Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Taskforce

June 22nd, 2023

Co-chairs: Kate Haapala (NPFMC) and Sarah Wise (AFSC)

Land Acknowledgment

The Local Knowledge (LK), Traditional Knowledge (TK), and Subsistence (collectively LKTKS) Taskforce wants to take this opportunity to respectfully acknowledge that the Council and this Taskforce regularly meet in Anchorage on Dena'ina homelands. The Taskforce wants to honor the Dena'ina, the Indigenous Peoples who have stewarded this land across generations and continue to do so. We are glad to be part of this community, and to honor the culture, resilience, and tradition of the Dena'ina people. Thank you.

Virtual Meeting Tips

Reminder of Zoom login:
Zoom Meeting: **https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86885305977**

Meeting ID: 868 8530 5977#

Passcode: NPFMC

Dial by your location +1 719 359 4580 US, +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Tech support:
Email: Npfmc.admin@noaa.gov

Other reminders:

- Mute - by telephone, *6
- Video cameras - Taskforce members may turn them on for discussion and members of the public during public testimony

Welcome and Introductions!

Mr. Toby Anungazuk Jr. (Golovin)
Dr. Rachel Donkersloot (Coastal Cultures Research)
Dr. Kate Haapala (NPFMC staff)
Ms. Bridget Mansfield (NMFS, AKRO)
Dr. Robert Murphy Jr. (Alaska Pacific University)
Ms. Darcy Peter (Woodell Climate Research Center; Beaver)
Dr. Julie Raymond-Yakoubian (Kawerak)
Mr. Richard Slats (Chevak)
Mr. Simeon Swetzof (St. Paul)
Ms. Alida Trainor (ADFG Subsistence Division)
Dr. Sarah Wise (AFSC)

