and
7 it affects every single region and all the
8 councils. Thanks.

9 MR. SCHWAAB: Right. Yes, so I
10 would characterize it as the bigger challenge
11 is managing the fear versus managing the
12 expectations, but I take your point. But on
13 the other hand, I also think that we should
14 avoid a kind of head in the sand approach to
15 this issue because if the councils don't deal
16 with these issues over time they're not going
17 to go away, they're just going to simply move
18 to other venues.

19 MR. O'SHEA: And the idea of
20 management would be with the idea that the
21 energy would be spent towards a positive
22 outcome and have this be a good thing for

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1 everybody, as opposed to have the fear thing
2 end up consuming everybody and not be very
3 productive at the end of the day.

4 MR. SCHWAAB: Correct. And, you
5 know, to the degree that the councils are
6 willing to acknowledge that this is a
7 legitimate area for consideration and that we
8 are paying attention to it. That doesn't mean
9 that everybody's grievance is going to be
10 solved, but there is at least a forum where
11 it's being evaluated.

12 MR. O'SHEA: Thank you.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Terry?

14 MR. ALEXANDER: Who is the MAFAC
15 rep on this?

16 MR. SCHWAAB: So I'm not sure.
17 It's not a rep, per se. There have been
18 interviews.

19 MR. ALEXANDER: Has he chosen a --

20 MR. SCHWAAB: So, no, he's just
21 conducting interviews.

22 MR. ALEXANDER: Okay.

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1 MR. SCHWAAB: And so I'm not sure
2 who's been interviewed or whether that's even
3 appropriately disclosed.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't know.
5 Mark, do you --

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's public. I
7 don't think it's a secret. George approached
8 me and asked who in MAFAC would be a good
9 person to talk to at the initial stages, so
10 they're fact-finding. And he described it as
11 we're taking this as an onion. We'll be
12 starting with a small group of people to
13 interview. Based on what we hear, we'll then
14 get larger groups of people to interview. And
15 as we do this, we'll generate knowledge that
16 we'll share with the next group and then have
17 things that could come to the committee as a
18 whole, whether it's the MAFAC committee or
19 committees of the council, et cetera. So I
20 identified the chair of the committee,
21 identified the chair of the recreational
22 subcommittee. Martin and Tony, I think, were

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1 the people that I suggested he could talk to
2 to get geographic dispersion, subcommittee
3 representation, a non-fishing industry person
4 to get some of this mix, and a fishing
5 industry person. So there's four people of
6 the 26 or 27 people on this initial list. We
7 recommended they begin that discussion with
8 these MAFAC members.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Very interesting.

10 MR. ALEXANDER: Thank you. I want
11 to echo Heather's concerns about the community
12 fish grab. That's the way it's perceived in
13 New England, too. There's a whole lot of
14 people that were at the table when we were
15 discussing all these things, and then all of a
16 sudden they want to come in and grab a bunch
17 of fish that they probably haven't touched in
18 20 years. They haven't gone out fishing or
19 they haven't done anything in 15 or 20 years.

20 So that's a major concern with us because our
21 banks are calling us up and saying, well,
22 what's this reallocation? What's it going to

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1 do your collateral? And I don't know what a
2 normal business does, but in our area they
3 want three-to-one collateral to loan on a
4 fishing boat. Three to one. That's a lot of
5 collateral. They don't have a whole lot of
6 chance to -- so when we start talking about
7 this stuff, it really brings out the nerves on
8 everybody in the area. And we already had,
9 what are we supposed to get? Every five to
10 seven years? Is that what it says?

11 MR. SCHWAAB: For limited access.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. There's no
13 requirement for the sector program to conduct
14 an evaluation.

15 MR. ALEXANDER: Sixteen, do you
16 know?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: FMP review.

18 MR. ALEXANDER: Yes, I thought we
19 had one every five year, they were going to
20 re-look at it in five years --

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: They have chosen to
22 adopt a five-year review. It's not a legal

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1 mandate for them to do so.

2 MR. ALEXANDER: So our concerns are
3 that the banks are very concerned with all
4 this reallocation. So I just want to bring
5 that up.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: That issue, I just
7 want to make real clear, I'm not saying that
8 my concern is a community fish grab. I was
9 just saying that that's been expressed to me.

10 MR. ALEXANDER: Mine is.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: I know. I see.
12 And that's fine, that's good. All right.
13 Julie, you're up.

14 MS. MORRIS: Another driving force
15 for why everybody is interested in this is the
16 annual catch limits, catch targets, and
17 accountability measures. So in the Gulf of
18 Mexico, there's been a lot of controversial
19 conversation about separate allocation for the
20 charter head boat fleet from the private rec
21 fleet because catch targets and uncertainty
22 and accountability measures are coming into

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1 play. There's just a lot of interest in how
2 that's going to play out in terms of
3 management uncertainty, particularly between
4 those two sectors. And so I think that's
5 another driving force for why people are
6 really interested in allocation right now,
7 particularly in the Gulf. And we have had the
8 long-term tension between commercial and
9 recreational allocation, but this is a new
10 issue with a lot of interest.

11 We spent a couple of years coming
12 up with allocation principles, and we tried to
13 look at what MSA, what the national standard
14 said, specifically about allocation and the
15 basis for those allocations. So if your
16 consultant hasn't already, I would encourage
17 that he gets in touch with the staff of the
18 Gulf Council and really get briefed up on the
19 work we did to develop an allocation policy
20 there.

21 MR. SCHWAAB: Okay. I assume that
22 would happen, but we'll make sure.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Julie.
2 Paul?

3 MR. CLAMPITT: Thank you, Madam
4 Chairman. So I just want to back up Terry on
5 his comments and to add also that, you know,
6 with the CBQs and the community development
7 core systems and this whole talk of the
8 regular commercial fishermen, you know, we
9 hashed out this allocation, and there was a
10 lot of blood in the water. And we gave up
11 quite a bit and, believe it or not, we gave up
12 20 percent of our CBQs to begin with. So we
13 kind of feel like we've paid the price, and
14 we're approaching 20 years into our program.
15 The idea of discussing re-allocations scares
16 the hell out of everybody. We're deeply
17 invested. We've got everything on the line,
18 and it's tough enough competing for quota or
19 buying quota on the open market with
20 communities that attach free money, you know,
21 and the stated goals of the, you know, owner
22 on board, no leasing. All these community

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1 public quotas and these community programs,
2 they just forget all that. So, you know, it
3 doesn't make sense to us. And, you know,
4 being a representative of Pacific Northwest, I
5 have to do my due diligence and let you know
6 that, you know, the same thing that Terry
7 said, the banks are going, what the hell is
8 this. And so just so you're well aware that,
9 and I know you are, that we feel this is a bad
10 idea.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Any response? You
12 don't have to.

13 MR. SCHWAAB: I know, again,
14 obviously, that, you know, the councils have
15 certain requirements to review these things on
16 a regular basis. I understand what that means
17 from a stability perspective. Not every place
18 is the same, and in some places, some cases
19 there's more inherent stability in the fishery
20 than in others. And so we're not looking to
21 necessarily upset the apple cart in those
22 places where that equilibrium has been much

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1 more effectively established, but in a lot of
2 other places that's not the case and there's a
3 lot of, from our perspective, there's benefit
4 to looking at some of those challenges. But I
5 understand, from where you sit, your point.
6 And I certainly understand when you're dealing
7 with a bank what the implications are of that.

8 But at the same time there are statutory
9 bases for, if the bankers went back and looked
10 at the law they'd have something to take into
11 account there, as well.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Let me also add
13 that, just to reassure both you and everyone
14 else, that the CCC group, when they raised
15 this, was very, very supportive of the fishing
16 interests, I would say, particularly the
17 council individuals, council staffs, and
18 executive directors. Many of these issues
19 were brought out in great detail and hashed
20 out at that meeting, and it was contentious
21 and quite extensive, just so you know. Those
22 things were all put on the table. You were

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1 adequately briefed on those things, I would
2 say; right? Just so you know. Paul, did you
3 have a follow up?

4 MR. CLAMPITT: Yes. Just one
5 follow up, just the talk about, well, as the
6 stocks rebuild and you can look at allocating
7 the surplus. You know, we fished as those
8 stocks went down and suffered and, you know,
9 accepted the fact that they had to go down for
10 the good of the fishery. We'd like to kind
11 of, the fact that we hung in there and reaped
12 the benefits when they come back up and the
13 idea there's somehow some surplus that we can
14 reallocate is, you know, it doesn't make a lot
15 of sense to us either. MR. SCHWAAB: So I
16 take your point there, and I just use that as
17 an example, not as a fait accompli.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I understand.
19 Okay. Martin wanted to speak again. Are
20 there others who would like to speak before we
21 do Martin? Are there others who might want to
22 jump in before we do a second round?

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1 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Madam
2 Chair, I think. Eric, I happen to chair the
3 Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Advisory Panel, and
4 at our recent last meeting we had a protracted
5 and very long and contentious conversation
6 about the definition of community, who and
7 what is a community, what entity can be a
8 community. I don't know if MAFAC would want
9 to request NOAA to define what a community is
10 in relationship to allocation of catch-share,
11 but certainly it might be something to put on
12 a work list, that it would be very helpful to
13 the councils if NOAA were to come up with some
14 guidelines or definitions or limitations to
15 what comprises a community.

16 In the state of Florida, we're
17 having some serious issues with, well, I think
18 we're going to have some serious issues with
19 non-compliance by the state for red snapper.
20 The state of Florida is very interested in
21 becoming a community to be able to hold
22 allocation because many of these fish are

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1 caught within state waters. That's
2 transparent is what that means, obviously. So
3 I wanted to bring that up, and I wanted to ask
4 you if that was a possibility that NOAA might
5 do that.

6 And let me just get this out or
7 I'll lose it. The recreational survey that's
8 being conducted right now that is --

9 MR. SCHWAAB: The economic survey?

10 MR. FISHER: Yes. How closely tied
11 in would this allocation workshop is that?
12 Because the public perception is that the
13 timing of the two, the release of the two or
14 the conduction of the two is for one purpose
15 and one purpose only. And here we have this
16 recreational workshop or survey coming out
17 when we already have that same study done just
18 a couple or three years ago, and here we have
19 this allocation workshop and people are
20 beginning to wonder if the thread is more than
21 a thread between the two.

22 MR. SCHWAAB: So first of all, we

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1 do a commercial survey every year.

2 MR. FISHER: Okay.

3 MR. SCHWAAB: Right. And we do, I
4 think it's every year. Yes. An economic --

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right.

6 MR. SCHWAAB: -- survey every year.
7 We've done periodic recreational surveys.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: Last done five years
9 ago.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: One of the things
11 that we, one of the things that we heard was,
12 you know, in addition to interest in
13 continuing that effort and perhaps increasing
14 the frequency was addressing some of the
15 ancillary, gathering additional information on
16 some of the ancillary benefits of recreational
17 fisheries. I can say from our perspective
18 that is completely independent of any look at
19 some of these allocation issues. Might there
20 be people that will want at some point down
21 the road to put them together? Sure. Is
22 there a legitimate argument that, you know, in

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1 some places, economics change and those
2 changing economics ought to factor into
3 decisions by the councils around allocation
4 down the road? Sure. But that's one
5 component of a council decision, and it's up
6 to the councils to determine how to factor
7 that in. But I don't think that, I don't know
8 that that fear should dissuade us from having
9 current, as current and complete economic
10 information on both on the contributions of
11 recreational fisheries and the contributions
12 of commercial fisheries, as appropriate.

13 MR. FISHER: I'm not suggesting
14 that. But --

15 MR. SCHWAAB: But is it part of a
16 conspiracy within the agency? No.

17 MR. FISHER: I'm not saying that.
18 But it might mitigate some of the tension.
19 Nobody, or at least I don't and nobody that I
20 know down there knows that you do conduct a
21 commercial economic survey every year. So
22 that might be an interesting information point

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1 to share with the public.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes, and that's a sad
3 commentary, isn't it?

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Now, I'll interrupt
5 just for a second. We have an agenda item
6 before lunch that I know that Eric wanted to
7 be here for. We need to break this discussion
8 now. We can go back to it. I just wanted
9 Eric to have the chance to speak to it and to
10 answer some questions. For sure we can go
11 back to it after lunch if we like. Also
12 during lunch, we're going to have some further
13 development of a couple of points in some of
14 the recommended subcommittee material. That's
15 going to come back to us after lunch. But
16 right now I would like to break and ask that
17 we speak to Mark about the election issue.
18 I'm just going to turn it over to you, and
19 that's it. I'm stepping away from the gavel.

20 MR. SCHWAAB: Okay. So just to set
21 the stage, one of the things that we've talked
22 about, dating back to the meeting in Annapolis

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1 was what the process has been and should be
2 going forward for selection of a chairman. So
3 we've put, obviously, some work into
4 clarifying what the policy implications are as
5 it relates to the term of a chair and their
6 term on the committee and have resolved, I
7 think, some of that in a way that will allow
8 sort of the maximum, you know, universe of
9 candidates to be considered and not
10 disadvantage some of the more senior members,
11 and we spoke to that earlier. But the other
12 thing that we've asked Mark to do is to
13 essentially lay out a process that could be
14 used at this meeting and then in future
15 meetings to efficiently but effectively select
16 a chair and basically create a space for you
17 all to do that that's equitable but doesn't
18 lead to just simply, you know, endless
19 conversation.

20 So Mark's got that. He's going to
21 lay that process out for you. And so I think
22 the thinking is we would use today to deal

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1 with the fact that we've been operating under
2 an acting chair since Tom Billy left but also
3 use it as something that would be a recurring
4 approach to selecting a chair in the future.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Could you also
6 speak to -- sorry. I'm stepping away from the
7 gavel here. Could you also speak to the issue
8 of whether that process is a part of MAFAC's
9 decision --

10 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh, yes. Thank you,
11 thank you. So one of the things we talked
12 about was actually establishing the process
13 was the domain of the agency. And while we
14 would be happy to take comment on the process
15 that Mark will lay out for you, we think, and
16 Mark can go into more detail as to why, it's
17 most appropriate that the agency establish the
18 process; you operate within it in your
19 deliberations and selection of the chair.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. I
21 already had that information, but I wanted
22 everybody else to have it. Thank you.

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1 MR. CATES: Which agency are you
2 referring to?

3 MR. SCHWAAB: Department of
4 Commerce, of course.

5 MR. CATES: So does this mean that
6 the position of vice chair is going to be
7 eliminated?

8 MR. SCHWAAB: So the answer is no,
9 but I think that, in the short term, we would
10 envision a process that would just select a
11 chairman today and that we would incorporate
12 the vice chairman slot into the next round.

13 DR. CHATWIN: Mark?

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes.

15 DR. CHATWIN: Are you going to be
16 saying in the process when the next election
17 will be?

18 MR. SCHWAAB: It would partly
19 depend on who was selected, right?

20 DR. CHATWIN: Okay.

21 DR. DANA: Can we hear the process
22 first?

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: So the purpose and
2 the objective was that we are trying to elect
3 a chair who would be, according to the
4 charter, serving for a two-year term, be
5 elected by majority vote. That's a
6 requirement of the charter, majority vote of
7 the voting members of the committee. So what
8 we call the liaisons from the three interstate
9 commissions are not voting members, according
10 to the charter, so it's the voting members
11 present by majority, as opposed to have
12 nominations taken. For this meeting, we'll
13 take them orally at this point in time. Those
14 who are interested in serving as the chair of
15 the committee would identify themselves to me,
16 as the designated federal officer for the
17 MAFAC committee. At that point, after
18 everyone has had an opportunity to identify
19 whether they want to be a nominee, we close
20 the nominations. If there's more, well, in
21 random order then, all the nominees would be
22 given a three-minute opportunity to speak to

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1 the full committee with respect to support of
2 their candidacy. At that point, we close the
3 process for providing the statements of
4 candidacy, and we would conduct a secret
5 ballot, one vote for one person. And if there
6 was a majority vote as a result of that first
7 ballot, that person would be elected for the
8 two-year term.

9 If there's not a majority -- we
10 have 20 members here present in the room right
11 now, voting members, a simple majority would
12 be an 11-person vote. If that's not obtained,
13 the two highest candidates receiving votes
14 would go into a run-off, and we'd conduct a
15 second ballot to obtain a majority vote.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: Mark, this sounds
17 like a good process. One of the things you
18 said is you are working at potentially a vice
19 chair but probably not now. I don't know what
20 was found in terms of boards of directors.
21 Vice chairs serve an important function, not
22 only as, if the chair is not present but also

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1 basically in line for that next opportunity
2 coming up. There's a person who pays close
3 attention and you know has got the facility to
4 work as chair. I'd like to see that that
5 office be on there. Is there a reason we
6 can't put it on there?

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: Eric and I
8 recommended that we not try to undertake the
9 election of a vice chair today.

10 MR. WALLACE: But it is understood
11 that if someone could be elected that does not
12 have two years to the fulfillment of their
13 term, they're termed out. And so in that
14 case, if they were elected, we would have
15 another election after their term ended.

16 DR. HOLLIDAY: Correct. One of the
17 reasons we were unable to reach conclusion in
18 that was there was a concern about whether
19 someone who had less than two years remaining
20 in their term, so we were going forward to try
21 to amend the charter to rectify that. And as
22 I mentioned on the first day, we were advised

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1 when we went to do that that we had legal
2 advice that said we did not have to do that
3 and that they were, the Department of Commerce
4 has a branch of attorneys who oversee the FACA
5 committees and, in further discussions with
6 them, we had another attorney say that we
7 didn't have to do the charter change to make
8 this happen. So if someone has less than two
9 years remaining in their term, they're
10 eligible to be elected to that position.

11 MR. WALLACE: Let me follow up just
12 a second. So if we elect someone with less
13 than two years, when would we have the next
14 election? Before their term expires or after
15 their term expires? Because without a vice
16 chair then we are left with no --

17 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. So the
18 vulnerability is that, in the worst-case
19 scenario, our next meeting is in October. If
20 we elected a chair today and the chair stepped
21 down before our next formal meeting, we would
22 be without a chairperson between May 25th and

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1 -- at that point, a designated federal
2 official could call a special meeting, if
3 necessary, or I think we'd seek the counsel of
4 Eric and the NOAA administrator on how to
5 proceed.

6 MR. WALLACE: Thank you for
7 clarifying.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm just going
9 around. Martin?

