



Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) REPORT

September 15, 2022, 9am-4pm Alaska time via Zoom

CCTF Members in attendance:

Diana Stram (NPFMC **co-chair**)
Kirstin Holsman (AFSC REFM **co-chair**)
Mike Levine (Ocean Conservancy)
Todd Loomis (Ocean Peace LLC)
Jason Gasper (NMFS RO)

Brendan Raymond-Yakoubian (Sandhill Culture Craft)
Lauren Divine (City of Saint Paul)
Jeremy Sterling (AFSC MML)
Scott Goodman (NRC Inc.)

Members absent: Steve Martell, SeaState

Others in attendance:

Bridget Mansfield
Kate Haapala
Theresa Peterson

Steve Marx
Terese Schomogyi
Megan Williams

Rachel Baker
Stephanie Madsen
John Gauvin

Administrative

The CCTF members provided introductions and discussed the draft agenda. The agenda was approved with the understanding that a working break was incorporated to finish group work on each section of the Climate Readiness Synthesis prior to finalization.

Climate Readiness Synthesis (CRS) and Ranking

The majority of the meeting consisted of on-screen review of each section of the CRS and providing on-screen edits. The meeting adjourned for a period of time to continue work offline to complete each section. The CCTF then reconvened to review and revise each section ranking criteria, related rankings and agree upon rankings by section overall.

Associated activities via CCTF

The CCTF noted that there are additional on-going activities in conjunction with the work plan that are not necessarily reflected in the CRS report but that are important to note moving forward in conjunction with the approved CCTF work plan [\[link\]](#)

Notably one of these activities includes:

- Coordination with ESR team for improved climate change information to be included in the near-term

Planning for 2022-2023:

The CCTF discussed their work plan for 2022-2023 and provided the following for input for the October Council meeting. Immediate priority items are listed in bold. The task force noted the desire to advance its work and identified the need for additional capacity to make meaningful substantive progress in a timely manner.

Timeline available here: https://kkh2022.shinyapps.io/cctf_timeline/

[Note suggested dates are approximate targets not finalized dates]

Priority actions for CCTF (now-2yrs) **bold** indicated activities that should be prioritized

1. **Address Council comments on CRS [Oct -Nov]**
 - a. **finalize and post to Council website (glossy version for posting and cross-referencing)[Dec 2022]**
2. **Consider means to incorporate additional knowledge sources into Council research priorities [Feb]**
3. **Case study development (based on those explored in the CRS, e.g., herring closure area, 2 million MT cap, etc)**
 - a. Use these to populate and build out the climate readiness toolbox (online database of climate informed measures)
4. **Scope resources to support post-doc/contractor(s) to advance CCTF and Council (climate) products (funding, fellowships, NOAA LANTERN, etc).**
5. Use scenario planning workshops to help build out climate readiness measures (sensu <https://www.mafmc.org/climate-change-scenario-planning/>):
 - a. Present case studies at scenario workshop
 - b. Develop metrics for effectiveness at addressing climate change risk / adaptation
 - c. Develop recommendations to address knowledge gaps and inform research ideas [Feb]
6. Potential management tools and measures that could be used to address climate change (using case studies to further develop these)
7. Using the rapid climate change search term methods from section 2 to conduct an analysis of Council documents to explore whether and how the climate-relevant information from a variety of 'other' knowledge bases are currently making their way into the Council process in order to facilitate a gap analysis and recommendations for improvement, as necessary.
8. Repeat rapid climate change search term review for 2022 SAFE reports (presently completed 2019-2021)
9. Assess whether CCTF proposed Climate Briefings as originally conceived still has merit or is duplicative of other activities and/or needs refinement [Jan-Mar 2023]
10. Scope information needs for the climate change report (see next bullet)
 - a. Use case studies from bullet 2 to scope tools and information needs for the report [Diana, Kirstin]
 - b. From Section 2 - optional author self-evaluation/review form of what information is needed to move individual safe chapters forward in readiness (and help scope information needs for the climate change report)[Jan-Mar 2023]
11. Outline Climate Readiness Report for input by FEP Team review, Ecosystem Committee, Council bodies [TBD 2023]

What is needed to get these off the ground?

- **Multiple tasks above would advance faster with 1-2 people (post-doc or contractor) to help build out, finalize, and support workshops and work sessions to move products forward in an accelerated time frame**
- Virtual check-in by email quarterly; virtual review and feedback process
- Meet bi-annually in work sessions to finalize and review the work from the contractors/post-doc
- Present products to the Council annually

Deliverables:

- On-line living database of climate challenges → tools
- Climate change report outline
- Design for climate briefings