



North Pacific Fishery Management Council

Simon Kinneen, Chair | David Witherell, Executive Director
1007 W. 3rd Avenue, Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone 907-271-2809 | www.npfmc.org

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SSC WORKSHOP

Rapid change in the northern Bering and southern Chukchi Seas: Identifying ecosystem responses and effects on the management of Federal fisheries

*February 7-8, 2023
Renaissance Hotel, Seattle, WA*

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee is holding a workshop during the February 2023 Council meeting. The workshop is focused on rapid ecosystem changes in the northern Bering Sea and southern Chukchi Sea. Given recent extreme environmental events in the region, the Council has a need to understand how resilient fisheries management will be to these changes. The workshop will consider how species that are currently managed under the Bering Sea Fishery Management Plans will respond to environmental changes and the potential socioeconomic and cultural impacts on those fishermen, communities, and Tribes who rely on these marine resources.

The purpose of the workshop is to identify the science and monitoring requirements for supporting future Council decision-making under increased uncertainty. The workshop will include exploration of proactive approaches for achieving management goals in a changing environment, and an assessment of how existing frameworks may or may not be able to address ecosystem variability.

- Session 1 What do we know about the current and near-term future environmental and ecological states of this region?*
- Session 2 What data do we need to collect and monitor to support the ecosystem-based fishery management of species in the Bering Sea?*
- Session 3 Science to Management: what tools do we have or need to apply these data to management?*
- Session 4 SSC recommendations on next steps*

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INPUT



While this workshop is primarily for SSC members to consider and make recommendations to the Council, the SSC desires public input and feedback on the important management questions that should be considered during the workshop. To this end, the SSC will distribute discussion questions for the workshop at the December 2022 Council meeting, along with a more detailed workshop agenda and list of speakers. The SSC welcomes written public comment ahead of the February workshop, and will also have public comment periods each day during the workshop.

Following the workshop, the Council will consider the SSC's recommendations at a future meeting and communicate its strategic needs for fishery management in this region (tentatively June 2023), during which there will be opportunities for the public to provide advice on the Council's strategic direction.