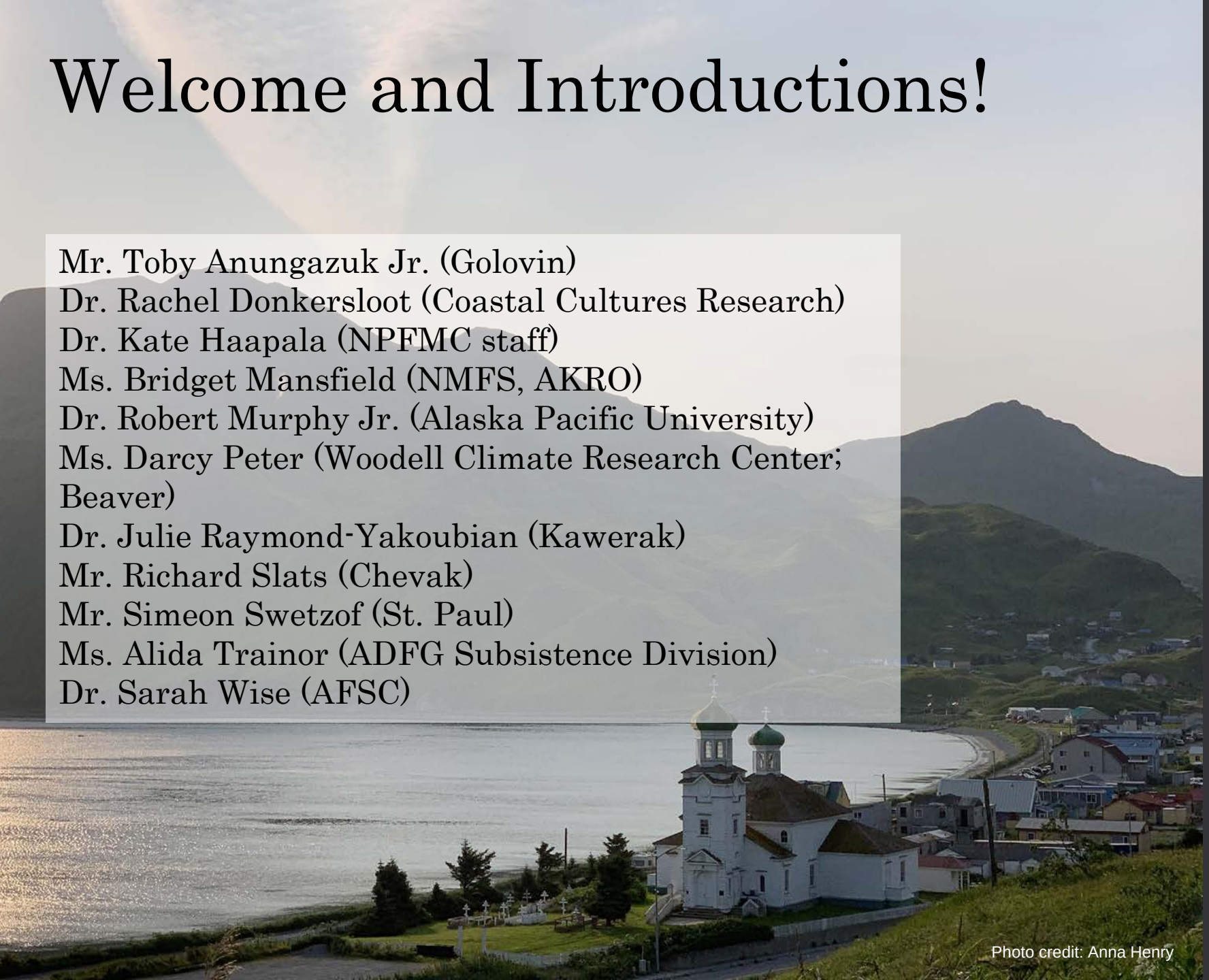

Photo credit: Anna Henry

Today's agenda

Expected outcomes from this meeting:

At this meeting, the Local Knowledge (LK), Traditional Knowledge (TK), and Subsistence Taskforce will review input received from the Council, analytical staff, and the public to reach consensus on potential edits to include in the Protocol and onramp recommendations. The Taskforce will also discuss what capacity and resources may be needed to implement the onramp recommendations

DAY 1

1. Introductions, welcome, and review agenda *(Taskforce)*
2. Review input from April 2023 Council meeting *(Kate Haapala)*
3. Review and discuss public comment period *(Taskforce)*
4. Discussion on capacity and resources for onramp implementation *(Taskforce)*
5. Public comment *(Public)*
6. Reflections and final recommendations *(Taskforce)*

If you want to give public comment…

https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2995

Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Taskforce Meeting

June 22nd, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. AKT

To participate:

Zoom Meeting: **https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86885305977**

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This is a virtual-only meeting.

The Co-Chairs will anounce opportunities for public comment at the beginning of the meeting. Written comments may be submitted below in advance of the meeting.

All information provided through the eAgenda is part of the public record.

Comments and Meeting information

Comment Now **Please leave written comments for all agenda items here**

Day 1

Introductions, welcome, and review agenda

Attachments: Agenda -Uploaded: 06/04/2023 04:52 PM AKDT

Review and discuss input from Council and analytical staff

Review and discuss input from public comment period

Attachments: Public Comment Binder -Uploaded: 06/04/2023 04:53 PM AKDT

Discuss capacity and resources required for implementation

Objectives for this meeting

Reminder: Final Taskforce meeting

1. Review input from the Council, analytical staff, and advisory bodies
2. Review comments and input from the extended public comment period
3. Discuss and reach consensus on capacity and resources needed for implementation

Reminder: What happens next?

1. **Final action** at the Council's October 2023 meeting in Anchorage, AK
    - Protocol
    - Onramp recommendations
    - June 2023 meeting report
    - Final, overarching report summarizing work

Council input

Reminder: What happened in April?