10 MR. FISHER: Thanks, Mark. The way
11 you described the language, just a point of
12 clarification, when you say there's a two-year
13 term for chair, let's say today we elect
14 somebody whose term ends in 2011 but they've
15 been elected to a two-year term, does the term
16 expire upon their term expiring or is there a
17 partial two-year term that then has to be
18 filled by an electoral process?

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Good question.

20 MR. FISHER: And that concerns me.
21 And let me just also say to the group I hope
22 that, somehow or another, we can hold

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1 elections for the 2012 and beyond chair and
2 vice chair at our October meeting because if
3 we don't and we do happen to select somebody
4 who terms off this year then our first meeting
5 in 2012 is going to have a lack of continuity
6 of a chair or vice chair working with the
7 staff to create the agenda for the 2012
8 meeting. I think we need that continuity.
9 It's my personal wish that in October we can
10 elect a chair and a vice chair that's going to
11 lead us into the next two-year term, not to in
12 any way diminish whoever gets elected chair if
13 they happen to term out in 2011.

14 MR. SCHWAAB: So I think that's
15 something that we'd welcome input on first. I
16 think that, you know, the thought was that,
17 once we got on some kind of a regular cycle,
18 we get through this sort of transitional
19 phase, that we would be on some kind of a two-
20 year cycle with a chair and a vice chair. And
21 if the chair was to term out before that two-
22 year cycle is up, the vice chair would fill

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1 the balance of the term. But we certainly
2 would be open to other suggestions on that.

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm sorry. I wanted
4 to just elaborate on Eric's response in
5 response to your first question. I think
6 because staff did not provide this information
7 to people in advance of the meeting and have
8 an opportunity for potential candidates to
9 think about this, we felt it was premature and
10 that we could refine this and have this
11 discussion and the process conducted in
12 October with advanced notice and advanced
13 consideration of what the implication would
14 be, but that the important thing today was
15 that we wanted to have a chair voted in and
16 available to conduct the work and the business
17 of the committee through the preparation of at
18 least the next meeting. And depending on
19 who's elected, it could be for two years or
20 until that person's term expires. And so in
21 the absence of having this laid out and having
22 an opportunity to consider the implications,

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1 we would propose not to do it. I think that
2 answered someone's earlier question about why.

3 Does that --

4 MR. FISHER: Yes, it does. I'm
5 just hoping that in October we can start
6 fresh. In other words, if the person gets
7 elected today does term out, that the chair
8 term that's just sitting up there at that
9 point taken, could, that if we had an election
10 in October for vice and a chair for following
11 MAFAC 2012 that those terms would start at the
12 next MAFAC meeting.

13 MR. SCHWAAB: So really the way to
14 deal with that would be just to suggest that
15 today we're electing a chair for a truncated
16 term, for the balance of 2011.

17 MR. FISHER: In essence, to fill
18 out Tom Billy's term.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: Tom Billy served two
20 years. So regardless of a successful
21 candidate, we would elect a chair for the
22 balance of 2011 and then clean up this process

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1 so that we have a full election in October for
2 a chair and a vice chair for a two-year term
3 to begin in 2012, for 2012 and 13.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you.
5 Speaking as a MAFAC member and as the
6 longstanding and I think the only vice chair
7 that MAFAC has ever had, right, I appreciate
8 the work that Mark has put in and Eric trying
9 to come up with a process. I agree with
10 Mark's assessment that the process needed to
11 be vetted through the group. And as the
12 acting chair, not as a candidate for chair,
13 but as the acting chair, I was privy to a
14 number of those discussions. It has been
15 discussed, to some extent, for several days,
16 and it's really important that the whole
17 membership have the opportunity to understand
18 the process, to have input into the process,
19 because this is the first time we've ever done
20 this. And so let everybody understand that,
21 including the new members, that we didn't have
22 a process before. It's not in the charter.

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1 And so we had to invent it, and so Mark has
2 made a really good start on that. And I asked
3 this morning, as the acting chair, just to try
4 to avoid a lengthy, you know, a mess or
5 whatever from happening, because that's my
6 responsibility, I just asked if there was
7 opportunity for input from MAFAC into the
8 process development. And, you know, I think
9 that Eric, at the beginning of this
10 discussion, said this is an agency role and
11 we're going to come up with a process.

12 And so I thought that was a fine
13 idea. I just wanted it to all be clear to
14 everybody going in. And so I'm not speaking
15 as anything other than a MAFAC member and as
16 the vice chair currently. So thank you.

17 MR. JONER: So following what
18 Martin said and the conversation,
19 reestablishing or have you established that
20 the election would follow kind of the
21 appointment cycle so that at the end of a
22 MAFAC year there's an election or that the

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1 election would always occur at the end of the
2 MAFAC year?

3 MR. SCHWAAB: So I think the answer
4 to that is no because there is no particular
5 appointment cycle.

6 MR. JONER: Yes. So I'm wondering
7 --

8 MR. SCHWAAB: Basically, what we're
9 talking about is getting on a calendar year
10 schedule, right?

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: No, because
12 appointments begin and end at various points.

13 MR. SCHWAAB: But the election of a
14 chair and a vice chair would happen at regular
15 intervals, not in conjunction with an
16 appointment cycle which doesn't really exist.

17 MR. JONER: I meant the calendar
18 year for MAFAC. If somebody is elected in, if
19 somebody is elected for the October meeting,
20 would their term start right then or would it
21 start January 1st? Because there's some
22 overlap.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Could I speak to
2 that? It seems as though, Mr. Chair, that the
3 election would take place every two years or
4 at the meeting prior to the time that either
5 the chair or the vice chair was terming out of
6 MAFAC, if that needed to happen. Every two
7 years on a regular basis or the meeting prior
8 to when a chair or a vice chair was going to
9 be leaving MAFAC, whichever was appropriate.

10 MR. FISHER: That's what I was
11 trying to get at.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Would that be, is
13 that logical?

14 MR. FISHER: That's what I was
15 trying to get at. It doesn't make sense to me
16 to look at a future meeting without a chair or
17 a vice chair if we can accomplish that at the
18 meeting before.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right.

20 MR. SCHWAAB: So if there were an
21 election in October, at the October meeting,
22 what is your recommendation as to when that

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1 person would --

2 MR. FISHER: At the first meeting
3 of 2012. The election for chair and vice
4 chair, if the person that -- it all depends on
5 who's elected today. If the person that's
6 elected today has two years left on their own
7 personal term then we're just electing a vice
8 chair. And at that point, because there is no
9 vice chair, that vice chair would take office
10 in October. But because there is no vice
11 chair and if the person that gets elected
12 today happens to term out in 2011, then both
13 seats would be new in the first meeting of
14 2012.

15 MR. JONER: So if we elect somebody
16 today for two years, their term would expire
17 at the end of May in 2013 and then there would
18 be an election then. That's my question. We
19 need to get on a regular election cycle, and
20 then if we elect somebody in October for a
21 two-year term and then they resign six months
22 early, do you have another election or what

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1 would you do and does that matter?

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Good question.

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: The proposal is that
4 we're electing a person to serve a two-year
5 term. If that person leaves prior to the two
6 years, the vice chair would rise to that seat
7 to fill the completion of that term. At that
8 point, the term has been completed, an
9 election would be held.

10 MR. JONER: All right. Now that
11 makes sense.

12 MR. RIZZARDI: And that election
13 would take place in October.

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, if that
15 circumstance arises.

16 MR. JONER: We don't have this
17 every time something unusual happens,
18 unexpected happens, and you have to go around
19 and round.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: Everyone would like
21 it to be a rigid schedule the second Tuesday
22 in November, but there is quite a lot of

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1 turnover, people going off to serve on a
2 council. For whatever reason, a lot of people
3 leave before their terms expire and you cannot
4 guarantee that.

5 MR. JONER: But at least there
6 would be contingencies in place. I'll be gone
7 after October, but I'd still like to see it
8 resolved because we put a lot of time into
9 this discussion.

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: Moving down the
11 rails, Randy.

12 MR. CATES: New members are
13 scratching their heads. Quick background.
14 The chairperson never attended the meetings
15 for many years, and so this whole issue made
16 MAFAC look at what its relevancy was and how
17 best to proceed, and that's what the problem
18 is. Now we're putting a round peg in a square
19 box, so to speak. In my opinion, the best
20 thing that we could do is, we're hung up on
21 the two-year issue and it doesn't make sense
22 because all of us are appointed for three

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1 years and then we have a renewal, but you
2 don't know if you're going to be asked to sit
3 again for another three years. So two years
4 doesn't make sense because it limits, and
5 Mark's suggestion kind of solves that. But I
6 think a better solution is, you elect a
7 chairperson. At their last meeting, you elect
8 another chairperson. Simple. And whenever
9 their last meeting is and we get out of this
10 two-year thing. An example I gave, if we have
11 someone that's located in D.C. and can do the
12 work but only has six months to go on and
13 fills that need, then we should have the
14 option of electing that person. But I
15 understand the desire to try and get two
16 years, but in this organization, it doesn't
17 fit because you're only into the thing in two
18 meetings and then you're going to be
19 chairperson. So that's my suggestion.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: Thank you, Randy,
21 for your observation. If we were to pursue
22 that, it would require a change in the

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1 charter.

2 MR. CATES: So your thing is the
3 closest we can get to it without changing the
4 charter.

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's consistent with
6 the charter.

7 MR. CATES: Okay. Then that makes
8 sense.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I ask a
10 question?

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: To Randy's point?

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Does it say
13 in the, I didn't bring it up, does it say a
14 maximum of two years or does it just say two
15 years?

16 DR. HOLLIDAY: It says two years,
17 and it could be extended by one more year.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Thank you.

19 MR. CATES: If that doesn't change
20 the charter, then I'm fine with this being the
21 way you worded it. But I think it was
22 important for people to hear the background of

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1 why we're having a discussion.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: Just the explanation
3 for why we proposed to rise to the vice chair
4 was to reduce the frequency of elections. So
5 if every time someone left we had an election,
6 we'd probably be having many more elections
7 than if we had someone who was to fill out a
8 two-year term. The purpose of the vice chair
9 would be to help minimize the number of, the
10 frequency of elections. Tony, you're next.

11 DR. CHATWIN: So to that point, the
12 current situation was that you have vice chair
13 that decided to do that and we're talking
14 about having an election at the next, a full
15 election at the next cycle, so it just brings
16 the question why are we having an election
17 today?

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: Because Tom Billy's
19 term for two years has been completed and he
20 was leaving, okay, and so, in effect, we
21 wanted to have a chair for continuity purposes
22 to help us through to this meeting when we

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1 agreed that we'd elect a chair. We could not
2 resolve the legal question in Annapolis. We
3 were prepared to elect a chair then.

4 DR. CHATWIN: Just a follow up on
5 that. What we agreed in Annapolis was that we
6 would have the election once the charter was
7 amended. That's what we agreed to. Now
8 you're saying you don't need to have a charter
9 --

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: That was overtaken
11 by the -- right. The need to revise the
12 charter to allow a member to serve as chair
13 with less than two years remaining on their
14 appointment was not necessary, so we had an
15 additional piece of legal advice that said the
16 charter requirement, for all intents and
17 purposes, the need to change the charter has
18 been overtaken by this ruling that we could do
19 that without a charter change.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks. Just to
21 clarify, what happened at the last meeting was
22 not that the vice chair ascended to be the

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1 chair. It wasn't because the previous chair
2 couldn't fill out his full term, so it is a
3 slightly different situation than what he was
4 referring to. That's not what happened. It
5 was different.

6 MR. FISHER: It's a common
7 question.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't think we
9 got --

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: Are there any other
11 further questions about how we should proceed?
12 Cathy?

13 MS. FOY: I have one. Why did you,
14 as a committee, from appointment of the chair,
15 such as the case, if I remember right, Tony
16 DiLernia was appointed and I don't remember
17 hearing whether or not his predecessor was, to
18 election of the chair? It matters not to me
19 whether or not, I mean, it doesn't matter to
20 me. Why did we decide to move from one to the
21 other?

22 DR. HOLLIDAY: My recollection is

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1 we have it on the record in the transcripts
2 and we can go back to them. There were at
3 least two points. Using current NOAA
4 leadership, the transfer would be to chair and
5 Eric would be the vice chair. There was a
6 sense that we're making recommendations as a
7 body, an external body, to our chairperson and
8 our vice chair. There didn't seem to be any
9 distance between those two decision makers.
10 And so how independent could it be if we're
11 trying to provide a sense of a group to chair
12 of the group? That was one issue.

13 The other was a more practical
14 concern. It was that the chair had not
15 availed himself of the opportunity to
16 participate in the meetings, so we were
17 effectively working without a chair. And then
18 the vice chair, Jim's tenure as the acting AA,
19 would step in to be that for -- in those
20 intervening years and, similarly, that's the
21 situation we were faced with Dr. Lubchenco,
22 someone who could step in. So in a sense, the

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1 decision was voted on and vetted through the
2 committee to make that change in the charter
3 to allow NOAA, as the FACA organizing group,
4 allow that charter change to be submitted to
5 the Secretary and GSA.

6 MR. CATES: Mark, can I ask a
7 question on that?

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, sir.

9 MR. CATES: If anyone knows, when
10 MAFAC was first organized, was that process
11 followed? Would the NOAA person actually be
12 at the meeting and chair?

13 DR. HOLLIDAY: Would the NOAA
14 administrator?

15 MR. CATES: Lubchenco's position.

16 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. NOAA
17 administrator. I don't know. I can't say
18 with definitive when or how often. It's been
19 my experience, I presented to MAFAC many, many
20 times before as a staff person, and it was
21 always run by the Fisheries Service people as
22 opposed to NOAA people.

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1 MR. CATES: Okay.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: They may have been
3 in attendance at some point. I remember
4 having deputy or assistant secretaries coming
5 but not on a routine basis from NOAA.

6 MR. CATES: I'm just curious why it
7 was set up that way.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think it might
9 have been just as a process, and then that
10 responsibility was almost an assumed
11 delegation to the head of the Fisheries
12 Service.

13 MR. RAFTICAN: Mark, not that it's
14 necessary, but there actually was a committee
15 that was set up, I'm just going back two and a
16 half years ago, and we ourselves changed the
17 direction so that it would, we'd vote for
18 chair rather than --

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: There was a charter,
20 it was an ad hoc working group for the charter
21 change, and it was brought to the full
22 committee, discussed, and voted on.

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1 MR. CLAMPITT: Well, my question
2 was are we accepting nominations or are people
3 going to throw their name in a hat --

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: I would like to move
5 to the process of either going to lunch,
6 because we have a commitment. I mean, in all
7 respect that Keith has put his name on the
8 line to get a group of people, a large group
9 of people at a restaurant. And if we are not
10 going to proceed to move through the
11 nominations quickly, then we need to be
12 mindful of that commitment. I'd like to, I
13 think we had a couple of rounds of good
14 questions, and I hope most of them have been
15 answered. But I'd like to have your
16 indulgence to either do the process or defer
17 the process at this point. My preference
18 would be to do the process and celebrate.

19 MR. FISHER: Well, my motion might
20 take care of it, but it might not.

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: There's no need for
22 a motion.

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1 MR. FISHER: Oh, okay.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm sorry.

3 MR. FISHER: No, that's fine.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: It wasn't a MAFAC
5 business procedure.

6 MR. FISHER: Okay.

7 MR. DEWEY: NOAA's going in the
8 process.

9 DR. CHATWIN: So, Mark, just to be
10 clear, so the process is to elect a chair for
11 the next --

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: For two years.

13 DR. CHATWIN: Because you said that
14 there was going to be a full election in
15 October.

16 MR. SCHWAAB: I probably confused
17 matters. We should run Mark's process.

18 DR. DANA: No, the agency's --

19 MR. SCHWAAB: We should run the
20 agency's process as best articulated by Mark.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: And, Mr. Chairman,
22 is it you or is it Mark?

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1 MR. SCHWAAB: No, it is me, but I
2 will defer to Mark if there's any questions in
3 the process.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: This is not a
5 process question. Mr. Chairman?

6 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: I would like to
8 nominate myself for chair, and I would like
9 that to take place now.

10 MR. RAFTICAN: That's seconded.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'm placing my name
12 in nomination. Let's put it that way.

13 MR. SCHWAAB: All right. So we're
14 initiating the process.

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: We're initiating the
16 process.

17 MR. SCHWAAB: I'm going to delegate
18 Mark to run the process.

19 MS. DOERR: Good leaders know how
20 to delegate.

21 DR. CHATWIN: So I have a question
22 on this.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, sir.

2 DR. CHATWIN: If Heather is the
3 only candidate, are we talking about having a
4 full election in October?

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, by implication
6 of that action, we would be having an election
7 for October. For 2012, right?

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: And ongoing.

9 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes. For the chair
10 and deferred electing a vice chair at this
11 meeting, in which there would be a vice chair
12 election in October.

13 DR. CHATWIN: And we don't elect a
14 vice chair.

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: No. I have a
16 nomination.

17 MR. DEWEY: We have one nomination.

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: And a second.
19 Excuse me. Are there any other nominations to
20 serve the position of chair?

21 MR. WALLACE: I move to cease
22 nominations.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Nominations are
2 closed. Heather is the only nomination that
3 we have. We have three minutes to speak to
4 your candidacy, if you wish to do so.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'll take my three
6 minutes, but only if I have a beer. Thank
7 you, thank you for the support that I'm
8 hearing. And I appreciate all of this
9 process. I know it was quite difficult. I
10 would like to serve for the remainder of my
11 term, and I appreciate the confidence that
12 people have placed in me. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, that's not the
15 process, but who cares at this point? All
16 right. We've completed the morning session.
17 We have elected a chair.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you.

19 (Whereupon, the foregoing matter
20 went off the record at 12:27 p.m. and went
21 back on the record at 2:21 p.m.)

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Hi. Once again,

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1 thanks to Keith. He's not here, but thanks
2 again, Keith, for the concierge duty. That
3 was good. Here's, as far as I can tell, what
4 we have left to talk about. Coming back up
5 off the table, which I think will take a
6 motion to bring it off the table, was the Gulf
7 of Mexico thing, which has been worked on at
8 some point.

9 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes. Keith's
10 actually the one with the document.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Is that
12 ready to go?

