NOAA FISHERIES

Overview of the Human Dimensions Program in the Conservation Biology Division of the NWFSC

https://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/about/org-chart/index.cfm

Ecosystem Science Program

- The Human Dimensions Team is part of Ecosystem Science Program (ESP) in the Conservation Biology Division
- The ESP conducts research that informs Ecosystem-based Management of the California Current and forms the foundation for conservation of endangered species.
- The ESP is comprised of four teams that focus on analytical approaches for addressing questions in coupled social-ecological systems. We forecast impacts of management strategies on ecosystem services in the face of future pressures. Our program integrates basic and applied science, melds social and natural science, and explicitly considers the linkages among systems.

CB Human Dimensions Team

- We seek a better understanding of the human values, actions, communities, and institutions that influence (and are influenced by) marine and anadromous fish, marine mammals, and other marine species and ecosystems in the Pacific Northwest.
- We conduct economic and sociocultural research supporting ecosystem-based fishery management and conservation and recovery of protected resources.
- Our research provides data and tools that support NMFS and other agencies' regulatory and management decisions, as well as contributing to the broader research community and public

Federal Staff

Suzanne Russel

Key Focus: impacts of management on marine resource users and communities

Karma Norman

Key Focus: understanding fishing community resilience and human wellbeing

Robby Fonner

Key Focus: Economics of protected resources conservation and management

Dan Holland

Key Focus: design and evaluation of fishery management tools and strategies

Non-Federal

- Melissa Poe (Washington Sea Grant)
- Anna Varney (PSMFC)
- Max Van Oostenburg (PSMFC)
- Ashley Vizek (PSMFC)
- Brian Carter (PSMFC)
- Kate Richerson (UW – JISAO)






Resources

- Permanent Labor Budget $600K (4 FTEs)
- Discretionary Funds (supplies, travel, etc.) $20K
- Temp Funds (proposal driven HQ funds) $100-$400K
- Temp funds cover contractors, surveys and data acquisitions, and some travel
- Temp funds are uncertain year-to-year and often arrive late in the year and must be obligated well before end of fiscal year

Research Areas

- HUMAN DIMENSIONS SOCIAL SCIENCE
  - Fishery Management Impacts of Fishing Communities
  - Human Wellbeing in West Coast Ecosystem Contexts
- ECOSYSTEM ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE
  - Ecosystem-based Fishery Management
  - CA Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment
- PROTECTED RESOURCES ECONOMICS
  - Cost-effectiveness of recovery actions
  - Valuation of habitat restoration