- Co-chairs presented to the Scientific & Statistical Committee, the Advisory Panel, and the Council:
  - LKTKS Protocol
  - Onramp recommendations
  - Meeting reports from December 2022, January 2023, and March 2023
    - Included the recommendation for an extended public comment period

Council input related to Protocol

- Under Guideline 1, note the Council is required to balance the National Standards
- Better describe how the Council's process currently benefits from LK
- Council bodies change - how do we maintain the integrity of the protocol with respect to its core purpose given future Council bodies may have different priorities?

  (For example, current Council has prioritized subsistence but ANILCA's prioritization of subsistence doesn't apply to Federal waters)

  - Related, how do we maintain trust and relationships beyond changing personnel?

Council input related to onramps

- Be clear that the Council has supported Tribal Consultations occurring earlier in its process (onramps)
- Modify analytical template to include leading questions -
  - For example, “are there any known impacts to subsistence resources or uses?”

Specific questions

1. Would standardizing the public comment time limit across the SSC, AP, and Council to 5 minutes for all testifiers address the taskforce's recommendation for allowing introductions to not count against the oral testimony time limit?

2. How can the Council demonstrate respect when Western science and TK disagree but the council goes with the guidance and advice of western science?

3. How can the Council and staff build relationships and trust that endures turnover?

Scientific & Statistical Committee input

Summary of input

- Need to ensure sufficient capacity to support continuing efforts
- Council should have a communication strategy to roll out the Protocol/process changes
- Support for the 5-year review
- Consider onramps - specific reports - with recurring cycles to improve existing decision-informing products
- Interagency workgroup - Council not alone in efforts to incorporate LKTKS
- SSC research priorities workshop would need to happen earlier in the 2024 cycle

