

Annotated Agenda
Cooperative Research and Cooperative Management

MAFAC, San Diego, CA
April 2015

- 1. Title of Discussion:** Cooperative Research and Cooperative Management White Paper
- 2. Discussion Presenters:** Heather Sagar, NOAA Fisheries Senior Policy Advisor
- 3. Objective/Purpose:** **Informational and Action**

The purpose of this session is to (1) give a brief overview to MAFAC on the Cooperative Research and Cooperative Management White Paper, and (2) seek MAFAC's review of the recommendations in the paper.

4. Background/Synopsis:

For several years, NOAA Fisheries has carried out cooperative management and cooperative research under several statutes. A diverse group of environmental non-governmental organizations, fishing industry, and academic stakeholders sent a letter to Dr. Sullivan, NOAA Administrator, in November 2013 requesting that NOAA strengthen the use of co-management in fisheries management. In response, NOAA Fisheries Leadership Council requested a review of the agency's cooperative management and cooperative research activities undertaken pursuant to NOAA Fisheries' major statutes (e.g., Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and Magnuson Stevens Act). A NOAA Fisheries working group conducted this review and also interviewed 50 NOAA Fisheries staff and nine external stakeholders about the successes and challenges of these existing activities.

The draft white paper provides an overview of those activities to date and provides recommendations to the NOAA Fisheries Leadership Council on how to move forward. We are looking for Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee to review the white paper and provide comments on the recommendations only (beginning on page 40).

Comments due to Heather Sagar by June 26, 2015.

5. Options listed from 1 to n: Options to be developed by the Strategic Planning, Budget, and Program Management Subcommittee

6. Preferred Recommendation:

Record of Decision:
Decision, Next Step(s) and/or Action:
Assigned to:
Due Date: