

Annotated Agenda
MAFAC Meeting - Portland, Oregon
April 25-27, 2016

- 1. Title of Discussion:** **Science Updates:**
- **NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy and Regional Action Plans**
 - **Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management**

2. Presenter: John Stein, Director, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

3. Objective/Purpose (Informational)

Provide update on NOAA Fisheries development of (1) Regional Action Plans to implement the NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy and (2) policy and road map to guide implementation of ecosystem-based fisheries management.

4. Background/Synopsis

Development and implementation of the [**NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy \(Strategy\)**](#) and the [**Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management \(EBFM\) policy and road map**](#) are important steps to strengthen fulfillment of NOAA Fisheries mission.

[**The Strategy**](#) was developed to help meet the high and growing need for information and tools to better prepare for and respond to climate-related impacts on the nation's marine resources and the people who depend on them. The goal is to increase the production, delivery, and use of the climate-related information needed to fulfill NOAA Fisheries mandates. The Strategy identifies seven objectives to provide decision-makers with the information they need to reduce impacts and increase resilience in a changing climate. NOAA Fisheries is working with partners to develop Regional Action Plans to implement the Strategy in each region over the next five years. Two draft Regional Action Plans are now available for public comment (West Coast, Bering Sea) and the others will be available in May. Regional Action Plans will be completed by October 1, 2016. For more information on these see <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/ecosystems/climate/rap/index>.

The draft EBFM Policy and Road Map were developed to help guide implementation of ecosystem-based approaches. The draft Policy defines EBFM and identifies six guiding principles to enhance implementation. The draft Policy was available for public comment Sept – Dec 2015 and is expected to be finalized in 2016. The draft Road Map will provide a national implementation plan to help operationalize EBFM across agency science and management. The draft Road Map builds on a variety of existing efforts (including the Climate Science Strategy).

5. Action to be taken by MAFAC members

Opportunity for individual input on draft Regional Action Plans to implement the NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy (For information see <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/ecosystems/climate/rap/index>).