Council staff input

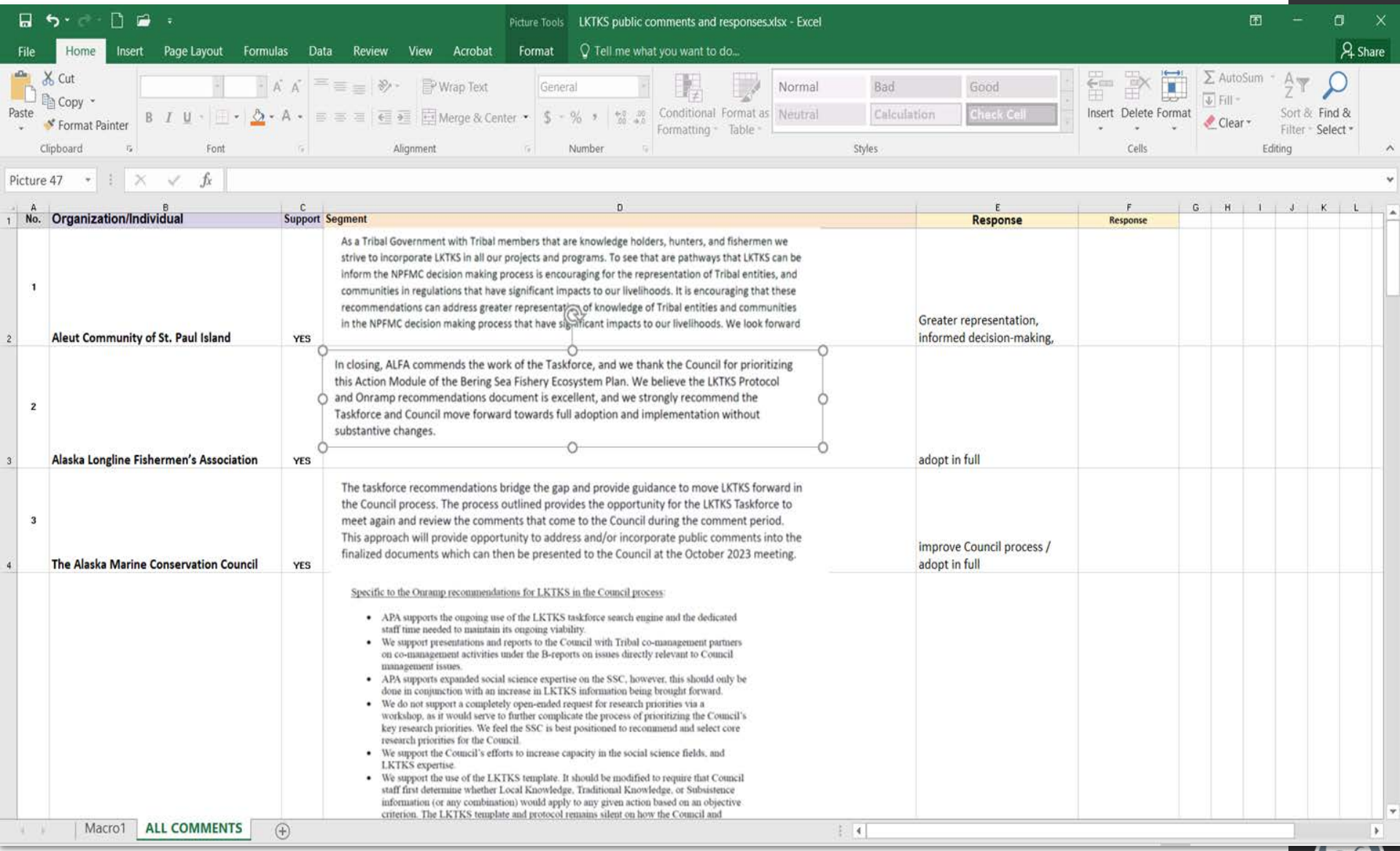
Summary of staff input

- Support for the work
  - Documents are clearly written
  - Some in-text comments and edits for clarity
- In general, there is concern over staff capacity:
  - How to do more with less (i.e., staff and/or time for analytical deadlines)?
- Some questions on what the research priorities workshop
  - What would it look like?
  - Large time commitment from staff

Overview of extended public comment period

Comments

- 34 written comments
- **All in support** of the adoption of protocol and onramps
- Highlight certain elements of the protocol:
  - Provides space to hear diverse voices and perspectives
  - Inline with recent federal guidance
  - Importance of respect
- Believe that adoption of protocol will:
  - Supports the use of best available scientific information
  - Will enable greater representation
  - Inform decision-making
  - Will improve the Council process



LKTKS public comments and responses.xlsx - Excel

No.	Organization/Individual	Support	Segment	Response	Response
1			As a Tribal Government with Tribal members that are knowledge holders, hunters, and fishermen we strive to incorporate LKTKS in all our projects and programs. To see that are pathways that LKTKS can be inform the NPFMC decision making process is encouraging for the representation of Tribal entities, and communities in regulations that have significant impacts to our livelihoods. It is encouraging that these recommendations can address greater representation of knowledge of Tribal entities and communities in the NPFMC decision making process that have significant impacts to our livelihoods. We look forward		
2	Aleut Community of St. Paul Island	YES		Greater representation, informed decision-making,	
2			In closing, ALFA commends the work of the Taskforce, and we thank the Council for prioritizing this Action Module of the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan. We believe the LKTKS Protocol and Onramp recommendations document is excellent, and we strongly recommend the Taskforce and Council move forward towards full adoption and implementation without substantive changes.		
3	Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association	YES		adopt in full	
3			The taskforce recommendations bridge the gap and provide guidance to move LKTKS forward in the Council process. The process outlined provides the opportunity for the LKTKS Taskforce to meet again and review the comments that come to the Council during the comment period. This approach will provide opportunity to address and/or incorporate public comments into the finalized documents which can then be presented to the Council at the October 2023 meeting.		
4	The Alaska Marine Conservation Council	YES		improve Council process / adopt in full	

Specific to the Onramp recommendations for LKTKS in the Council process:

