

NOAA
FISHERIES

West Coast Region Economics & Human Dimensions Needs

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Northwest Fisheries Science Center

Seattle, WA

NMFS West Coast Region

- 30 species of marine mammals
- 120 species of fish
 - 4 Fishery Management Plans (Salmon, HMS, CPS, Groundfish)
- 4 species of sea turtles
- Marine invertebrates
- ESA Fish, Sharks



NMFS West Coast Region



- Endangered Species Act
- Magnuson-Stevens Act
- Marine Mammal Protection Act
- National Aquaculture Act
- Federal Power Act
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Pacific Salmon Treaty Act
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

WCRO & NWFSC – Successful Collaboration

The Region and Center already work well together and we appreciate the collaborative & responsive environment created by Center leadership

Some Recent Examples

- Groundfish Biennial Harvest Specifications
- Groundfish Catch Share Program Five Year Review



Endangered Species Act

- Designation of critical habitat based on the **best scientific data available after considering the economic impact...**
- Developing protective regulations
 - Must assess the economic impact of proposed regulations under ESA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Biological Opinions
- Recovery Plans – Cost estimates & benefits of recovery

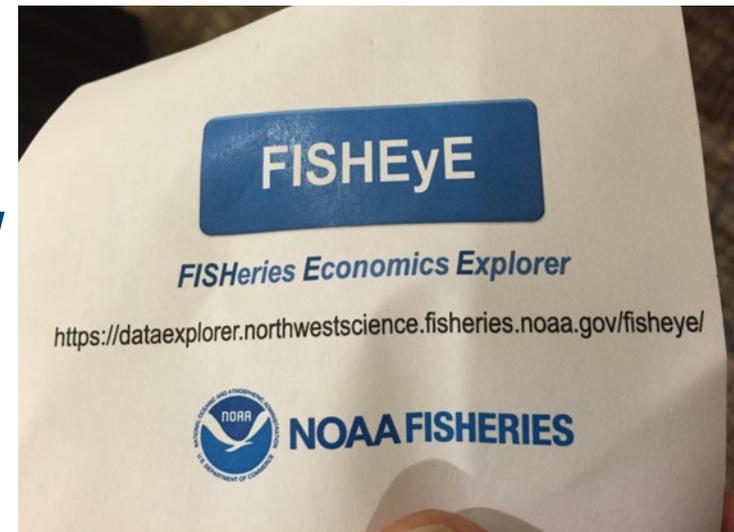
Magnuson/Stevens Act – General Support

Support to WCR staff and PFMC through social and economic analysis and summaries of status or anticipated economic impacts to commercial and recreational fisheries and fishing communities

- Regulatory Impact Reviews
- Regulatory Flexibility Analyses
- NEPA
- analyses of management action alternatives

MSA - What information do we use?

- Economic Data Collection Program's FishEYE data explorer tool
- Performance metrics
- Community dependence/resiliency
- Salmon SAFE



MSA – Council support

Membership on Council
advisory bodies is crucial and
should be continued

MSA – Other Support

- Analyses supporting fisheries-management actions
- Cost-benefit analyses for fisheries-management alternatives
- Web application tools for managers to access available cost earnings and recreational survey data
- Commercial cost-earnings surveys, periodic recreational angler and charter boat
- Expansion of the Council's regional input-output model IO-PAC to cover all FMP fisheries and fishery sectors
- Models of fleet dynamics for commercial harvesters and recreational charter boats, including spatial and fishery choice behavior, communication of results to inform management decisions

Transitioning from ending overfishing & rebuilding overfished stocks to “what’s next”

NMFS Leadership

- Council Coordinating Committee Meeting, May 2017
- July 2017 Rauch statement at FISHCon

Makes it difficult to fully predict our needs with respect to Fisheries



Deciding “What’s Next” with our partners

- Pacific Fishery Management Council
 - Commercial
 - Recreational
 - NGOs
- West Coast states
- Tribes
- Public at-large



What's next – Initial Thoughts

- Community Focus
 - Adaptive Management Program
 - New Entrants
 - Recovering from 2 decades of overfished stocks & rebuilding
 - Designing Regulations to better allow robust communities
- Impacts of Climate Change/Climate Shifts



Other National Issues with Potential analytical needs

- Secretary of Commerce – Aquaculture Initiative
- Tracking exports of US fish that are re-imported into the US



Executive Order 13771 -- Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs

- Unknown workload & analyses to comply with this new Executive Order
- Will likely require additional economic information and analyses
- Timelines unknown

Social Science Planning Team – exploring ~~stealing~~ an idea from the AKRO

- Intended to facilitate and enhance the use of social science data in the management process
- Potential to provide a bridge between research and management processes
- Would create an annual process for staff from WCRO, NWFSC, PFMC to explore specific social science data and analytical needs and make recommendations to address those needs

Concluding thoughts

- Continue a successful partnership
- Respond to a potentially changing management situation in which overfishing is not driving action
- Impacts to Communities