13 MR. WALLACE: I think he's coming
14 right now.

15 MS. FOY: Yes. We agreed over
16 lunch on a plan.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Keith, we already
18 thanked you once again for your wonderful
19 concierge duties and helping us get all
20 together.

21 MR. RIZZARDI: Happy to help.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: And I was just

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1 going over what we have left to do, which
2 includes the Gulf of Mexico and Julie just
3 said that you had that ready to go?

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Pretty close.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So then we
6 have the discussion for the NOP stuff and the
7 climate stuff, and Cathy has that ready to go.

8 Perhaps, since he's not entirely right up
9 there with that, maybe we should do you first.

10 And then Cathy's Protected Resources
11 Subcommittee has not reported out, and I
12 understand that it's mostly agenda
13 suggestions.

14 MS. FOY: Why don't I go ahead and
15 take care of that while Josh is getting stuff
16 because I could report to subcommittee, had an
17 informal meeting for just the members and
18 asked if they had any suggestions for the
19 upcoming agenda. Since we're going to be in
20 D.C. this next time, we'd like to, we think
21 that would be an appropriate time to have --

22 MR. CATES: Are we going to be in

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1 D.C.?

2 MS. FOY: In the D.C. area, yes.
3 That would be an appropriate time to have
4 staff to brief us on lawsuit issues that we're
5 dealing with currently. Not necessarily right
6 now. Of course, that's -- the coral species
7 lawsuits. So that is our primary concern.
8 And considering what else I've heard flying
9 around on the agenda, we best leave it there.

10 So let me roll from that right into
11 the next. Do we want to go with Keith next,
12 or do we want to --

13 DR. CHATWIN: This one's ready.

14 MS. DOERR: This one's ready.

15 MS. FOY: So let me give you a
16 little bit of, while he's getting this up.
17 This is a subsection of the response to the
18 upcoming National Ocean Policy on strategic
19 action plans, the outlines that are coming up.

20 The version to work from is the one on the
21 board. What we're anticipating is some fairly
22 polarized views regarding climate change

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1 perspectives from the committee. So what we
2 were hoping to do is jump the gun by starting
3 an email dialogue, and then I will try and
4 produce a state regarding different views on
5 MAFAC. And then on June 10th, when we have a
6 subcommittee conference call, then we'll have
7 a strawman put up and work through language.
8 And then we'll again forward that draft to the
9 full committee so that you can consider your
10 responses for the full committee meeting on
11 June 27th.

12 So we'll have a starting document
13 that we can kind of respond to in considering
14 the positions. This is going to be a
15 difficult one. I anticipate that we're going
16 to be getting down in the minutia of language
17 again.

18 Once we hammer that out, we have
19 some additional long-term opportunities for
20 comments and another short-term opportunity
21 that Mark brought up for me for different
22 national policy things that are coming up.

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1 The National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate
2 Adaptation Strategy, Mark pointed out in the
3 summer of 2011, that's now, we have an
4 opportunity to highlight needs and strategies
5 to incorporate the MAFAC opinion. This would
6 be a good chance to just, once we get this
7 document done, the minor language changes, and
8 these go to the NOAA staff again. And so
9 that's -- and then we have a National Climate
10 Assessment coming up and the National Climate
11 Adaptation Plan. Julie had a very good idea
12 when we were in the subcommittee that perhaps
13 since we have time without taking 2020
14 piecemeal and update it would be a good chance
15 to add a planning chapter or section in Vision
16 2020.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I ask you a
18 couple of questions?

19 MS. FOY: Please.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are you and Tom
21 thinking that those two subcommittees will do
22 this jointly, this entire set of comments and

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1 working on the comments and so forth?

2 MR. RAFTICAN: I think it's an
3 opportunity, you know, it's an opportunity for
4 the folks who were here yesterday to kind of
5 hammer out some of this stuff because you've
6 got to go back, do some homework, and bring in
7 some refined comments and trying to get to
8 this done in an easier manner. But I do want
9 to stress to those that want to get comments
10 in or that want to -- first of all, everybody
11 welcome on the call, but if you've got
12 specific comments, get them refined as fast as
13 you can and get them into Heidi so that we can
14 have a document to deal with and the earlier
15 the better so we can get something out in
16 advance of the call.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: And those comments
18 would be both on the National Ocean Policy
19 nine areas.

20 MS. FOY: But specifically about
21 the climate.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Specifically about

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1 climate but both. So, for example, if they
2 wanted to make Coastal Marine Spatial Planning
3 comments, they should make those, as well.
4 And the material for that is coming out June
5 1, that's my understanding, for the NOP stuff.

6 MS. FOY: Correct.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. And that is,
8 I'm assuming, going to be quite similar to the
9 draft outlines that we got, no guarantees but
10 relatively similar. So if you want a head
11 start on it, I would suggest that you look at
12 that. And that came by email to the full
13 committee a couple of weeks, a week and a half
14 before the meeting I think, exactly from Mark.

15 And I imagine that when the full one comes
16 out you'll send it to everybody. Okay.

17 So I want to talk about the 2020
18 thing in a second. But as far as the rest of
19 that goes, is everybody cool with that? Are
20 there any questions of the subcommittee chairs
21 or any comments from the subcommittees?

22 MR. RAFTICAN: I think where they

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1 are, they still have to, we checked the box
2 off on energy, but I think it still has to,
3 you know -- those subcommittee reports --

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Exactly.

5 MR. RAFTICAN: -- and check three
6 boxes.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: That would be
8 great. You guys did great work, by the way.
9 But let me talk a little bit about the 2020
10 before we jump to the Gulf of Mexico. Go
11 ahead.

12 MS. FOY: Okay. So the suggestions
13 of the subcommittee were, number one, is we
14 take a chunk out of 2020 at the next meeting
15 and maybe further on in the agenda we have
16 further briefings from staff regarding climate
17 change or education actually, and that while
18 that's all fresh in our minds.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you anticipate
20 that there will be material that will be
21 developed by the subcommittee? Do you
22 anticipate any additional interim work for

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1 those two subcommittees? Anything else that
2 we haven't addressed?

3 MS. FOY: I'm going to ask the
4 other members who were present at the
5 subcommittee meeting if they have, I mean we
6 didn't specifically suggest anything. So is
7 there anything further that you feel that
8 needs work for the next meeting?

9 MS. DOERR: I have a question in
10 terms of clarification.

11 MS. FOY: Go ahead.

12 MS. DOERR: You had said earlier
13 that June 10th conference call, the
14 subcommittee conference call would focus on
15 climate change but include other stuff?

16 MS. FOY: We're not going to focus
17 on climate change.

18 MS. DOERR: It's going to be all
19 the --

20 MS. FOY: It's going to be
21 everything.

22 MS. DOERR: -- the nine?

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1 MS. FOY: But because we expect
2 that it's going to be difficult to please
3 everybody with a statement on climate change
4 that we jumped the gun on that and I have a
5 strawman ready to put up.

6 MS. DOERR: And I would agree but
7 also add that, and I think Tom mentioned this
8 earlier, that going into that June 10th call,
9 as folks review all the SAPs, those strategic
10 action plans, that they provide the comments
11 to Heidi. We had talked in the subcommittee
12 about Heidi collating all the comments, so
13 then we also have strawmans for the others and
14 not just climate change.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: I believe that's
16 the intent, and I think that's good. As far
17 as the 2020 aspect of this, I think that's a
18 good idea and I think we'll have plenty of raw
19 material to do that with. And then the full
20 committee can discuss that in an agenda item
21 during the next meeting.

22 Prior to that, I also want at least

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1 two or three other people. I'm going to do it
2 just because I want to look at it. I want to
3 look at the 2020 and identify other areas that
4 may be ripe for updating and change. So I'm
5 still waiting for a couple of people to put
6 their hands up for that job.

7 MR. FISHER: What time frame are
8 you talking about?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: I would do it
10 within the next month or so and then send
11 that, I personally will send it to Mark and
12 everybody. These are the places that I and
13 these other little subgroup think maybe we
14 should concentrate on.

15 MR. FISHER: I volunteer.

16 CHAIR MCCARTHY: Okay. Anybody
17 else?

18 MS. DOERR: I will.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Patty. And then we
20 can have that discussion as a group at the
21 next meeting, as well. But we've already
22 agreed that we're going to have a focus on the

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1 climate aspect of the 2020 at the upcoming
2 meeting. Is everybody okay with that so far?
3 Bill?

4 MR. DEWEY: Just to that point on
5 the climate focus. I would just request that
6 we also include in that, because 2020 doesn't
7 have anything on ocean acidification either,
8 that it would be logical to include that with
9 the climate discussion.

10 MS. FOY: I'm sorry, Bill. I
11 didn't send it.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Sounds good.
13 I'm just taking notes. I know that notes are
14 being taken, but I still want to keep it
15 straight in my own head.

16 DR. CHATWIN: I have a question.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead, Tony.

18 DR. CHATWIN: In addition to having
19 a completed chapter of climate at the next
20 meeting or it's just going to flesh out the
21 issues a bit more?

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'm thinking just

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1 flesh out the issues based on the work that
2 the subcommittee members did and have
3 potential points of view and comment that we
4 could then probably somebody would be assigned
5 to rewrite it as an actual section of 2020,
6 once we agree on the actual policy stances.

7 DR. CHATWIN: That sounds good just
8 because I think that we provide comment.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: And more work after
10 this next meeting. I think it's going to be,
11 you know, a little bit complex to feel our way
12 through the whole suite of opportunities. You
13 know, it's good to have opportunities, but
14 there are a number of them, and we may not
15 actually get them all realized. I don't know.
16 We'll see.

17 MR. DEWEY: I was going to suggest
18 that we have Randy draft the climate chapter.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: He wasn't
20 listening. Usually he hears his name, though.
21 Okay.

22 MR. FISHER: It's like the UN.

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1 Let's translate it.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: It would be cool.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: It would be. Well,
4 maybe he'll be on that writing team. Who
5 knows? So that's that part of the
6 subcommittee, and then we can go to the Gulf
7 of Mexico. It doesn't matter. Just walk us
8 through it. We have to have a motion to bring
9 the motion back off the table, I believe.

10 MR. RAFTICAN: So we hear a motion
11 to bring the motion back off the table?

12 MR. RIZZARDI: You should make the
13 motion.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: You have to make a
15 motion.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: No, I'm the chair.
17 I should make a motion. So we have Patty
18 making the motion --

19 MS. DOERR: I make a motion to
20 bring the motion back on the table.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: Do we have a second?
22

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1 MR. CLAMPITT: Yes.

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

3 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay. So the first
4 three parts haven't changed. The changes are
5 at the very bottom of the document. And so we
6 got priority two, enhancing research,
7 monitoring, data collection, research, data
8 collection, monitoring. And then we move to
9 C, which is where the details are.

10 Here's what the suggestion that
11 came back from my discussions with Julie. I
12 started off by taking all the bullets, and I
13 broke them into two categories. One category
14 of research and monitoring was oil related.
15 The second category was ecosystem related.
16 And could you scroll down a little more? All
17 right. So what we realized is, after hearing
18 a discussion with staff on seafood monitoring
19 and after Julie asked him a bunch of sharp
20 questions, this stuff is already happening
21 with the first billion dollars that have been
22 allocated from their own money. So it gave us

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1 the opportunity to simply drop the concept
2 completely, leaving only the ecosystem concept
3 behind, and that now reduced us to five
4 essential bullets, which I just slightly
5 edited to make them sort of consistent,
6 starting with a verb and referencing numerous
7 concepts.

8 Julie, you also mentioned the need
9 to insert nutrient. The nutrient reference
10 was elsewhere in the document. This one is a
11 broader reference to water quality
12 generically, sediment management, and the dead
13 zone. So do you want to just carve out a
14 special mention of nutrients here, or is the
15 water quality reference enough?

16 MS. MORRIS: Either way.

17 MR. RIZZARDI: So bottom line is
18 we've got it down to five bullets being
19 recommended for research and monitoring. And
20 I'll walk through it again. It's mapping the
21 Gulf, especially hard bottom and live bottom
22 habitat of the shelf; understanding surface

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1 and deep water currents; understanding the
2 deep water environments, especially the
3 ecosystem roles of the deep water coral.
4 There's probably too many ecosystems, so can
5 we strike this ecosystem here and just make it
6 "the role of deep water coral ecosystems?"

7 DR. CHATWIN: Single role?

8 MR. RIZZARDI: Singular. Role
9 singular. Okay. Improving data on water
10 quality sediment management in the dead zone
11 downstream, there's a missing "r" there. Dead
12 zone down stream. And investing in additional
13 data gathering related to the essential fish
14 habitat and stock assessments and, in
15 particular, investing in NOAA's habitat
16 assessment improvement plan to obtain level
17 two information and implementation of the --
18 what happened? That used to say "NOAA Stock
19 Assessment Improvement Plan" right here.
20 Sorry. Right here. Sorry. It's what happens
21 when you cut and paste too quickly. NOAA
22 Stock Assessment Improvement Plan, all

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1 capitalized.

2 So those were the changes that were
3 suggested by Julie and I.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: And that's it?

5 MR. RIZZARDI: That's it.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: How does the rest
7 of it read?

8 MR. RIZZARDI: As it was.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

10 MR. RIZZARDI: Go back to the
11 beginning?

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: Do I walk through
14 the whole thing again or --

15 MR. RAFTICAN: I think that's the
16 report as it comes out of the subcommittee and
17 actually as vetted within full MAFAC. Are
18 there any other questions regarding this? Can
19 I get a motion to accept? A second?

20 DR. DANA: Second.

21 MR. RAFTICAN: All in favor?

22 (Chorus of ayes.)

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is this your
2 subcommittee?

3 MR. RAFTICAN: Yes. No, this is
4 the MAFAC --

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, all right.
6 Mr. Chair? Sorry. Just checking.

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Thanks, everyone.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's good. Thank
9 you. Is there anything else from the
10 subcommittees that needs to come before us?

11 MR. RAFTICAN: I don't think so.
12 The only thing I do want to, we're going to
13 have a very difficult, it's going to be an
14 intricate conference call in June, and I just
15 want to emphasize the fact that if you've got
16 information let's get it to Heidi early on.
17 We had a lot from the sport fishing
18 organizations. We can't take that amount.
19 It's got to be kind of fine-tuned very
20 specifically to what we're doing here, so each
21 one of us has to do our homework on our own
22 pieces and get it in there individually, and

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1 it will make life a lot easier on the
2 conference call but also improve the value of
3 the document that we get out. Thank you.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a very good
5 idea. And I would encourage everyone who's
6 putting comments in to be relatively clear and
7 short and maybe bullet points, maybe not if
8 you don't like bullet points but something
9 relatively short and keep it easy to deal with
10 because somebody is going to have to deal with
11 it all. Phil?

12 MR. DYSKOW: Are we call clear on
13 the deadline for initial input on the NOP?
14 Isn't it some time in June?

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. We tried to
16 tailor the dates of these meetings in order to
17 --

18 MR. DYSKOW: Aren't you pretty
19 tight?

20 MR. DEWEY: Very tight.

21 MR. DYSKOW: I'm not telling
22 anybody anything they don't know, but

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1 sometimes the early implementers get all the
2 benefit and there's been a lot of input from a
3 lot of organizations already submitted to the
4 White House.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Mark, I'll tell
6 you, looking at scheduling, are we bound by,
7 we're obviously bound by Federal Registry
8 notice requirements and --

9 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. I appreciate
10 the observation. I think in the case of the
11 declaration policy that they're not giving
12 deference to those comments that are coming
13 any time before the deadline before public
14 comment. They were also going to be
15 conducting a series, as I spoke the other day,
16 listening sessions in the field. So written
17 comments that arrive early would not be given
18 preference early over any of the other
19 comments. I think the deadline, the 30th is
20 hard. If we miss that then we're sunk. We've
21 allowed that three-day window for staff to
22 digest and try to incorporate any new

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1 comments.

2 MR. DYSKOW: Are you comfortable
3 with that?

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, we're as
5 comfortable as the time allows us to be.
6 Thank you.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: So as far as the
8 subcommittee's work in the next few months,
9 between now and the next meeting, I know that
10 the recreational subcommittee laid out their
11 own work and their own agenda requests and
12 that's pretty straightforward. I sent out an
13 email a while ago asking each of the
14 subcommittee chairs to detail that. Maybe we
15 don't need to do that. Maybe we've got it all
16 in notes in terms of what needs to be on the
17 agenda for the next meeting and what
18 subcommittees' work needs to be between now
19 and then. Does everybody feel comfortable
20 with that as far as the subcommittee chairs
21 go? Okay. Okay, good. So I'm sure that's
22 all being captured.

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1 So we're done with the subcommittee
2 reports, and it's not 4:30. I like this. So
3 there's a couple of other points that I want
4 to go back to, and I don't know if anybody
5 else wants to, but one of the things we talked
6 about in giving advice through the
7 subcommittee process was budget priorities.
8 And we, I think, all understand that when you
9 talk about budget priorities you're talking
10 about the very heart of people's interests and
11 agendas and sectoral things and every other
12 thing, including research priorities and all
13 the rest of it. It's my feeling that it would
14 be very difficult for us to sit down at this
15 meeting, not having undertaken it in the
16 subcommittee, and put together budget
17 priorities to give advice to Eric. Now, he
18 asked for it, and I feel bad that we're not
19 doing it, but I'm not sure that we can stay at
20 the level or get to the level that he feels
21 like he needs us to be at through an open
22 process with everybody at the table.

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1 Now, that's just my assessment, but
2 I'm completely open. I think we have time to
3 do a couple of things. Mark has his MAFAC
4 business, and that's important. I don't want
5 to short that. And we have to talk about
6 Managing Fisheries II. As far as I can tell,
7 that's all we've got left on the agenda. And
8 so --

9 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's three.

10 MS. FOY: Three.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Sorry. Three.
12 Ken?

13 MR. FRANKE: One question, just
14 some budget issues. And I heard what Eric
15 said. In each one of our regions, I mean, I
16 listened to what Randy was saying and I've got
17 the same thing in my region where things could
18 be done a little bit different to save money,
19 what have you. Would it be a thought to
20 maybe, if the mechanism is in place
21 independent of MAFAC, if we had a
22 recommendation, maybe if it's specific to our

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1 region, that we submit that information as a
2 personal recommendation to whoever the
3 regional administrator is and have that be the
4 repository of the information and let them
5 after, you know, maybe they have unique
6 reasons why they're doing what they're doing.

