



D9 NPRB Tracking

June 2019

Action Memo

Staff: Jim Armstrong
Other Presenters: Matt Baker (NPRB)
Action Required: (SSC Only) Review/discuss NPRB project for synchronizing Council research priorities and NPRB project database

BACKGROUND

In 2016, the North Pacific Research Board presented to the NPFMC on its research investments and programs. The NPFMC requested that NPRB staff report to the NPFMC SSC each year at the June meeting to provide an update and to develop a more coordinated strategy to compare and contrast research priorities, identify common interests, develop mechanisms to track results related to research priorities, and to determine ways to monitor how research is applied to inform management. Comprehensive reviews of Council research priorities are now conducted every three years and will not occur at the June 2019 meeting. Nevertheless, in support of ongoing efforts to improve the Council's research priority program, NPRB staff will provide an update on ongoing collaborative efforts to link its database of completed and ongoing research projects with research priorities identified by the Council and SSC. A discussion of research coordination with NPRB had been anticipated for earlier in 2019 and is being addressed by the SSC only.

At the meeting, NPRB Science Director Matt Baker will provide the SSC with an overview of current NPRB research priorities and progress related to coordination efforts with the NPFMC. This presentation will also detail an investigation into methods to better track research priorities, research results and products and research impacts, a recent analysis on NPRB investments in marine research, and planned revisions to the NPRB database to support these efforts. Consistent with the Council and SSC's initiatives to contribute to a more coordinated partnership with the Council, NPRB welcomes SSC ideas and insights on ensuring research priorities reflect scientific, community, and management needs and on improving approaches to track the results of funded research and their application to fisheries management and improved understanding of marine ecosystems.