- APA supports the ongoing use of the LKTKS taskforce search engine and the dedicated staff time needed to maintain its ongoing viability.
- We support presentations and reports to the Council with Tribal co-management partners on co-management activities under the B-reports on issues directly relevant to Council management issues.
- APA supports expanded social science expertise on the SSC, however, this should only be done in conjunction with an increase in LKTKS information being brought forward.
- We do not support a completely open-ended request for research priorities via a workshop, as it would serve to further complicate the process of prioritizing the Council's key research priorities. We feel the SSC is best positioned to recommend and select core research priorities for the Council.
- We support the Council's efforts to increase capacity in the social science fields, and LKTKS expertise.
- We support the use of the LKTKS template. It should be modified to require that Council staff first determine whether Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, or Subsistence information (or any combination) would apply to any given action based on an objective criterion. The LKTKS template and protocol remains silent on how the Council and

Macro1 | ALL COMMENTS

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VozyuDJSkuBil42HXtl2wDUVcWNB2tp4/edit#gid=748011900

Discussion questions

- Do Taskforce members have any comments on the public comment binder?
- How can the Council and analysts should balance differing or competing perspectives associated with production of LKTK knowledge?

Capacity and resources for implementation

Background

- Time for the Taskforce to be creative and brainstorm
- It is the Council's job to balance its priorities and resources (such as finances and staff time)
- But the Taskforce can provide a recommendation for what tools/capacity/resources are needed to carry out the onramps

Discussion questions -1

- Does the Taskforce have any recommendations for prioritizing onramp implementation?
  - Some comments indicated the Council may need to implement onramps in stages
- What kinds of resources and/or capacity is needed for implementation?
  - Known constraints for all Council analyses and commitments are time, finances, expertise/training
- Can part or all of the Protocol and onramp recommendations be implemented without additional staff resources?

Discussion questions -2

- Does the Taskforce have any guidance for analytical staff (and others) for situations when analytical staff do not have sufficient time to write a robust LK/TK section in their analysis? Or, what if there is no available social science of LK and TK for the action?
    - Under Guideline 1, the Taskforce notes timelines could be extended, but this poses a potential tradeoff for Tribes and stakeholders (raised in public comment)
- Is there merit in an interagency workgroup (SSC suggestion)? What would be the purpose and who should be involved?

Related to research priorities workshop onramp - 1

- Onramp recommendation conveys the workshop for public input and ideas for research priorities would happen **in concert** with the current research priorities process
- Workshop/input **needs to happen in advance** of the Council meeting where research priorities are being considered
- Tentatively scheduled for SSC review in February 2024 and then finalized at the April 2024 Council meeting
- Workshop by January 2024 is (very likely) not possible but may be in the future (pending Council action)
- Recent discussions on the Social Sciences Planning Team convening for meetings to discuss research priorities but this body does yet have the capacity

Related to research priorities workshop onramp - 2

- What does the 'ideal' for a public workshop for research priorities look like?
- In the future, would the Social Sciences Planning Team be a better forum for getting input from LK and TK holders and social scientists than a workshop?
- Given staffing and time constraints, are there meaningful interim opportunities to achieve this recommendation?

Public comment

Final reflections and recommendations

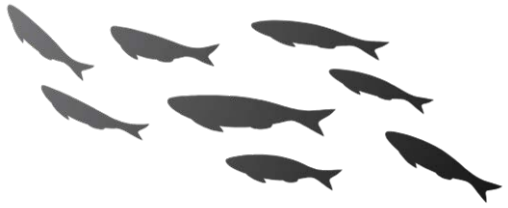
- Ideas or points to be included in the report?
- Proposed timeline for edits:
  1. **8/4/2023** Kate send materials out
  2. **8/15/2023** edits due back
  3. **9/11/2023** posted for October 2023 Council meeting

Thank you!

Questions?

Kate Haapala

kate.haapala@noaa.gov

Sarah Wise

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