7 But that way the information gets vetted. If
8 it's going to be a positive impact, they can
9 take it.

10 MS. FOY: I'm wondering if we're
11 getting into trouble there because, you know,
12 MAFAC advisors, if you're speaking to your,
13 personally speaking to your local --

14 MR. FRANKE: Yes. I'm not talking
15 --

16 MS. FOY: -- that's different than
17 if you're doing it as a representative of
18 MAFAC if your own opinion speaking to staff.

19 MR. FRANKE: Yes. My
20 recommendation was as a person, an individual
21 to submit a recommendation to any public
22 agency, like you could --

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's what I
2 understood you to mean, and I think that's
3 always appropriate myself, but particularly
4 when it comes to things like, you know,
5 cutting costs and things that only you can see
6 when you're in that region and things like
7 that. You can try at least, but I don't know
8 about that. I think that what Eric was really
9 talking about when he addressed this issue was
10 something like what he said. If you feel that
11 an investment in catch shares would lead to
12 additional savings down the road because all
13 the catch share programs are more easily
14 managed when they're in full bloom than as a
15 regular managed fishery, for example, I mean,
16 that's what he said. And so that's the kind
17 of advice he was looking for, and I think that
18 goes a little bit beyond the original cost
19 saving issues. Randy?

20 MR. CATES: I have a question
21 that's kind of tied into this. One of the
22 things I do before I come to a MAFAC meeting

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1 is I reach out to my area, West PAC. I'll go
2 to the fish-off and I'll try and request a
3 meeting with the regional NOAA folks to go
4 over what's on the agenda and seeing what the
5 issues are in that area just to kind of
6 educate myself. Is that something that's in
7 line with our roles is the first question, and
8 the second is, boy, I'm really seeing a change
9 in the response from NOAA folks regionally.
10 It's almost like the door is closed, and it's
11 very odd to me. When Bill Robertson was
12 there, it was a bit different because he knew
13 -- it is my phone.

14 So, anyway, that's a two-part
15 question. One is, as a MAFAC member, is it
16 right for us to go, for example, and ask a
17 regional office, "Educate me on what's going
18 on locally. What are the issues? I'm heading
19 to MAFAC," and just sort of an education part?

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, if you're
21 asking for my opinion, I'd say, no,
22 absolutely, that's what should be done. I

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1 think you need to reach out to your
2 constituency, whoever it may be, your region,
3 regional NOAA and NMFS people. Absolutely. I
4 mean, that's the way I feel. That's part of
5 our job, I think. Mark, do you have a comment
6 on that?

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: I don't disagree. I
8 think there's a need to be informed about what
9 the issues are, who your stakeholders are in
10 your region, and the important issues. I
11 think there's no conflict of interest or
12 impropriety. I think that, in return, I think
13 when you represent yourself to those bodies,
14 you need to make sure that you wear various
15 hats at various points in time. Sometimes
16 you're speaking to the same people as a
17 private citizen versus a member of MAFAC, and
18 making that clear I think is always useful.

19 MR. CATES: Well, what I try and
20 do, is here is the agenda for our meetings is
21 published on the web, do you have any comments
22 or, you know, I want to hear from you on these

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1 subjects.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think that's
3 fine.

4 MR. CATES: And, wow, it's like now
5 you can't get a meeting.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: That maybe a
7 regional issue. I think it was Cathy and then
8 Keith; is that right? Cathy?

9 MS. FOY: I would just like to
10 caution the new members that that is somewhere
11 that you can get into trouble because you
12 never, I never hesitate to have people talk to
13 me about what they feel the issues are. I'm
14 very cautious when it comes around the other
15 way and they know that I'm a MAFAC member, but
16 I hesitate even to speak my own opinion
17 because I don't want them to take my opinion
18 as the MAFAC position. So it's the opposite
19 information flow that you need to be really
20 cautious about.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a good
22 point, too.

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1 MR. CATES: I make that disclosure
2 though, in public meetings. I'm here, you
3 know, I am a MAFAC member but it has nothing
4 to do with MAFAC. Most of them go, "Well,
5 what's MAFAC? What is that?"

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, that's what I
7 hear, too. Keith?

8 MR. RIZZARDI: I just want to make
9 sure everybody understood I think what Mark's
10 point is that when we go and we're doing that
11 data collection effort, whether it be at the
12 regional office or the state end of year or
13 whatever, we're not doing it in our official
14 capacity as a MAFAC rep. You're there as an
15 individual. Yes, you can tell them you sit on
16 MAFAC, but you're not on MAFAC official
17 business, it's not funded by the United
18 States. It's on your dime and you're a
19 citizen.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: You're educating
21 yourself, essentially. Are there other
22 comments on that? Okay. So do you want to do

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1 Managing Fisheries III first, Mark? It's up
2 to you because you are the man for both of
3 those.

4 MR. DEWEY: So, Heather, I had a
5 thought for the budget, and Ken Franke's
6 comment made me think of it. You know,
7 everybody is in the same boat, obviously, the
8 governments, federal government, the agencies,
9 and so on. Washington state, and I'm sure
10 other states have done the same, you know,
11 they've tried to open up a means of
12 communication so that citizens of the state
13 that have ideas on how to improve our spending
14 and where to save can make comments and it's
15 convenient. You know, they're actively
16 soliciting that. I wonder if that's a
17 recommendation we should make from MAFAC to
18 NOAA is that they consider establishing some
19 sort of open line of information in for people
20 that are out there, their constituents that
21 see ways that the agency might be able to be
22 run better or more effectively or not. I

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1 don't know. I just throw it out there just
2 because --

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's a pretty
4 sensitive area, I would think. Mark, do you
5 have a comment on that?

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: I recall the
7 previous, I'm not sure what meeting it was,
8 but there was an action under the umbrella of
9 improved communications to reinforce this idea
10 of more pathways for engagement with, direct
11 engagement with stakeholders and having more
12 listening session type opportunities for
13 people to interact with both regional and
14 other leadership of the organization. So I
15 think there's some reaffirmation of that in
16 the statement you're making now in terms of
17 trying to improve that.

18 MR. DEWEY: And I wouldn't
19 necessarily suggest listening sessions and so
20 on. Just an open and obvious forum if people
21 have ideas where individuals, you know, like
22 Ken suggested, maybe have a thought they want

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1 to share and your point was, you know, good
2 luck --

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, yes.

4 MR. DEWEY: -- you know, and is
5 anyone out there listening, you know, maybe
6 they should set up, my point is maybe they
7 should set up a portal for people to make
8 those comments in and someone to monitor it.

9 DR. HOLLIDAY: Right. There are
10 the traditional things, like cyberfish. This
11 is the mailbox if you have a question. It's
12 monitored. Any question about anything of
13 NOAA Fisheries, you can send emails to that.
14 If you have a question about catch shares,
15 there's catch shares at NOAA.gov. So there
16 are those traditional, but I thought this was
17 to go beyond --

18 MR. DEWEY: Oh, this could be, you
19 know, Eric's monthly, or the national
20 fishermen or something saying, you know, we're
21 interested in hearing from you about how we
22 can save money, here's how to tell us.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do people like that
2 idea? Do we need to have a motion? Is it
3 something that we want to put in our minutes
4 and make recommendation to? How do people
5 feel about that? Yes, Dave?

6 MR. WALLACE: Well, you know, I
7 guess there are some informed people and a
8 number of not real informed people, and I'm
9 sure that it would be many more uninformed
10 people responding to this talking about their
11 pet peeves. And so if I thought that everyone
12 would just act responsibly, I would say that's
13 a great idea. But why do we want to fill up
14 some web site with just comments that are
15 complaining about every conceivable thing that
16 people who have any interest in marine
17 fisheries and just the marine environment
18 might complain about? So I don't think it
19 would be constructive, unless you have a nice
20 intern who has nothing to do except sit there
21 and read that stuff.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: I tend to agree

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1 with that, actually. But that's just me.
2 Terry?

3 MR. ALEXANDER: I was going to say,
4 you may get enough good ideas --

5 MR. DEWEY: Sorry to interrupt. I
6 wasn't suggesting it be emails that Eric read
7 personally. I'm talking about staff screening
8 them, and you never know. You might get a
9 gem.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: How about we just
11 let the minutes or whatever from our meeting
12 reflect that we had this conversation? You
13 know, I have to admit that I feel bad that we
14 didn't get to the budget advice part of the,
15 you know, charge that we kind of gave
16 ourselves because we've had discussions before
17 in this meeting about how to affect policy,
18 how to affect direction, how to affect
19 emphasis in different areas. And we, of
20 course, realized that the way to affect that
21 is through the budget process, and we were
22 always a day late and a dollar short, so to

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1 speak. We were always just a little bit
2 chasing that deadline, you know, because they
3 do it so far ahead of time. We have an
4 opportunity to speak to the 2013 budget
5 through this process, and we didn't do that at
6 this meeting. We really I don't think have
7 time to do that in the subcommittee venue, so
8 I'm just putting that on the table as
9 something that we have expressed ourselves
10 that we want to do that we really haven't
11 taken up. Dave and then Phil and then Cathy.

12 MR. WALLACE: Well, I think that if
13 the axe doesn't fall on MAFAC itself, well,
14 you know, I'm a member of the MPA committee
15 and they canceled their meeting because of
16 financial concerns. And I well understand
17 that and you need to, I guess we all need to
18 understand that our advice and input probably
19 is good but it may be one of the things that
20 they choose not to fund. They may just do it
21 all electronically because it does cost money.

22 But what my real point is I think the budget

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1 situation is going to get a lot worse and
2 we're going to get plenty of opportunities to
3 set the priorities. And, let's face it, NOAA
4 is a scientific organization and we have to
5 make sure to the maximum extent possible that
6 as much funds as humanly possible go in
7 support of the science which drives this
8 train. It drives protected resources, and it
9 drives management. And without reasoned
10 science, we all are going to be very unhappy.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: And we've said that
12 in 2020 and we've said it at every meeting in
13 various ways. We may have that covered.
14 Phil?

15 MR. DYSKOW: At the same time,
16 you'll have ample opportunity as we go through
17 this process because the basic budget doesn't
18 appear to have anything bad in it. It's just
19 that when we finally get down to the last
20 draft there's going to be less money and
21 that's where those difficult decisions are
22 going to be made.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right, right.
2 Cathy? Are you passing?

3 MS. FOY: It is the same thing --
4 stock assessment, stock assessment, stock
5 assessment.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Terry and
7 then Bill and then I think we ought to move
8 on.

9 MR. ALEXANDER: Well, I don't
10 think, like the 2013 budget, which was what we
11 could call him on.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. I think he
13 wasn't going to tell us, "Here's the budget.
14 What do you guys think?" but he was thinking
15 that we could give him advice as to different
16 areas. Remember they had that one cross cut;
17 is that what it's called? The MAFAC priority
18 areas that we could comment on in terms of we
19 like money here, we want more money here, we
20 want more money here. But, anyway, I think
21 we've lost the opportunity. I don't think
22 it's the last opportunity. Bill?

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1 MR. DEWEY: So I guess my comment
2 is that, you know, as you pointed out,
3 Heather, we've asked for this opportunity on a
4 number of different occasions. If it's our
5 intent to comment on the budget, we need to
6 set up a time and a process where we can do
7 that effectively --

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: I agree.

9 MR. DEWEY: And I, for one, you
10 know, I think it's important that we try to
11 figure out a way to do it. I personally feel
12 overwhelmed. All of those different programs
13 and so on, a lot of them are foreign to me. I
14 have my pet lines, as I'm sure everybody here
15 does within that budget, and how we have a
16 constructive discussion that gets us beyond
17 our pet lines is a challenge. But I don't
18 think it's beyond us. I just think that, you
19 know, we need to think it through, think how
20 we can be effective in trying to get there
21 rather than waste our time having
22 presentations on it and then not dealing with

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1 it.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Here's an idea.
3 What if we assign the strategic planning
4 budget, and whatever else it does,
5 subcommittee, which is currently under Cathy's
6 leadership -- she took it because I asked her
7 to. Anyway, would it make sense for that
8 subcommittee to talk about a way, the best
9 ways? I mean, you're right. We don't really
10 have a method. We don't have a plan as to how
11 we might address the budget issue, and if we
12 asked that subcommittee to talk about it in
13 the interim and bring back to the MAFAC
14 committee an idea or two about how we might
15 address that at the next meeting and have it
16 on the agenda. Cathy and then Tom.

17 MS. FOY: Perhaps not in direct
18 response to your question but more procedural.

19 I was speaking with Mark earlier today, and
20 we were talking about how to make sure that
21 items that are, you know, of concern to MAFAC
22 are continually updated and there's literally

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1 a point person for certain issues in MAFAC.
2 I, for one, am a real fan of that spreadsheet
3 that Mark maintains. Who is going to be the
4 contact person and who is going to be in
5 charge of tracking opportunities and whether
6 or not an issue is moving forward, whether or
7 not somebody that NOAA staff can contact. If
8 it all comes through the chairman, that gets
9 to be very difficult, and I don't know if
10 that's possible. But if we could get more of
11 the membership of MAFAC engaged and keep jobs
12 where they belong, perhaps that would be the
13 answer.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a good idea.
15 You know, one of the things that I've been
16 thinking about is using the Executive
17 Committee, which is the chair, the vice chair
18 which we don't have, and the chairs of the
19 subcommittees. That's the Executive
20 Committee, and we can actually use that
21 Executive Committee structure for doing
22 things, which we haven't really done much of

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1 lately. But we could definitely do that.
2 Tom?

3 MR. RAFTICAN: I think taking a
4 look at this, you've really got to look at it
5 in a business perspective, how do you sit down
6 and allocate resources to best accomplish what
7 we're after? Again, having the ability to
8 look over the horizon on this, and you truly
9 need a business person, and I'd like to
10 volunteer Phil for the job.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: That was a quick
12 move. For which exactly?

13 MR. RAFTICAN: Working on the
14 budget as a key contact person.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Phil, is that okay
16 with you?

17 MR. DYSKOW: I'd be happy to do
18 that. Who would I be communicating with on
19 that? Mark?

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm not sure what
21 the terms of reference are for the --

22 MR. DYSKOW: I'm not either.

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1 That's why I asked the question.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I'm not really
3 sure either.

4 MR. DYSKOW: As far as how to deal
5 with things like that, you have certain areas
6 of competency across this committee. You
7 know, whether you have subcommittees
8 committee, whatever you want, whatever you
9 want to call it. I would be happy to do it
10 individually or work with a number of people.

11 My background, I probably worked on easily
12 seven, probably as many as ten non-profit
13 boards and, you know, I don't know, five or
14 six company budgets, so I'm used to the budget
15 process. I understand it. I think they've
16 done a competent job. The presentation we saw
17 was well thought through, and they had answers
18 to the questions. I think the real issue is
19 if they come up with an 80 percent budget,
20 then what do they do and how do we prioritize,
21 how do we provide NOAA input on our feelings
22 as to where the priorities should be?

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's the issue.

2 MR. DYSKOW: So can I carve out a
3 budget? Absolutely. I know how to do that.
4 Do I know what the priorities are? Maybe,
5 maybe not. So I would be willing to serve in
6 that capacity, but it might make sense to have
7 some insight from people that have had more
8 experience with MAFAC than I have.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think it's a good
10 idea for you to be the point person. I also
11 think it's a good idea for you to do it in the
12 context of the subcommittee on budget. So if
13 you wouldn't mind being on that committee,
14 that would be --

15 MR. DYSKOW: The subcommittee on
16 budget. Sure. I would be happy to.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Thank you. I
18 think we're going to move on. Before we move
19 completely away from subcommittees, I want to
20 thank, once again, the subcommittee people for
21 the work that they've done. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: And I want to also
2 touch really quickly on the quota allocation
3 project. Somebody asked me a couple of
4 questions during lunch about that. We didn't
5 really have a deep discussion on some of those
6 issues. You know, the perception was that
7 some people from MAFAC were involved in some
8 kind of a task force or a group of people
9 that's meeting on this subject. That is not
10 the case. Several of us were asked to be
11 interviewed, and I think, as we said, it was
12 Tony, it was Martin, it was me. Who else?
13 Franke, Ken Franke. So we just were
14 interviewed. That's all. There is no --

15 DR. CHATWIN: We didn't ask to be
16 interviewed.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: No, we did not. We
18 did not. In fact, I knew nothing about it
19 until, you know, I got the email or whatever.
20 And there's no meeting of all the people that
21 are being interviewed or discussion
22 opportunities or anything like that. So I

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1 just wanted to clarify that for people because
2 I know there's more interest in it from some
3 members of the committee and maybe all members
4 of the committee, and I think you should be
5 interested in it. But I just wanted to make
6 clear that we weren't like pulled into some
7 sort of a discussion process or anything like
8 that. It was just questions that were asked
9 of us that went into the database really that
10 this George LaPointe is preparing, and he gave
11 a preliminary report on the responses at the
12 last CCC meeting. It was pretty general, and
13 he had, you know, a number of sort of areas
14 and one of the things he said was there was
15 sort of universal fear I guess is a pretty
16 good way of putting it and, in some cases,
17 downright hostility. You know, so there's
18 that out there, and he heard a lot of that.
19 And I feel that the interview process was
20 probably a good way to get people's feelings
21 because it was anonymous in a sense. There
22 were no other people listening, and so it was

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1 like people's ability was, you know, to say
2 what they thought.

3 And so I'm pretty sure that that
4 was a good process and that he got a lot of
5 really frank answers. I'm sure he got pro,
6 con, and every other which way. But he did
7 say when he summarized that there was a lot of
8 interest and a lot of sort of what's going on
9 kind of thing. So I just wanted to clarify
10 that.

11 If there's any other discussion or
12 questions on that because we didn't really get
13 much of a chance to do that. And jump in,
14 Mark, because I know that you were at the CCC
15 meeting on that, too. I think it's early in
16 the process. My recommendation is to put it
17 on the agenda for next meeting and to have an
18 update on what's going on because we had not
19 very much on the time line thing. So that's
20 my recommendation.

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: If I could just fill
22 in a little bit of gap. I'll claim a little

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1 bit of culpability for getting MAFAC involved.

