



NOAA
FISHERIES

Treatment of Climate Change in NMFS Endangered Species Act Decisions



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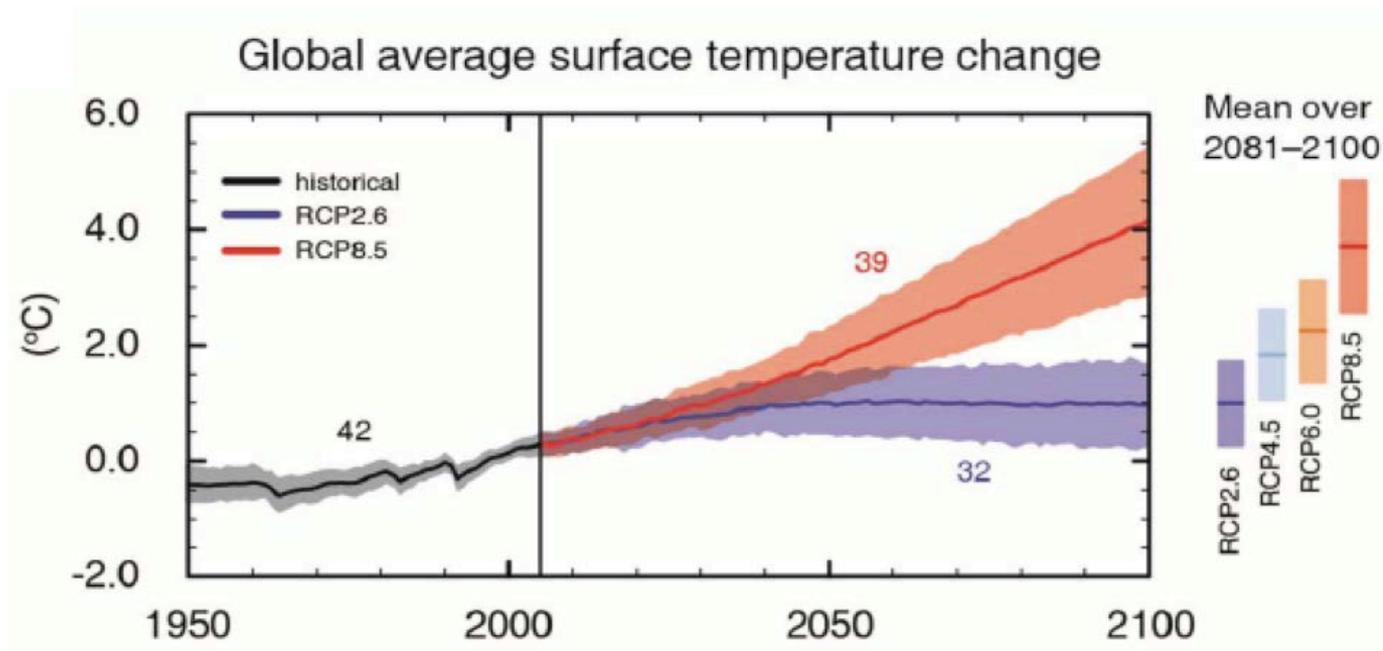


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Why do we need this Guidance?

- Nature & magnitude of risk from climate-related changes
- Need ***consistency in how climate change information and uncertainty is addressed***



The Guidance aims to:



E
F
F
CONSISTENCY

C
I
E
EFFECTIVENESS
C
Y

**Guidance will be updated as
new information becomes available**

BETTER, DEFENSIBLE

DECISIONS

- ESA species listings
- Designation of critical habitat
- Evaluations of proposed Federal actions
- Consideration of permits for certain activities

Guidance is beneficial in 7 key areas

1. Consideration of future climate condition uncertainty
2. Selecting a climate change projection timeframe
3. Evaluating the adequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
4. Critical habitat designation in a changing climate
5. Consideration of future beneficial effects
6. Responsiveness and effectiveness of management action in a changing climate
7. Incorporating climate change into project designs

