

NPFMC Climate Scenarios Workshop

Pre-Workshop Virtual Discussion #1: Climate Change Impacts in an Uncertain Future

Agenda and discussion guide

Wednesday, April 24th | 1:00-2:00 pm AK

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87199613039> PW NPFMC

[Climate Scenarios Workshop page](#)

Session purpose

In preparation for the June 2024 Climate Scenarios Workshop (June 5-6, Kodiak AK), this virtual session will review anticipated climate change impacts to Alaska's marine ecosystems, and explore the challenge of planning for long-term change. This discussion will help:

- Provide a basic shared understanding of climate change impacts that are occurring and could occur in the Bering Sea, Gulf of Alaska, and Aleutian Islands.
- Introduce the diversity of climate change impacts, including specific examples (e.g. marine heat waves, changes in sea ice cover) that will be used to illustrate the hypothetical future scenarios that will be discussed at the workshop.
- Look ahead to workshop discussions, and explore the opportunities and challenges of planning for a degree of change that's beyond the scope of recent experience.

Agenda

- (10 minutes) - Introduction and quick interactive discussion - experiences with climate change impacts
- (10 minutes) - Brief overview of current and anticipated climate change impacts in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska - Bridget Ferriss, NMFS AFSC
- (40 minutes) - Moderated panel discussion and Q&A
 - Bill Tweit, Council Vice Chair and Ecosystem Committee Chair, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - Anne Hollowed, former Scientific and Statistical Committee Chair and Alaska Fisheries Science Center
 - Kirstin Holsman, Alaska Fisheries Science Center
 - Bridget Ferriss, Alaska Fisheries Science Center

Discussion:

- Climate change impacts in the future—including the hypothetical future scenarios we'll discuss at the workshop—may look different from climate change impacts in

the past. What's important to understand about how climate change impacts may be different in the future, for example in terms of frequency, duration, severity, and other factors?

- How can ecosystem-based management approaches, and incorporating ecosystem and climate information into Council processes, help support climate readiness?
- Investments in climate modeling can transform the ability to assess risks and management strategies. In simple terms, what do we hope we'll be able to do more effectively in the future to inform climate readiness planning and response?
- From a management perspective, what are the opportunities and challenges of planning for change that's beyond the span of a Council action—or even our lifetimes?