2 Since the last meeting, I've been struggling
3 to find ways and opportunities for MAFAC to be
4 more relevant and be more visible in the NOAA
5 process. And in the course of the discussion
6 at my other job as a director of policy, I was
7 made aware of this project that Eric had
8 commissioned to the Office of Sustainable
9 Fisheries and they recruited George LaPointe
10 to begin this project. And part of their
11 methodology was to do some interviewing. I
12 mean, their methodology is to start out
13 getting some opinions about is this an issue,
14 what are the issues that are out there, what
15 are some of the opportunities? And so I
16 chimed in and said, hey, have you thought of
17 to go out and interview the regional council
18 executive directors and the chairs, which they
19 did. And I said how about this FACA advisory
20 committee to NOAA? I mean, these are people
21 whose job it is to provide strategic advice.
22 Maybe you want to get some opinion from

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1 members of that.

2 And so I purposely tried to draw
3 MAFAC into it because I think it's a relevant
4 question for the group to be getting involved
5 with, and this was the first stage. It wasn't
6 the last step or the only step, but it was a
7 means to put you, as a committee, on the radar
8 scope of this project to get early entry into
9 that process. So if there was some
10 disconcernation about who was recommended to
11 be interviewed or was it intentionally a
12 slight to anybody, it was just, you know, of
13 the, I think there were 39 total people, if I
14 recall the numbers. There are eight councils,
15 and they interviewed at least two people from
16 every council. So I was just trying to get
17 your kind of oar in the water on this one.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'm glad you did.
19 I'm really glad you did. I think that's a
20 good thing.

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: And so that's my
22 segue. If there aren't any other comments, I

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1 didn't see any hands, but that's sort of the
2 same issue about Managing our Nation's
3 Fisheries Conference III. I mean, why is this
4 coming before MAFAC? Again, I think it's an
5 opportunity, from my perspective and in
6 talking with Eric and our discussions with
7 Heather about the agenda, it's another
8 opportunity for MAFAC to decide, we've got a
9 limited amount of time and energy, but what's
10 the most valuable use of our time? And this
11 project, this proposal to conduct a nationwide
12 symposium, the previous two symposiums went on
13 without MAFAC's involvement but, again, as a
14 strategic body advising on policy direction in
15 the future, these are the kinds of questions
16 that MAFAC, as Eric said, he feels those are
17 some of the strengths of what MAFAC can
18 contribute.

19 This topic seemed like one to
20 present to you and say is there interest in
21 trying to become engaged in this? And if so,
22 how and when? And that was the point of

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1 putting it on this meeting's agenda. So there
2 is an annotated agenda that describes what the
3 purpose is, which was to identify a possible
4 role, contributions of MAFAC to the conduct of
5 the next managing fisheries conference that
6 will be scheduled at this point in calendar
7 year 2012.

8 For those who aren't familiar with
9 what managing our nation's fisheries, these
10 symposiums are about, there were two previous
11 conferences on fisheries management. They've
12 been funded by NOAA, but they've been, more or
13 less, organized and run by the regional
14 fishery management councils. The first was
15 held in November of 2003. It focused on
16 regional fishery management programs, their
17 successes and their challenges for managing
18 our fisheries resources.

19 That was followed up with a second
20 workshop in November of 2005. It wasn't
21 November --

22 MS. LOVETT: March.

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: March of 2005.
2 Thank you. And that was really a series of
3 discussions that were informing the, at that
4 point in time, the early reauthorization
5 discussions of Magnuson-Stevens, which were
6 taking place. There were different bills in
7 the House and the Senate, and the discussions
8 on the table then were helping formulate
9 future policy for fisheries management and the
10 nation.

11 So we've now come, 2005 and it's
12 now 2011, councils have expressed interest.
13 Are we at a point where it's time to consider
14 another large discussion about what some of
15 the strategies, what some of the threats and
16 drivers might be for living resource
17 stewardship, and they've been in talk, through
18 their Council Coordinating Committee which we
19 mentioned earlier, that the executive
20 directors of the eight councils and the
21 chairpersons of those eight councils, they
22 meet periodically with NOAA leadership and

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1 they've been discussing what should be our
2 decision to hold these meetings, is it one
3 meeting, is it a series of meetings? And so
4 they've organized a small group of four people
5 from the councils and forepersons from the
6 Fisheries Service to help formulate and
7 stimulate ideas about what the content of the
8 workshop would be, what the format would be,
9 whether or not there should even be a
10 workshop, and help advise the CCC.

11 So putting on my MAFAC hat again,
12 I'm one of those four NMFS people serving on
13 that committee to the direct committee of the
14 councils. Putting on my MAFAC's designated
15 federal officer's hat and said, well, maybe we
16 should bring this to MAFAC and ask are there
17 particular burning issues that would benefit
18 from discussion at a national level that are
19 important to MAFAC that impact living marine
20 resource stewardship and would MAFAC have an
21 interest in trying to either sponsor a panel
22 at the symposium or contribute ideas or

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1 priorities to what topics might be covered at
2 a managing nation's fisheries and actually try
3 to be sort of a co-creator, co-sponsor, or at
4 least contributor in a meaningful way so that
5 it could, again, not just benefit the outcome
6 but also raise the visibility and relevancy of
7 MAFAC in this arena of where national policy
8 for fisheries is taking place.

9 The last Managing Nation's
10 Fisheries III was very influential. They're
11 held in Washington because that's where
12 decisions are made on legislation. And it was
13 highly well attended by staff and members.
14 Keynote speakers attended. And so I'm setting
15 the context for, you know, there have been,
16 there's been one meeting of this working group
17 and we've presented our ideas at the council
18 chairs meeting earlier this month. There were
19 some feedback about, you know, certain ideas
20 went over well, other ideas sort of sent us
21 back to the drawing board. We're in a state
22 now of going back and coming up with

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1 additional ideas to present to the CCC later
2 this summer. They had monthly conference
3 calls with the assistant administrator, so I
4 would anticipate sometime in the mid summer
5 that this group would provide some additional
6 information about content, format, and whether
7 or not MAFAC wants to play.

8 Now, at this meeting, it would be,
9 we can talk about how and what that means, but
10 this is sort of the window of opportunity to
11 say is this something that would be relevant
12 and important to spend time on?

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you have a
14 question?

15 MR. CLAMPITT: So you're suggesting
16 that we have a discussion of allocation? Did
17 I miss something?

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: We're not talking
19 about the allocation issue. This is the item
20 on Managing Fisheries III. If allocation is a
21 topic that you think would be important to
22 discuss at a national symposium as one of the

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1 topics for consideration, that's certainly
2 relevant and extremely timely. But it's not,
3 we kind of segued from the allocation
4 discussion onto this agenda item.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. So are you
6 ready to take questions?

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: So I'm just trying
8 to lay out the context of why we're having
9 this discussion, and my intent was to have a
10 discussion. I don't have any -- if you look,
11 the recommended action is MAFAC takes no
12 action. The options, I should say. Take no
13 action or assign responsibility to a
14 subcommittee or a working group or some other
15 entity to collaborate on this next council
16 effort. So kind of a no-go no-go at this
17 point, but the details are what you want it to
18 be.

19 Obviously, there's really not a
20 whole lot to share with you at this point
21 other than it's proposed to be sometime in
22 calendar year 2012. It could be as early as

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1 April of 2012, or it could be as late as the
2 last month of the fiscal year 2012, which
3 would be in October of that year.

4 The topics range from, I think Eric
5 mentioned or perhaps it was not to the plenary
6 group, but he was talking with a subgroup of
7 people, the idea of National Ocean Policy and
8 Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning. His
9 preference was not to spend a lot of time
10 focusing on that because there are other
11 groups doing that and it's kind of being
12 symposiumed and workshopped to death. We've
13 seen a lot of those workshops and talked about
14 in the last three days. But those things
15 influence the future of fisheries management.

16 Trends, problems, challenges, that might help
17 inform the next reauthorization of Magnuson
18 Act are things that he would think are
19 opportunities to discuss these possible
20 topics.

21 Let me finish my one last
22 blathering in here. It was linked again to

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1 the idea of Vision 2030 or the update of
2 Vision 2020. Those strategic ideas for the
3 future in the course of this meeting you
4 decide to advance some future ideas about
5 important developments in fisheries or living
6 marine resource strategy and you wanted to use
7 a workshop as a venue to help promote that or
8 discuss it to help complement what you're
9 putting into your future vision report, that's
10 why these things sort of had this link, the
11 workshop and your idea about future visions
12 and future opportunities for resources.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: I have a list of
14 people that want to speak, but let me just add
15 a couple of words before just to add to Mark's
16 thing. I talked to Eric about this, and he
17 really, I thought Eric thought it was a great
18 place for MAFAC to be. And he talked about
19 MAFAC taking ownership of an issue or sort of
20 a group of issues and making it their own and
21 sort of maybe organizing that part of the
22 whole Managing Fisheries III. You know, there

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1 was at one time a discussion about having
2 regional workshops leading up to the big
3 workshop or else workshops around issues or
4 groups of issues. I don't think those things
5 have been decided yet. I think a lot of what
6 we'd be talking about today would be really
7 kind of high-level broad issue areas or
8 focuses.

9 So I've got Vince, I've got Dave,
10 I've got Cathy, and I've got Bill, if that's
11 okay. Vince?

12 MR. O'SHEA: Thank you. In the
13 interest, I was there at the CCC meeting, and
14 it seems to me you've got a bit of a chicken
15 and egg thing here because the question is
16 does MAFAC want to get involved and then the
17 question is involved in what? So two of the
18 issues that, and I'm glad you brought up
19 marine spatial planning because some of the
20 council members were getting fired up about
21 that, and I thought the reception to that idea
22 was cool. You know, it was a cool reception

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1 to the reasons you indicated.

2 But it seems to me there's two
3 other, the types of things that are out there.

4 One is, you know, Magnuson Act, we're already
5 seeing laws being introduced to tinker with
6 the Magnuson Act from '06. So that begs the
7 bigger question: what's working well with the
8 re-authorization and where does it need to be
9 adjusted? And if you look at the five-year
10 cycle, that re-authorization thing is going to
11 get onto somebody's radar.

12 The second issue that occurs to me
13 is we've spinned off in this recreational
14 discussion about the disconnect between the
15 agency and the recreational community suggests
16 to me the issue of how are the fishery
17 managers communicating with constituents and
18 what's the potential payback of a more
19 literate stakeholder community? Some of the
20 councils, I think, have really terrific
21 relationships with their stakeholder
22 communities, and I think other councils could

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1 be a lot more effective if they wanted an
2 adversary thing. And I think part of that is
3 coming out in the New England study.

4 So one of the global themes that
5 that suggests to me is are we where we need to
6 be relative to having the vision of a
7 literate, engaged stakeholder community that's
8 closer to the same page as the goals and
9 objectives and methodologies of the managers
10 and what they're trying to do?

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's well put,
12 Vince.

13 MR. O'SHEA: No answer really, just
14 food for thought.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Ideas. Thank you.
16 Dave?

17 MR. WALLACE: Well, I was going to
18 say something similar to what Vince said in
19 the respect that if you all remember how the
20 Magnuson-Stevens Act got re-authorized. The
21 last time it was not how anyone had ever
22 expected it, particularly Senator Stevens,

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1 when his whole bill ended up being the only
2 choice that the House had. They either
3 accepted or it didn't get re-authorized. And
4 there were lots of things in that bill that
5 everybody thought in committee would be
6 negotiated out of it. You are seeing huge
7 efforts. The Jones amendment is a classic
8 example of the mentality that says we need to
9 do something about the Magnuson-Stevens Act
10 because we are getting unintended
11 consequences. I think it's a great idea for
12 MAFAC to actually take on the defining, you
13 know -- I wouldn't tell anybody here that
14 every section of the Magnuson-Stevens Act is a
15 controversy, you know. There are some of them
16 that I guess many people never thought would
17 be enacted and, just by coincidence, they
18 were.

19 And so I think getting involved in
20 this, having a group of our members sit down
21 and look at those issues, not to take a
22 position on them, just to define them and lay

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1 them out for the public so those people who
2 don't understand the details really get
3 involved and then they can communicate with
4 congressional delegations on what they think
5 should be done about it.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: You think, A, that
7 it's a good idea for MAFAC to be involved and,
8 B, that MSA is a right --

9 MR. WALLACE: Well, I think that
10 that's one of the things that we should focus
11 on. You know, at first, I was going to say,
12 you know, if you listen to the discussion we
13 had this morning on all these big issues that
14 have actually come up since the 2020, Vision
15 2020 was written, the National Ocean Policy,
16 the Deepwater Horizon, you know, all these
17 other things are all new issues that we
18 actually didn't address because they weren't
19 issues at the time. So I think that there's a
20 lot of things that, if we sit down and
21 carefully think about it, we could come up
22 with some very interesting topics.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. I agree
2 with you. Tony, I'll put you on the list.
3 It's Cathy, Bill, and then Tony. Cathy?

4 MS. FOY: Thank you, Heather.
5 First of all, I'd like to applaud Mark for his
6 concern. It's exactly where MAFAC should be
7 going in the future.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Ken. And
9 I'll put you on the list, too. Bill, Tony,
10 Keith.

11 COURT REPORTER: Madam Chair, I'm
12 sorry. I have a cable that went out. Could
13 we go off the record for just two minutes?
14 I'm not getting audio from --

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Sure. Can we keep
16 going?

17 COURT REPORTER: I can't associate
18 who's who while I fix the problem.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: So we're talking
20 break?

21 COURT REPORTER: Yes.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Give me the

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1 heads up when you get ready, okay? So it's
2 Bill, Tony, and Keith when we come back.

3 (Whereupon, the foregoing matter
4 went off the record at 3:29 p.m. and went back
5 on the record at 3:34 p.m.)

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: All right. We are
7 just coming back from break right now. We are
8 going to do a re-enactment. Bill, you don't
9 have to say it all. Just give us the high
10 points.

11 MR. DEWEY: So, yes, we should be
12 involved.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

14 MR. DEWEY: Aquaculture should be
15 the subject matter --

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

17 MR. DEWEY: -- and I would move
18 that MAFAC be involved.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you.

20 DR. DANA: I second.

21 MS. FOY: I second.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Moved with multiple

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1 seconds. I think maybe Keith's was the first
2 one.

3 MR. JONER: Hold on. I think our
4 recorder is still -- are you okay now? Oh,
5 okay.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: So let's see.
7 Aquaculture should be a topic, and you move
8 that MAFAC should be involved. Okay. And I
9 think we just have that motion there, and
10 people can speak to it as they make their
11 comments as they are listed, if that's okay
12 with you, Bill. Okay. Tony, Keith, Steve,
13 and that's what I have on the list right now.
14 If there's anybody else that would like to
15 speak -- Patty.

16 DR. CHATWIN: Thanks, Madam Chair.
17 I'd like to act with most of my colleagues --
18 that MAFAC should be involved. I had a
19 question for Mark.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

21 DR. CHATWIN: Mark, you mentioned
22 that the Fisheries II was really impactful.

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1 Can you give us some examples of how it was
2 impactful and what sort of things to have more
3 impact -- how that impact was involved?

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think the
5 particular format that was used was running it
6 almost like a form of a council meeting, and
7 so they had a process by which people could
8 experience how ideas turn into policy that
9 turn into regulations, turn into outcomes. So
10 there was an educational component to it for
11 the participants. And it also then was very
12 important because it raised the level of
13 knowledge of people who would not otherwise go
14 to a Hill briefing or a staff briefing just to
15 talk about Magnuson Act in the Rayburn
16 Building or, you know, someplace downtown. It
17 was able to bring together in a format and a
18 venue a lot of Hill staff, a lot of members
19 both in the plenary sessions -- and then there
20 was a banquet -- so there were both these
21 formal and informal ways of getting people
22 engaged in discussing these policy issues that

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1 would then raise people's consciousness about
2 -- there was a lot of talk, there was sort of
3 a particular panel on limited access privilege
4 programs, for example. And they had people
5 with different experiences.

6 Dorothy Lowman at the time, you
7 know, was a MAFAC member, and that was part of
8 her contribution to the effort. So she talked
9 about specific policy questions that were
10 facing councils that informed how the sections
11 of the Magnuson Act then dealt with that may
12 not have otherwise had that visibility or that
13 level of exposure that symposium brought to
14 it.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Tony, I went to the
16 last two, and they were incredible. It was a
17 coming together of people from all over the
18 country that were engaged, you know, not
19 critical but thoughtful, and had these panel
20 discussions. Some of them were simultaneous,
21 I think, along with the general sessions. It
22 culminated, I think, in quite a bit of the

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1 material that's talked about at the last
2 meeting and finding its way into the MSA. So
3 it was huge. Four or five hundred people,
4 wouldn't you say?

5 MS. LOVETT: Six hundred.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Six hundred people?
7 Really? Wow. That's a lot of people.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think it provided
9 a target venue for messaging and advancing
10 issues that was very efficient, because it had
11 many decision-makers in one place that would
12 not have been as effective or efficient if you
13 had to do it 20 different times over the
14 course of six months.

15 DR. CHATWIN: Thank you. That's
16 helpful, and I'm excited about the next one.
17 One area that I would recommend we consider is
18 the area of marine habitats for fisheries.
19 There has been a national fisheries habitat
20 action plan, together as a whole structure
21 that's been developed for habitat, which I
22 have encouraged that we be engaged in. I

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1 mean, I think that fish habitat is something
2 I've been talking about since the beginning.
3 I think there's still a long way to go to get
4 a structure to the benefit of fisheries, and
5 so I think those are topics that it would be
6 great to have a session on.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Tony.
8 Keith?

9 MR. RIZZARDI: I yield to Steve to
10 call the question.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Steve?

12 MR. JONER: Well, I think it's
13 great to be the last one -- it's good for
14 MAFAC to be involved and plan it, to talk
15 about Magnuson and how things turned out. But
16 on the West Coast the big issues we have is
17 with the fish, rockfish.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Fish -- what?

19 MR. JONER: Rockfish. And we're
20 really struggling even with the catch, the
21 trawl rationalization, the amounts of bycatch
22 available. If we did it on a per-boat basis,

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1 we're doing now. We've really fine-tuned the
2 tribe's mid-water trawl fishery, and now we're
3 using electronic jigs going out and testing
4 the schools of fish to find out what's there
5 before we set a max. So these are some of the
6 things that we'd like to hear from other
7 regions and like to report what's going on in
8 the West Coast and maybe try to find a better
9 accommodation of that situation in these
10 rockfish fisheries.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a good
12 point. Patty?

13 MS. DOERR: I agree with
14 absolutely, with everything that's been said
15 thus far. I just want to add two things. In
16 terms of Mark's little list that he's keeping
17 up there, I wanted to add kind of the
18 connection between Bill's aquaculture and
19 Tony's habitat topics, and somehow have a
20 discussion -- or just have on our list -- the
21 connection between aquaculture and habitat
22 restoration, especially with oysters and other

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1 bivalves with reefs.

2 And I also wanted to make the
3 suggestion that I think this is very much an
4 ongoing conversation and not the last time
5 we're going to be talking about this. And so
6 perhaps the Executive Committee could be a
7 good group of folks to coordinate those
8 discussions, because it does cross all of the
9 committees, all of the subcommittees. And so
10 I think that could be a good way to, those
11 could be the folks to organize further input
12 and involvement.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. Is that
14 an amendment to the motion?

15 MS. DOERR: Yes.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second
17 for that?

18 DR. CHATWIN: I'll second it, but I
19 have a question.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead.

21 DR. CHATWIN: There is a motion
22 that is calling for a certain focal area for

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1 Managing our Nation's Fisheries III, and then
2 there's a running list. Those are --

3 MR. JONER: It's more just strictly
4 to get involved.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Part of the list.

6 MS. DOERR: And then my amendment
7 was just to use the Executive Committee.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are you meaning
9 Executive Committee as a working group?
10 Because the next step in the process would be
11 to develop some ideas more, and that would
12 probably take a working group between now and
13 the next meeting, bring it back to the next
14 meeting, have those ideas on the table in
15 front of MAFAC, and have some real decisions
16 made at that time. Does that help, Tony? Is
17 that what you were asking?

18 DR. CHATWIN: Yes. And the
19 discussion on the Executive Committee, how
20 many of the Executive Committee are coming out
21 to the next meeting?

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a very good

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1 question. Me, you, and Raftican, and Ken is
2 not. Ken is not turning out after this. You
3 know, it will be --

4 MS. LOVETT: His term ends. And
5 the other folks, there's five people whose
6 first term expires in October.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Tony, are you
8 thinking that that working group should be in
9 addition to the Executive Committee?

10 DR. CHATWIN: I think there just
11 has to be continuity within the working group.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: I agree.

13 DR. CHATWIN: And so if the
14 Executive Committee, as currently structured,
15 works on this, there could be a handover next
16 meeting.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: I actually agree
18 with that in terms of continuity, big time. I
19 think that, potentially, we could expand the
20 working group, but maybe the Executive
21 Committee, which is, you know, the guys that
22 do the work a lot of times, other people that

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1 are the chairs of the subcommittees, at least
2 that's the way it would be. And we could
3 expand that and if you would like to -- or
4 anyone would like to add their name to that
5 group -- I would say that that would be a
6 welcome addition. That would be my thought on
7 that. So I think that's a good way to put it.

8 Are there any other comments? Did
9 I see a hand? Okay. Bill, I'm sorry.

10 MR. DEWEY: I know Keith is anxious
11 to call the question here. A quick comment
12 that, you know, particularly if we're going to
13 try to include aquaculture in the agenda,
14 managing our fisheries, I understand you
15 wanted continuity from one to the next to the
16 next, but maybe it's providing fish for the
17 country or something more generic.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. What I think
19 this working group would do is take all the
20 suggestions that all of us have written down
21 and sort of refine them, maybe add things,
22 talk about more potentials. If you have any

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1 thoughts right now, I think now is a good time
2 to put them on the table for the working group
3 to talk about. Julie?

4 MS. MORRIS: I think that it would
5 be great if some sessions could be devoted to
6 decision tools for fisheries managers, and
7 dealing with the conflict in fisheries
8 management decisions. I think those kinds of
9 experience sessions to build into that would
10 be helpful.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: I immediately
12 thought of Vince's agenda suggestions. That
13 kind of goes along with that a little bit.
14 Vince, did you want to make a comment?

15 MR. O'SHEA: Did you have somebody
16 else here on this slide?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: I do not have
18 anybody else on the list.

19 MR. O'SHEA: Okay.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead.

21 MR. O'SHEA: My thing was more in
22 terms -- and I would agree with what Julie

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1 said -- it's maybe a question for Mark and
2 maybe a bit of a reality check, but my
3 perception over the last two Managing our
4 Nation's Fisheries was that the councils
5 picked that project up and were the major
6 drivers on it, to the extent even that Mark
7 said the councils sort of said AFOR, and they
8 said they did and went to the councils. But
9 I'm just wondering -- but I'm just wondering,
10 or maybe just sort of suggesting, that this
11 might be a difficult club for MAFAC to crack
12 into, you know, because there's a huge lift in
13 putting on a conference of this size. It
14 really does require the administrative
15 capacity of the councils that MAFAC doesn't
16 have. So it would seem to me that reality is
17 going to limit MAFAC's ability to participate
18 in this, and I'm just wondering how you -- do
19 you think the role that you have as one of the
20 forepersons from the agency on steering group?

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you want to
22 address that, Mark?

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, I can address
2 it. I don't think it's me. I think it's the
3 fellow who was sitting here. So he's laid
4 down a different paradigm for Managing
5 Fisheries I and II, as to how he'd like to see
6 the use of NOAA's funds to support this
7 activity. So I think your characterization
8 was correct, about how the councils took that
9 money and said it was our product, and that's
10 not how Eric envisions this taking place this
11 time. There's a much greater degree of
12 collaboration between NOAA and the councils in
13 formulating the design of the outcome. They
14 will still do the heavy lifting of the
15 registrations and the actual conduct, but the
16 content and the planning -- and as part of
17 that, Eric, again, has invited MAFAC to
18 contribute and participate in that. So I
19 think there's a very strong affinity for MAFAC
20 having an opportunity to have a different kind
21 of contribution that could have been possible
22 in Managing Fisheries II.

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1 MR. O'SHEA: That's good to know.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, that's exactly
3 what Eric told me, word for word. He has, I
4 think, undertaken to take a more active role
5 on behalf of NOAA, and for NOAA to take a more
6 active role within --

7 MR. O'SHEA: And that would be
8 different.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: It will be.

10 MR. O'SHEA: Yes, thanks.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's my
12 impression. That was a good point to bring
13 up. Okay. So we've had the discussion. We
14 feel -- I got all yeses down. We may not even
15 need to vote.

16 DR. DANA: I haven't said "yes"
17 yet. Yes.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Oh, good.

19 DR. DANA: I think it's an
20 excellent idea. Thank you, Mark.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: It is. It's great.

22 So we have a motion on the floor for MAFAC to

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1 be involved in this process and in the actual
2 event and for -- there's an amendment to have
3 the Executive Committee provide the working
4 group core, with other volunteers to just
5 volunteer -- to be on that working group, and
6 I hope people do. So all in favor, say aye.

7 (Chorus of ayes.)

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: All opposed?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. We've got
11 that done. Mark, you're on again.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: This is sort of a
13 basic business of talking about process,
14 talking about questions people have raised
15 about the MAFAC, it's the titled "MAFAC
16 Business" section here. Did we have an
17 annotated agenda for this or not? I don't
18 recall.

19 MS. LOVETT: No.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: It was sort of
21 everything that wasn't on an annotated agenda
22 we put under this one item, I guess. I wanted

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1 to review just some observations and thoughts,
2 and answer questions that have come up that
3 have been asked of me individually, but I
4 wanted to make sure that the entire committee
5 was aware of the same information as we go
6 forward. The review of old business -- and
7 we, in the past, I guess it was two meetings
8 ago, we were looking at developing this
9 document, Word document about the actions
10 taken at a MAFAC meeting, who it was assigned
11 to, and keeping track of the status of that as
12 a running sort of inventory of what's been
13 taken as far as an action. This is in
14 addition to the minutes that we put out and
15 the summary report that lists the action items
16 in a prose document, you know, a Word document
17 that gets forward up the food chain and is
18 posted to the web site.

19 It's been my observation that --
20 and I think it falls on the staff as well as
21 the MAFAC members -- we tend not to pay
22 attention to that spreadsheet, or I mean that

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1 document until probably the week or so before
2 the meeting. I'm guilty of not consciously
3 trying to keep it up to date, and looking at
4 it and saying we're falling behind, or we
5 haven't done stuff -- and then there's the
6 rush to get it prepared for the meeting. We
7 don't get inquiries from MAFAC members either
8 about, hey, what happened to our
9 recommendation or what is the status?

10 And so I think there's an
11 opportunity here to sort of do a more of a
12 commitment to a shared responsibility. For
13 this tool to be most helpful is to use that as
14 kind of an ongoing, perhaps check-in, and this
15 is something I had mentioned in concert with
16 the use of the subcommittees as an executive
17 committee. If we only spend our time at the
18 three days in these two meetings, that's six
19 days a year. And my memory is such that I
20 tend to forget things within that interval.
21 But if we have a commitment to use some other
22 device -- of an executive committee using

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1 tools like this actions table and checking in
2 during the intervals between meetings -- I
3 think we could be more effective not only
4 overall, but using our agenda time at the next
5 meeting productively.

6 And there's nothing proving that
7 point as much as an anecdote Keith related to
8 me about -- well, he had just looked up
9 something from our Honolulu meeting, and it
10 would have been ideal to remember that because
11 it had direct applicability to what we were
12 just talking about today. We could have saved
13 time and energy, because we kind of went over
14 some very similar ground. And so that's sort
15 of a heads-up to me and to my staff to help
16 keep track of that, as we put together an
17 agenda item, where have we talked about this
18 in the past, what actions have we recommended
19 in the past, and what actions have actually
20 been accomplished, and to use that as a
21 chronology to help us bridge this interval
22 between meetings.

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1 And I'm sure this is not rocket
2 science. I mean, this is what organizations
3 and groups are supposed to do all the time.
4 I don't think we're where we need to be. So I
5 bring it up as sort of this review of old
6 business and as a point of new business for
7 your consideration. If we could agree on some
8 mechanism -- and it doesn't have to be the
9 executive committee, it could be some other
10 vehicle -- but I think there's benefit to the
11 overall success to agree on how we could
12 maintain some of the momentum between meetings
13 and how we could keep track of our actions
14 over time in a more efficient manner.

15 So I think the document is fine,
16 but I think it could be improved. I think the
17 structure is fine, but it could be improved,
18 as well. So I'm looking for, I was looking
19 for feedback discussion about that.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Bill?

21 MR. DEWEY: Does the Executive
22 Committee have interim conference calls?

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, they have
2 not.

3 MR. DEWEY: So I would move that
4 the Executive Committee have conference calls,
5 as called for, between scheduled MAFAC
6 meetings to specifically review that
7 spreadsheet and action items taken by the
8 MAFAC committee.

9 MR. FISHER: Is this a motion
10 separately?

11 MS. FOY: I would like to move it
12 through friendly amendment.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Let's have a
14 second.

15 MR. JONER: Second.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So moved and
17 seconded. So -- Cathy?

18 MS. FOY: A friendly amendment.
19 Perhaps, we could change the conference call
20 just to communications, because sometimes it's
21 not out of the question to do so by email.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: That was one

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1 conference call. I mean, I spend a lot of
2 time talking to Mark, but I don't spend a lot
3 of time talking to the other subcommittee
4 folks. I think emails are also useful, but I
5 think that if you commit to at least one
6 conference call, then you have that commitment
7 and it's a good thing.

8 MS. FOY: Then I concur.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Cathy.
10 George?

11 MR. NARDI: I was just going to say
12 I agree, because when we discussed this
13 aquaculture at that conference call, you know,
14 we were able to have differences resolved
15 right then and there instead of spending a
16 week or two with emails back and forth. So
17 it's much more efficient.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: One of the things
19 that strikes me is that a record of the
20 conference call should go to the full
21 membership. I think that's important. If you
22 have an executive committee in any group, I

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1 find that, if just the executive committee
2 meets and talks about things, then the other
3 guys get behind, because they don't really
4 know what's being talked about. So I would
5 recommend -- and I would undertake to produce
6 at least a one-page summary of the content of
7 the call, you know, the basic subject matter.
8 That's just me because that's --

9 MR. NARDI: I would accept that as
10 a friendly amendment, too.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: I can't do that.
12 I'm just saying that's what I would do as the
13 chair. Martin?

14 MR. FISHER: Sure. I make that as
15 a friendly amendment. And I also want to ask
16 a question. Would the Executive Committee
17 conference calls be exclusive, or would
18 anybody be able to listen in? Would it be
19 open to the membership if they wanted to
20 listen?

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a good
22 question. Mark, what is the logistical nature

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1 of that?

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: From the technical
3 side or the policy side?

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Policy.

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: On the policy side?

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: There's no
8 requirement that they be publically noticed
9 and open to the public, if that's the
10 question.

11 MR. FISHER: No, not the public.
12 To the membership.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: I guess the
14 question is --

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: That's a policy call
16 for you to determine who do you want on the
17 call.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. Because in
19 other organizations that I've been in, if it's
20 the full group it does have to be noticed in
21 the Federal Register. If it's just the
22 executive committee or a group of people, like

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1 a subcommittee, it does not. Is that right,
2 Mark?

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: And you're not
4 making policy decisions on behalf of the group
5 unilaterally.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. So that's a
7 friendly amendment on the issue, and it does
8 not have to be seconded. So Tony?

9 MR. FISHER: But I didn't get an
10 answer to my question, or did I?

11 MR. DEWEY: Would the call be open?

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, I think it's
13 a discussion point. Personally, I would like
14 that to be the case. That's my personal
15 preference. I think that any MAFAC member
16 ought to be able to be part of the discussions
17 or at least, you know, have that possibility.

18 I mean, I don't think they need to feel
19 compelled to be there. But I think if they
20 want to be, absolutely. I mean, that's the
21 way I would operate it.

22 MR. FISHER: Good.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's my
2 preference. Is that okay?

3 MR. FISHER: That's okay with me.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: All right. I mean,
5 that's my policy call, I suppose. But I would
6 take advice from others. I don't know.

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think it's the
8 group's decision.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So it's the
10 group's decision. Okay, all right. So should
11 we make that an amendment so it can be voted
12 on, in order to get the will of the group, or
13 is it just possible to get it from -- is
14 everybody okay with the other MAFAC members
15 being able to listen to the Executive
16 Committee conference calls? Is there anybody
17 who objects to that? No. Okay. That's good
18 then.

19 MR. FISHER: Good.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Super.
21 Tony?

22 DR. CHATWIN: I think the Executive

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1 Committee call is also a good opportunity to
2 review the agenda for the upcoming meeting.
3 We might want to do it at the same time,
4 because there's a lot on the plate there, but
5 I think those two go hand in hand to look at
6 the progress to date on tasks and what you're
7 going to be discussing at the next meeting.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Certainly. It's
9 the Executive Committee who are the people who
10 are in charge of those interim action steps,
11 as well.

12 MR. DEWEY: Just responding to that
13 point, presumably the conference call to set
14 up the agenda is going to happen fairly close
15 to the next meeting, and you actually might
16 want to check in on the progress on the action
17 items sooner than that.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, I've only had
19 one experience with this, and I think I
20 described it at the very beginning of the
21 meeting. I think I started in January, so it
22 was a drawn-out process that involved talking

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1 to a number of different people, staff,
2 getting people's impressions from the
3 committee. I sent out at least one or two
4 emails asking for input, and then taking that
5 back to staff, taking it to Eric and Mark, and
6 that whole process is a little bit of a drawn-
7 out process. So, certainly, as the chair, I
8 would be reporting that -- also since we're
9 having all these subcommittee meetings. Those
10 people from those subcommittees who are on the
11 Executive Committee would be able to report
12 that to each other and to me and to whoever
13 else was listening. So I think that would
14 work out really well.

15 Anybody else? Should we vote on
16 that then? Is there any opposition to that
17 motion?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So it's
20 passed. Thank you. Mark?

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: The next item I had
22 on here, people had asked about whether or not

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1 the committee could elect subcommittee chairs,
2 or whether they continue to be appointed by
3 Eric. And based on his discussion with me, he
4 prefers to retain the appointment of the
5 subcommittee chairs, for a couple of reasons.

6 Because we strive to maintain a diversity of
7 people on the committee from different areas,
8 different representations, different levels of
9 expertise, gender balance, I think he wanted
10 to maintain that ability to ensure that the
11 subcommittees were chaired by someone who
12 could fairly fulfill those -- it's a very
13 sensitive topic within NOAA and the Department
14 to maintain that level of opportunity and
15 diversity. So I think that was one of the
16 major reasons that he wanted to retain that.

17 So what his process has been for
18 the last round of subcommittee chairpersons
19 was to inquire if people were interested in
20 chairing them at his request, and then offer
21 them the opportunity to serve as the chair.
22 So that was his -- we had been asked that

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1 question how we were going to do that, and
2 that was his preference.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: I wasn't part of
4 that conversation, but I've been asked that
5 question a number of times myself. And, you
6 know, I asked Cathy to sit in for me as the
7 chair of that subcommittee, because I don't
8 think we had the chance to really do it any
9 other way at that point, and I certainly
10 didn't want to do both. So that's how that
11 happened.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, as an interim
13 issue, he didn't have any issue with that. I
14 think that setting the terms of the permanent
15 chairs of the subcommittees was his --

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So in terms
17 of process then, he would be asking in some
18 way for people who would like to replace the
19 current chairs when those current chairs'
20 terms expire on MAFAC -- or would it be a
21 different process?

22 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes. I think the

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1 process, he would approach someone who would
2 no longer be serving on MAFAC as the
3 subcommittee chair, and their subcommittee
4 chairmanship would then be terminated. He
5 would approach the individuals that he would
6 like to serve as the chairperson, and inquire
7 if they would be interested in serving, and
8 then he would appoint them to be the chair.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Would it be
10 appropriate for people who are interested in
11 particular subcommittee chairmanships to let
12 him know that?

13 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm sure.
14 Absolutely.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Any comments
16 on that process? I really didn't know how
17 that was going to work, so that's news to me.
18 Thanks.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: Reappointments. A
20 number of people have asked about
21 reappointments. I had mentioned that we have
22 five people whose first term is approaching

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1 their anniversary date. And the process --
2 and I've explained this, again, to many people
3 individually -- but the process is that the
4 Secretary will informally inquire if the
5 incumbents are interested in serving as a
6 second-term MAFAC member to ensure that, if he
7 did offer that opportunity, that there was a
8 reasonable likelihood that they would accept
9 it rather than reject his offer. And the
10 timing for this, the terms are expiring in
11 October, and so we'd be making those
12 inquiries, let's assume all five people said
13 yes, we'd then begin the process of preparing
14 the vetting of that offer through NMFS, NOAA,
15 and the Department to get signed by the
16 Secretary of Commerce, offering the second
17 term opportunity.

18 People have asked, well, is it
19 automatic, is it guaranteed? It's not
20 guaranteed, but I've not been aware of any,
21 I've said this multiple times, I've not been
22 aware of any incumbent who wasn't offered an

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1 opportunity to serve a second term who was a
2 member in good standing, i.e., they come to
3 meetings and have attended regularly the
4 meetings that they've been associated with --
5 under the terms of the charter, you know,
6 without an excused absence from being there.

7 So, bottom line is no one has never
8 not been offered this. And I don't think
9 there's any precedent going to be set this
10 time either.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Where is
12 John Connelly in that continuum at this point?

13 DR. HOLLIDAY: Where is he?

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Is he one of
15 those people?

16 DR. HOLLIDAY: No.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: He's not one of the
18 people whose terms are expiring?

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: No. He's on his
20 second term.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do we know if he's
22 interested in still being a member?

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1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: We do know that?

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: And what is the
5 answer?

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, he is
7 interested in being a member.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: He's interested.
9 Okay. Well, I'm only asking because he
10 doesn't come to very many meetings, so I was
11 just curious.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes. Well --

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's not a
14 criticism. I'm just saying. So he's been
15 asked, and he is still interested. What is
16 the policy? Is it two meetings and then
17 people start asking questions? I can't
18 remember.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's an unexcused
20 absence, and so when we solicit times for when
21 people can come to the meetings and John
22 Connelly says, "I can't make these dates," and

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1 we schedule the meeting anyway, because he has
2 a prior commitment, he has an excused absence
3 for not being here, as do a number of other
4 members who don't come to the meetings because
5 they have other professional commitments. And
6 so that's something that's the responsibility
7 of the designated federal officer to --

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Keep track of all
9 that stuff.

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: -- maintain that.
11 Yes.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: I see. I'm just
13 going to express my personal opinion on that.
14 You know, I'm sorry that John has not been
15 able to come to more meetings, because I think
16 he's a hugely valuable part of the industry
17 and of this group. So I'm glad to know that
18 he still would like to be a member, but I'm
19 glad to know also that you're keeping track of
20 that, because he's taking up a seat that
21 somebody else could have. I think it would be
22 good to understand that.

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1 DR. DANA: Who's John again? I
2 don't know if I've ever met him.

3 MR. JONER: National Fisheries
4 Institute.

5 MR. CATES: Have meetings in warm
6 areas. Otherwise, everyone's going to ask for
7 heat.

8 MR. FISHER: May I respond?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead.

10 MR. FISHER: Okay. So when do you
11 think the invitations would actually be coming
12 for us? June, July, August?

13 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

14

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's usually two
16 months before the expiration, so it would
17 probably be August time frame.

18 MR. FISHER: Okay. That's great.
19 Thank you.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'll also mention
22 that we're going to be initiating the -- the

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1 next item here is all member recruitment. We
2 have term-limited members who are going to
3 reinitiate the process, the public process,
4 noticing in the Federal Register, widely
5 distributing notice that five vacancies will
6 be available for serving on the committee, new
7 membership.

8 Again, we ask your help in
9 spreading the word when we make that notice,
10 and we'll run the similar process of asking
11 people to either self nominate or nominate
12 others with a CV and two letters of
13 recommendation that would then be submitted to
14 the Fishery Service and vetted through the
15 process for the Secretary's consideration for
16 appointment. Again, that process is -- every
17 time we do it we know to start another month
18 earlier and we always seem to run up against
19 it doesn't matter how early we start, they're
20 going to wait until the extreme last critical
21 crisis moment to tell us that they're going to
22 sign it or not sign it, so the poor individual

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1 who's appointed has about two days to decide
2 if they're going to be able to get here or
3 not.

4 MR. DEWEY: Been there, done that.

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: And I'm not sure how
6 any, I can't think of any other way to do it.

7 But we are starting earlier every time. It's
8 not on the early side. The delay is after it
9 leaves us and is in the hands of the politicians
10 downtown. And we've had many different ways
11 to try to spur that decision-making to be
12 faster and even Eric has not had the
13 horsepower to make it happen.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. On the North
15 Pacific Research reappointments, the guys were
16 literally, it was the hours before the meeting
17 started, North Pacific Research Board that
18 they got --

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's a shame. I
20 don't know any technique that would be
21 successful at this point.

22 MR. DEWEY: I just got a question.

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1 When people apply for a MAFAC seat and don't
2 get accepted, are they notified?

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes. And what
4 normally takes place is we ask people who are
5 not successful if they would like them -- in
6 this case, we inform people if you'd like to
7 keep your name on file for our next round of
8 vacancies which we know will be happening so
9 they don't have to reapply and resubmit their
10 material, we'll put it in a special place.
11 And those people, once the announcements are
12 made and we notify everyone, thanking them for
13 their nomination materials, and others were
14 selected, we usually include a link or a copy
15 of the press release of who was selected.

16 MR. DEWEY: I knew someone who had
17 applied and he was just wondering if he'd
18 hear.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, yes. The
20 period closed I think in January. The
21 nominations closed, so February, March, April,
22 it was 90 days. And that's from when it

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1 closed, not from when they apply.

2 MR. DEWEY: Right.

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: Any other --

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are there any other
5 questions on that?

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: So if there are
7 people that you feel are interested and would
8 be well qualified, we'd like your help to make
9 the word widely available that we're looking.

10 Collaboration with regional fishery
11 management councils. So this is another
12 thought that I had because we were preparing
13 back in January the agenda for the Council
14 Coordinating Committee meeting. It's one of
15 the other duties I'm involved with in my other
16 job. I was looking at the types of things
17 that were going to be discussed there, and I
18 was looking at the issues that we've been
19 discussing at MAFAC, and there is a lot of
20 overlap in many cases about the kinds of
21 deliberations that would go on, in particular
22 the high-level strategy or high-level

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1 strategic thinking that goes on. And I was
2 thinking in the same mind set, is there a way
3 to, again, raise the visibility and the
4 relevance of MAFAC? And it struck me that the
5 regional councils, by our charter, regional
6 council members, by charter, are not allowed
7 to serve on MAFAC. They have to resign. And
8 so we've lost a couple of people even in the
9 last two years to the council process.

10 What if we at least identified a
11 liaison type relationship so that a person
12 representing the CCC from the council could
13 attend our meetings as an observer, in a
14 sense, a non-voting consultant, into the
15 interstate fisheries commissions and, in
16 return, a member of MAFAC could serve that
17 function and go to the CCC meetings on behalf
18 of MAFAC as a non-member, a non-voting member
19 of the CCC for purposes of bridging this gap
20 between the deliberations that go on in place
21 and the other? So at the CCC meeting, I
22 broached this idea as a what-if to the CCC.

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1 MR. DYSKOW: CCC?

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: The Council
3 Coordinating Committee is a committee made up
4 of the eight regional fishery management
5 council executive directors and their eight
6 regional fishery management council
7 chairpersons. And it's a committee that's
8 identified in the Magnuson-Stevens Act as a
9 coordinating body for the regional fishery
10 management process. They meet twice a year
11 with the National Marine Fishery Service
12 leadership to discuss areas of common, across
13 region, across fishery, across fishery
14 management plan, strategic issues and planning
15 issues on process on legislation, on policy.

16 And so they meet a couple of times
17 a year. We meet a couple of times a year. In
18 many cases, they're talking about similar
19 things or at least things that might influence
20 each other in terms of we're taking a position
21 or we're providing advice to the Secretary of
22 Commerce or NOAA or NMFS and that they're

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1 discussing issues about how to develop policy
2 and how to execute the Magnuson Act that could
3 be informed by deliberations that could help
4 us understand where they're going in the
5 future.

6 So the idea was -- I broached the
7 suggestion to the CCC. They were very
8 supportive of the idea. They identified the
9 current chair of the CCC to be the
10 representative to MAFAC. They were wondering,
11 and this was earlier in May, and they were
12 wondering if does he have to come to the May
13 meeting of MAFAC, and I said, no, we haven't
14 even discussed it at MAFAC yet. But I was
15 offering it as an opportunity and I was going
16 to sound out MAFAC at this meeting whether or
17 not this was something that you thought was a
18 good idea and, if so, who would represent it.

19 We would pay for the person who was, NOAA
20 would pay for the person to attend those CCC
21 meetings. Generally, they meet once in
22 Washington D.C. and then once in the field,

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1 sort of like we do.

2 DR. DANA: My first --

3 MR. JONER: I'd like to make a
4 motion to --

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: Their meeting are
6 like three days, like we are usually. Two and
7 a half.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: I understand. Just
9 to add to that, I wholeheartedly recommend
10 that move. I've gone to the last two CCC
11 meetings. Actually, I've been to way more
12 than that but the two most recent ones for
13 sure on my own and not because of my job, my
14 real job, and because it's a very fruitful
15 place to learn about some of the issues and
16 some of the direction that the agency is going
17 in. So I very much recommend that move.

18 I see a lot of hands. I think
19 Martin had the first shot and then Tony. I'm
20 sorry. Paul.

21 MR. FISHER: I would just like to
22 make a motion that we adopt this liaison idea

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1 and move forward with it.

2 MR. DEWEY: Second.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. It's been
4 moved and seconded that we adopt the idea of
5 having a mutual liaison relationship with the
6 CCC. So on that discussion and also anything
7 else that you might have had to say on this,
8 there's Tony and then Paul and then Cathy.

9 DR. CHATWIN: Well, I think the
10 idea sounds good. I just wasn't clear on who
11 this person is, not necessarily the name but
12 you mentioned the chair of the --

13 DR. HOLLIDAY: The CCC is comprised
14 of the executive directors and the council
15 chairpersons of the eight councils, and they
16 appoint someone to be the representative of
17 that committee and that main person would be
18 the liaison to MAFAC. So currently the person
19 is Dave Cupka from the South Atlantic Fishery
20 Management Council. And when they change --
21 then they rotate that on an annual basis.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. They change

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1 it all the time.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: And so the next
3 person who would be in that position of the
4 CCC would be Manny Duenas from the Western
5 Pacific Fishery Management Council.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is it -- sorry. Go
7 ahead and then I'll ask my question.

8 DR. CHATWIN: The proposal is to
9 have that person attend this meeting, but then
10 you say also have somebody from here attend
11 there?

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: Correct.

13 DR. CHATWIN: So it would be the
14 chair or --

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's up to you to
16 decide if you want to do it and, if so, who do
17 you want to do it.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: So does the chair
19 of the CCC change as to where the meeting is
20 going to take place? That's how it's done?

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: The host of the
22 external meetings --

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1 MR. JONER: The host council chairs
2 it.

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: -- is how it works.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, thank you.
5 Okay. So Paul?

6 MR. CLAMPITT: I just had a simple
7 question about history and I think I
8 understand, but will you correct me?
9 Originally, this body, MAFAC, gave advice to
10 NOAA. This is before the Magnuson-Stevens
11 Act, correct?

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: This committee has
13 been place since 1970.

14 DR. DANA: '70?

15 MR. CLAMPITT: And then -- so then
16 the regional councils came in and then you had
17 the Magnuson Act. I've been kind of curious
18 as to how these two organizations collaborate.
19 Apparently, they really don't. It sounds
20 like to me this is a great idea. Am I
21 correct?

22 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think it's a great

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1 idea.

2 MR. CLAMPITT: I mean on the
3 collaboration.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: The collaboration,
5 over time they may have collaborated on one
6 issue where they had something in common, but
7 it wasn't by design. I think it was more
8 serendipitous.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: And the subject
10 matter, as Mark has said, is very often quite
11 a lot --

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: And, again, the
13 overlap, it looks like a Venn diagram. I
14 mean, they're not concentric, but there are
15 certain things that we do that have to do with
16 sustainable fisheries that overlap with the
17 fisheries focus of the councils. But they're
18 interested in habitat, they're interested in
19 ecosystem issues. They have an aquaculture
20 amendment in one council. But they're not
21 identical. They do regulations. We're not
22 regulatory, obviously. We try to look at

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1 things strategically across different regions.
2 They're obviously designed to regionally look
3 at these issues, but when they get together as
4 a band of eight councils they're elevating
5 many of their issues to a national level. And
6 that seemed to be a natural intersection for
7 at least promoting dialogue, and there didn't
8 seem to be much risk of having people at the
9 table. They're non-voting. They're not going
10 to somehow upset the apple cart, but promoting
11 that communication seemed to be a valuable
12 idea.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: And the CCC took to
14 it instantly. I mean, there's no debate at
15 all or any opposition to it or anything, which
16 is good. I think we have Cathy and then
17 Martin. Anybody else? And Ed. Cathy, Martin
18 and --

19 MS. FOY: I agree that this is a
20 wonderful idea and if I can offer a friendly
21 amendment that might somehow move the process
22 along, I think the logical person to do this

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1 is the chair. So, if Martin would amend his
2 motion and if Bill, who was the second would
3 agree then we just say yes and that the chair
4 be the representative to the committee or to
5 the CCC for the duration of the ---

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is that a friendly?

7 MR. JONER: Works for me.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. Martin,
9 you wanted to speak again, Martin?

10 MR. FISHER: No, that just took
11 care of it.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, thank you.
13 Ed?

14 MR. EBISUI: I just wanted to add
15 that the Council Coordinating Committee also
16 gets deeply involved in budget issues and,
17 basically, working and negotiating amongst
18 themselves as to divvying up funding,
19 depending on their needs.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. That's a very
21 big piece of what they do, actually.

22 MR. EBISUI: It is, it is.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Basically, it's
2 jockeying for position.

3 MR. EBISUI: That's where a strong
4 executive director really comes in handy.

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: Ed is referring to -
6 - there's a part of the line items that Gary
7 was talking about that's for regional fishery
8 management councils, so their salaries of
9 their staff and executive directors are NOAA
10 funds that are passed to the eight councils
11 via a grant. And so the proportion that goes
12 to any one of the eight councils is subject to
13 a negotiation that they undertake, and then
14 they also seek additional funds from other
15 line items for special projects to improve the
16 capabilities of their council activity.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Dave, are you
18 raising your hand? Dave, were you seeking
19 recognition?

20 MR. WALLACE: No.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, sorry. Okay.
22 So the motion is on the floor to, I'm

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1 assuming, both accept the offer of the CCC to
2 have a liaison here, though that wasn't, I
3 don't think that was actually a part of the
4 motion, but would that be -- need to happen?
5 Mark?

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's like an
7 exchange of prisoners.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: And to provide a
9 liaison person to the CCC meetings and that
10 that person be the chair of MAFAC. Is there
11 opposition to the motion? Is there any more
12 discussion on that? Is there any opposition?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Seeing none, then
15 we'll have that one passed. Thank you. Mark?

16 DR. HOLLIDAY: The next item is
17 this report out to NOAA leadership. We talked
18 in the past many times about what happens to
19 the recommendations and what happens to the
20 reports, and we send these up the food chain
21 or up the chain of command.

22 I think it would be important,

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1 again, my observation about what's been
2 happening in the past, to follow through on
3 your idea of having a personal debriefing from
4 MAFAC leadership to NOAA, to Dr. Lubchenco
5 basically. And I think that in the form of a
6 visible part of the action coming out of the
7 meeting with an anticipated, you know, we have
8 30 days to get out the report under the FACA
9 rules of this meeting. So if you pick the
10 31st day, you know, I wouldn't mind an extra
11 two or three days, but I would try to
12 encourage, I guess I'm encouraging you to
13 think about how do you want to convey this
14 information back to NOAA leadership, and I
15 think requesting that as part of the outcome
16 of the meeting would be to your advantage.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: How do we usually
18 do it?

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: How do we usually do
20 --

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Because we've
22 already talked about -- we talk about it I

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1 think almost every meeting. How do we
2 normally report that?

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: We transmit a
4 document through Eric to Dr. Lubchenco, who
5 then sends it on to Secretary Locke, as this
6 is the report of the meeting, which includes
7 the action items. It's the document that you
8 see on the web page for each meeting. And so
9 we send that forward via email, but the
10 suggestion you've made in the past is you want
11 to have a personal conveying of this with NOAA
12 leadership, and I'm just suggesting an
13 additional means to help make that happen as
14 to include that as part of this record that
15 you want that set that up within a set period
16 of time. That's the request that we submit
17 into the schedule to Dr. Lubchenco.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: So it's slightly
19 different than the technique we've used in the
20 past.

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: Which hasn't been --

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: You're knocking it

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1 up a bit.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: It hasn't been
3 terribly successful.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: It hasn't been
5 terribly successful. Okay. So you're
6 suggesting a means of getting a little bit
7 more --

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm just offering an
9 observation that what we've done hasn't
10 worked. How do you go around telling Dr.
11 Lubchenco that Mark Holliday said you needed
12 to do something?

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, I just
14 wondered if we were suggesting something
15 slightly different because people said it
16 didn't work. So you are.

17 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm just observing
18 that the old system hadn't been working and
19 perhaps you need to have a more aggressive
20 stance in making your wishes come to fruition.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't think that
22 any of us could deny that that's a good idea.

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1 I think we should do whatever it is that we
2 need to do. Any objection to that?

3 MR. DEWEY: So who and when is
4 going to do that?

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't know. What
6 do you need to know, Mark?

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, presumably,
8 you need to decide if it's you or a delegation
9 that you want to meet and then arrive on if
10 it's date specific or a window of time that
11 you want to do this, and that could be then
12 the impetus for submitting the scheduling
13 request with Dr. Lubchenco.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: If you say we'd like
16 to meet with you whenever it's convenient,
17 which has kind of been our prior, it's never
18 been convenient. So I'm trying to suggest an
19 alternate means that might be more successful.

20

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. That's
22 good. Randy?

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1 MR. CATES: In the past when we've
2 vetted this issue I think the recommendation
3 we had was that the chair would request a
4 meeting once a year, and then we were fine
5 with leaving it up to the Secretary to accept
6 or not accept. But it was our feeling that we
7 should at least request it. So it wasn't the
8 whole group, it was --

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: The chair. You
10 know, I don't know what's most effective,
11 whether it's a one-person or a two-person or a
12 three-person delegation. Mark, I would ask
13 your advice on that because, certainly, if
14 more people could go that might be more
15 effective. If that's more effective, we
16 should do it that way. If it's just one
17 person then we should do it that way.

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: I don't have a lot
19 of precedent to give you, one has been more
20 successful than the other, I mean even with
21 other organizations. I think if the intent is
22 to make this routine and I think part of your

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1 discussion the first time we meet is thank you
2 so much for meeting with us and this is
3 something that we'd like to do routinely and
4 we'd also like to see you at the meetings or a
5 NOAA leadership representative at our
6 meetings, as well. But then once it becomes
7 routinized, regularized, it becomes accepted.

8 But I think we're just trying to get over
9 that hurdle of breaking down this barrier. I
10 think it's an artificial barrier. They don't
11 have any qualms. I think they have positive
12 thoughts about MAFAC. It's just it's not on
13 their radar screen.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you think
15 routine is after every meeting, within a
16 certain period of time after every meeting?

17 DR. HOLLIDAY: I would recommend
18 that. We only have two meetings a year.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's what I
20 think, too.

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think that's
22 perfectly reasonable.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: What do others
2 think about the size of the delegation? Is
3 there utility in having more than the chair
4 go? Bill, Cathy, Randy.

5 MR. DEWEY: I guess the question
6 for Mark is as far as cost. You know, it's a
7 lot to expect people to travel back to D.C. to
8 meet. Is there a MAFAC budget to support
9 travel for people to do that or at least for
10 the chair to do that? What's the situation
11 there?

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a good
13 question.

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, obviously,
15 it's more expensive the more people. I would
16 prefer it to be fewer people for the reason of
17 expense.

18 MR. DEWEY: I guess what was in my
19 mind is, were you suggesting that --

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: That MAFAC would pay
21 for this meeting for someone to come and speak
22 to Dr. Lubchenco.

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1 MR. DEWEY: Right. Personally, I
2 think it would be appropriate to have the
3 chair do it myself.

4 DR. DANA: I would think it would
5 be more value-added to have the Executive
6 Committee because then you'd have the
7 representatives from each of the constituent
8 or user groups, your recreation, your
9 aquaculture, you know what I mean. I just
10 think that that would add more value.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. I kind of
12 tend to agree with you. Dave, then Cathy,
13 then Randy, then Tony, then Henry.

14 MR. WALLACE: Well, you know, I
15 think that it surely should be more than one.
16 It should be less than 21. And I think that
17 we should show up with two or three issues
18 that we really want to put forward in the
19 strongest possible terms, and we should have
20 the people who understand that and we should
21 decide among ourselves what are the issues
22 that we really want to bring up. And then we

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1 should bring the people who are the strongest
2 advocates or proponents of that and then let
3 them have the two-minute or three-minute
4 statement to drive that home. And so I would
5 say, you know, three to five people in a
6 delegation, and the chair and maybe the vice
7 chair and a couple of other people depending
8 on what the issues are.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. Of course.
10 Cathy?

11 MS. FOY: I'd like to thank Mark for
12 bringing this idea forward. And I strongly
13 support it. I'd like for us to note that we
14 have one meeting every year in the D.C. area.
15 So, since travel expenses are a big portion
16 of our budget we could at that time have the
17 chair and the executives -- chair of the
18 committee meet for whoever has the issues with
19 Dr. Lubchenco and then possibly a second
20 meeting following our MAFAC spring meeting
21 where we could have only the chair go to
22 reduce expenses.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's a good idea.
2 Randy, then Tony, then Henry.

3 MR. CATES: There's pros and cons
4 to all these ideas. There's more value, there
5 will be more of a comfort level for, one, the
6 chairperson meeting with the Secretary one-on-
7 one will get a more open dialogue. The danger
8 is that that one person, whoever it may be,
9 could be more personal agenda-oriented and not
10 necessarily MAFAC. With two representatives,
11 you have a little bit of an insurance policy
12 that it's more balanced.

13 So my suggestion is it should be at
14 the chair's discretion whether it's one or
15 more and for these reasons because you may get
16 an indication that the Secretary wants to have
17 more of a private conversation and be more
18 open and the chairperson may want to, for
19 example, take somebody that's dealing with
20 catch shares and maybe want to take Terry
21 along that's got a little bit more knowledge
22 on that.

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1 So I think it should be left to the
2 chairperson. But with that, comes
3 accountability, and we should have the
4 flexibility built in because I guarantee you
5 if it's two or three people you're going to
6 have that meeting but there's going to be
7 those barriers put up and you're not going to
8 get anything done.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I go to the
10 others and then come back to you, Dave? Tony
11 and then Henry and then Dave again.

12 DR. CHATWIN: So I just want to
13 express my support. I really like the way
14 this is going and the timing that was
15 suggested. I do think we are being very
16 ambitious hoping to get two meetings with --

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Anybody.

18 DR. CHATWIN: -- I mean, Dr.
19 Lubchenco, I understand she turns down 30
20 meeting requests a week or something. Anyway,
21 so I don't think we should be disappointed if
22 we only get one meeting a year.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: I agree with you.

2 DR. CHATWIN: And I know that we
3 all want to -- I think we should also, I would
4 urge us to think of what the Secretary would
5 get out of a meeting with us because we can
6 think about it as, yes, we want to tell her
7 what's important to us, but I think we should
8 think about what she gets out of that meeting
9 because that would be an insurance policy to
10 have that meeting repeat itself.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: I agree.

12 MR. CATES: Can I make a comment to
13 that point, specifically, just real short.
14 I'm dealing with an issue, it's a very
15 important issue, right now where I should have
16 requested to give my input and I didn't
17 because I knew what the outcome was going to
18 be. I knew that no matter what I said it
19 would have been ignored. But there are severe
20 consequences because I didn't do that. And so
21 my point is it's better to make the request
22 and let them turn us down.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. There's
2 Henry.

3 MR. SESEPASARA: I think it's an
4 excellent idea to collaborate. This meeting
5 here, I think the issue that I want to bring
6 up here is the number of representatives on
7 MAFAC to a CCC meeting versus a number of CCC
8 representatives to our meeting. It seems like
9 we are limited to our participation because of
10 the cost picked up by the agency. On the
11 other hand, the CCC is made up of eight
12 different councils or they have their own
13 budget, each council has their own budget, and
14 they can afford to send all eight
15 representatives to our meeting.

16 I think that's something that we
17 should look at whether we should limit the
18 number of representatives from the CCC to our
19 meeting to even up the score, so to speak.
20 But, you know, I know for a fact that the
21 council can send more than one representative
22 because of the budget they have for each of

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1 the councils.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. Thank you,
3 Henry. I think that when we discussed the CCC
4 exchange, if you will, I believe that the CCC
5 is only going to send one person to our
6 meeting. And I think that we pretty much
7 agreed that we're only going to send one
8 person to theirs. So what we're discussing
9 now is a little different. We're talking
10 about something that we do or that we try to
11 do at the end of every meeting, and that is
12 devise a strategy whereby MAFAC gets an
13 audience with NOAA leadership, in this case
14 either the head of NOAA or the Secretary of
15 Commerce. And so, you know, that's what we're
16 talking about right now, so I think it's just
17 a little bit different. Thank you.

18 Was it Dave that wanted to talk
19 again?

20 MR. WALLACE: Yes.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: And then was there
22 somebody else over here?

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1 MR. WALLACE: I wanted to respond
2 to Randy's comment about the representatives
3 that attend these meetings, if they ever take
4 place. The representatives who are going to
5 represent MAFAC are only going to be
6 authorized to advocate or discuss those things
7 that MAFAC, the whole committee, has
8 authorized them to do. They don't have an
9 agenda of their own, that it may have been
10 their agenda in the beginning, it may have
11 been their idea, but if they don't have the
12 support of this organization then they're not
13 authorized to go give just their opinion. If
14 they would like to call the Secretary or Dr.
15 Lubchenco and ask for a private audience to
16 advocate their position, that's their
17 privilege. Everybody needs to understand that
18 when they are representing MAFAC, they are
19 representing the consensus on an issue or a
20 group of issues by this group and not their
21 own personal opinions.

22 Second, let me change one thing

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1 because Cathy made a very good point. We
2 should actually push for the first meeting
3 when we're in Washington because we can save
4 the travel for whoever because they're all
5 going to be in one place at the same time
6 anyhow, and so it can be the day after or two
7 days after. So what we do is we save that
8 whole travel thing, and that was really a good
9 idea.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: That was a good
11 idea. So can we draw this discussion to a
12 close? I don't know whether we need a motion
13 for this. Mark, what would be your preference
14 on this or direction?

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: I don't think
16 there's a motion --

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't think
18 there's a -- okay. We agree with the changed
19 strategy, the better strategy for seeking
20 meetings with NOAA leadership. We believe
21 that the chair should go and potentially
22 others, depending on where and what the issues

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1 might be, and some of those people could be
2 the Executive Committee, which would be the
3 subcommittee chairs. Some of them could be
4 based on issues and what we have right at the
5 top of our list at the moment --

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: Subject to
7 appropriations.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Subject to
9 appropriations. Right. And some of them
10 could just be plain old charming, like Randy.

11 DR. DANA: Not Martin.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't think we
13 need to take it any further on this.

14 MR. FISHER: That's on the record.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Mark, did you have
16 one last element to this discussion? Next
17 meeting? Is that the last --

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: Oh, yes. The next
19 meeting is scheduled for October. I think
20 it's the 25th, 6th and 7th is what we had
21 agreed to. Is that true? I'm just looking at
22 my staff. It's the 25th, 26th, 27th. It's

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1 the last week in October. That's what we had
2 agreed to.

3 We normally set the meetings --
4 just for the new members -- set the calendar
5 year 2012 meetings would be a year in advance
6 per the doodle poll. We ask people to map
7 out when they can't meet. We try to avoid
8 conflicts with major meetings and commitments.

9 Not everybody can attend every meeting. We
10 realize that because we have 24 people's
11 schedules, but we try to get the biggest
12 amount of people here at the same time. The
13 next meeting is scheduled for Washington D.C.,
14 and our next meeting we'll go ahead and do the
15 calendar for 2012.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: When we say
17 Washington D.C., are we actually talking about
18 --

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: We don't have the
20 venues picked, the specific hotel yet.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'd like to give
22 direction, if possible, to the staff on that.

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1 And my direction would be some place very
2 close in and available for either the Hill or
3 Silver Spring or both, and they're both pretty
4 easy to get to on the Red Line.

5 MR. DYSKOW: The two obvious
6 choices would be the Liaison or the George
7 because they're both walking distance to the
8 Hill and they're moderately priced and they
9 both have meeting facilities.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: I would agree with
11 that. Thank you, Phil. Steve?

12 MR. JONER: Is it absolutely a
13 foregone conclusion that it will be Washington
14 D.C.?

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

16 MR. JONER: Then I'll follow Randy's
17 advice and, even if it's a lose cause, just
18 state your case, and that is I will give my
19 elevator speech. In six years I've never been
20 to New England for a MAFAC meeting. We've
21 talked about it, but who wants to go there in
22 the spring when it's cold? So if we always

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1 have the meetings somewhere else in the spring
2 and Washington D.C. in the fall, these poor
3 guys never get to host a meeting. And there's
4 so much going on. I go there on personal
5 things. I enjoy visits there, and I just
6 think we're missing an opportunity by not
7 going there.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, Steve.
9 I'm not trying to be facetious about this. I
10 really agree with you that we haven't been
11 there for a long time and it would be good, at
12 least not since I've been on MAFAC.

13 MR. JONER: Not in our six years.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: And I don't know if
15 there's a policy or an SOP of some kind

16 MR. JONER: You mean to stay away?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: -- that says we
18 don't go to New England. I don't know how
19 it's gone in the past in terms of the
20 decision-making process. So, Heidi?

21 MS. LOVETT: It's been your choice
22 in the past. We've planned to have, in my

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1 recollection, because I started to scout out
2 locations for the New England area and then
3 you chose to be in Key West this time. So
4 that's why.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. I know what
6 happened this last time. I was just wondering
7 if there was a policy of trying to do it quite
8 often in D.C. and then in between in other
9 places because people have been asking me
10 about it. Mark, is there any --

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: The history was that
12 people try to be in D.C. because they wanted
13 to be near the Hill once a year. Of course,
14 sometimes we chose to meet in D.C. when
15 Congress is out of session. I tried to get
16 you all to go to the Boston Seafood Show, but
17 you said it was too cold.

18 MR. JONER: I didn't say it was too
19 cold.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, a number of
21 you did, so, I mean, it's not for lack of
22 trying.

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1 MR. JONER: So that's out of the
2 question then?

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: I don't think it's -
4 -

5 MR. JONER: I mean, there's a well
6 worn path in Silver Spring.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I was told --

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'd rule him out of
9 order, if I were the chair.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think that if --
11 it isn't a foregone conclusion then we should
12 know that. I understood that it was a
13 foregone conclusion, so maybe I misspoke,
14 Mark. Maybe you know better than I.

15 MR. JONER: Well, if it's at all
16 possible, I'd like to suggest that we try to
17 get to Boston or Portland.

18 MS. DANA: You mean during the same
19 --

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: In lieu of going to
21 Washington in October. I mean, if Ken Franke
22 were here, he gave me a much better offer for

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1 free meeting space and discounted hotels to go
2 to San Diego in October.

3 MR. JONER: Well, we haven't heard
4 from George yet.

5 DR. DANA: He would also do that in
6 the spring, I think, in San Diego, too.

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's actually
8 cheaper for us to meet in D.C.

9 MR. JONER: I understand.

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: Because we don't
11 have to send staff out there and the speakers
12 a lot of times come out of headquarters. So
13 there is a savings moving fewer people out of
14 Silver Spring to a remote location, even
15 though we're still moving 21 members around
16 the country.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's what I was
18 told, was that it was a cost issue and that it
19 had already been determined by, I was assuming
20 by the AA that it was the best course to take
21 or by Mark or Mark and the AA. But I'm
22 indifferent completely. It's up to you guys

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1 what you want to do. I had Randy's hand and
2 Terry's hand. I think Terry might have been
3 first.

4 MR. ALEXANDER: Well, I think we
5 should be in D.C. at least once a year, but
6 there's lots of fishing industry there for
7 people to see, lots of things to do, but
8 Boston is brutally expensive when it comes to
9 hotel rooms and all that crap especially in
10 the fall when foliage is in the air.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: D.C. is not cheap.

12 MR. RIZZARDI: I've had enough of
13 the Navy facilities.

14 (Off the record comments.)

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Let's get
16 this over with so people can go out in the
17 sun. Randy, did you have something to say?

18 MR. CATES: In the beginning, when
19 I was first on MAFAC, we always went to D.C.
20 once a year. And I think the new regime has
21 done a pretty good job of branching out to
22 these other areas. I think we should be in

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1 D.C. solely for the expense in these economic
2 times.

3 We've got to lead by example,
4 number one. And, two, one of the things I'm
5 finding it's great when we go to these other
6 areas, Hawaii, Key West, but we almost lose a
7 day to hear the local issues. They're
8 important, but, boy, there's a lot of things
9 that MAFAC should be doing, but we're losing
10 almost a whole day because we're listening to
11 what's going on, you know, Key West city
12 stuff. And I just think maybe we need to
13 focus a little bit. That's my --

14 DR. DANA: See, I thought that was
15 a highlight because in Key West, you know,
16 it's kind of a Florida microcosm with the
17 military, which is heavily present in our
18 state; sport fishing, which is a huge economic
19 driver; and then the sensitive environment.
20 And I thought that that was just a nice way to
21 say this is what Florida or at least our
22 region is about.

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1 MR. CATES: I agree. My only
2 response would be in the past that was heard
3 like during the luncheon thing or in the
4 evening event. And the value is there, but
5 we've got to recognize we only have a limited
6 amount of time. So we've got to dedicate so
7 much to MAFAC issues. We really got to put
8 less issues on the plate if we're going to
9 continue that because we lose almost a day.
10 That's just a fact. So we've just got to do
11 time management a little bit, I think, when we
12 go to these outlying -- when we go to D.C. we
13 don't have that. It's D.C.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Short of a
15 motion otherwise, the meeting is going to be
16 in D.C. If somebody would like to make a
17 motion and have additional conversation about
18 it, I think that would be fine. But I need a
19 motion before we go around the bush any
20 longer. I'm not seeing a motion so --

21 MR. CATES: We don't need a motion
22 for D.C.

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1 CHAIR MCCARTY: No, not as far as
2 I'm concerned. If anybody thinks we do that's
3 fine.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: We had previously
5 agreed to it.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: I thought so. So I
7 think we've already -- yes.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: So a motion would be
9 to re-open that decision.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, which I'm not
11 hearing. Well, I mean, we kind of already did
12 re-open the discussion, but there's been no
13 motion on the floor. So short of that, I
14 would say we're done with this discussion.

15 MR. CATES: Are we discussing
16 timing?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: 25th, 26th, 27th.

18 MR. CATES: Of?

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: October. Mark, are
20 you done with this? Thank you very much. I'd
21 like to make a few closing remarks. They're
22 very brief. Thanks for your time and your

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1 energy. Thanks for all the help from
2 everyone. Thanks for the staff's work.
3 Thanks for Eric being here, and I thought it
4 was a pretty good meeting. So thank you very
5 much, and I would ask for a motion to adjourn.

6 MR. JONER: Just a little
7 commercial announcement here. Come and see us
8 at the fish fry. We're going to have some
9 really good anoplopoma fimbria and
10 oncorhynchus tshawytscha, black cod and
11 salmon. So Heidi is going to be helping with
12 the booth at the fish fry.

13 DR. HOLLIDAY: Oh, the NOAA fish
14 fry.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: In Washington D.C.,
16 June 8th, June 9th --

17 MR. JONER: Wednesday, June 8th.
18 So I'm really busy cooking, but if you're
19 there, you know, knock on the table and get my
20 attention.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: There's been a
22 motion to adjourn. Is there any objection to

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1 that?

2 (No response.)

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. We're
4 adjourned.

5 (Whereupon, the foregoing matter
6 was concluded at 4:53 p.m.)

7

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