

ADVISORY PANEL
Motions and Rationale
December 3-6, 2024 - Anchorage, AK

D1 Climate planning

The Advisory Panel (AP) recommends the Council continue its efforts toward climate readiness, resilience, and responsiveness in fishery management by:

1. Advancing the Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) Recommendations:
 - Endorsing the three key elements outlined in the CCTF's Climate Readiness Synthesis and Final Report.
 - Supporting the rapid development and implementation of a Climate Resilience Workplan based on these recommendations.
2. Crafting a Climate Resilience Workplan:
 - Developing the workplan in a way that considers but is not bound by other climate-related initiatives at the Council, particularly the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).
3. Integrating Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence (LKTKS) Protocols:
 - Utilizing existing frameworks, such as the LKTKS Protocols, as foundational elements in Council processes.
 - Strengthening two-way engagement with Tribes and stakeholders to incorporate Indigenous Knowledge and diverse perspectives into fisheries management decisions.
4. Promoting Collaborative, Transparent, and Inclusive Climate Work:
 - Ensuring future climate-related activities are highly collaborative, transparent, and accessible, creating equitable pathways for Tribes, stakeholders, and the public to engage meaningfully.
 - Supporting the principles of Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) to address both short- and long-term climate impacts.
 - The AP encourages Council staff to engage with the Alaska Fishery Science Center (AFSC) to incorporate climate synthesis information into agenda items, ensuring scientific insights are effectively integrated into decision-making processes.

Motion passed unanimously.

Rationale in Favor of Motion

- *There is an urgent need for action on this item as climate change is severely impacting marine ecosystems and communities, presenting significant challenges for fisheries management.*
- *Climate change risks exacerbate existing ecosystem issues and inequities, particularly for subsistence and Tribal communities.*
- *Fisheries management should ensure the well-being of ecosystems and communities in a way that is equitable and respectful of Tribal sovereignty and subsistence needs.*
- *Tribes bring millennia of knowledge, tools, and stewardship practices that are critical to shaping climate-resilient fisheries.*
- *As highlighted in the Climate Readiness Synthesis and the CCTF's Final Report, efforts toward co-production, collaboration, consultation, cooperation, and co-management with Tribes are essential for evolving federal fisheries management.*
- *A dedicated work plan aligned with the Council's goals would be highly valuable to guide climate resilience efforts. The work plan should progress independently of other initiatives to ensure timely action and sustained momentum.*
- *Previous Council work on Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence (LKTKS), community engagement, and Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) should be utilized and adequately resourced to support implementation.*
- *Future climate work must be transparent, accessible, and inclusive, prioritizing meaningful engagement with Tribes, stakeholders, and the public.*
- *Concrete pathways and actions are needed to ensure true implementation of climate resilience strategies, addressing both short- and long-term challenges.*
- *By committing to these principles, the Council can foster climate resilience and support the sustainability of ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.*
- *This agenda item should remain a standalone item and stay a priority for the AP on the April 2025 agenda and future timelines.*
- *AP members noted that the IRA timeline for the 2026 PEIS is scheduled to have the Draft PEIS review occur in April or June 2026, and expressed concern that schedule may interfere with harvesting, especially from those within the Tribal Sector. Additionally, that if at all possible, to have any PEIS meetings scheduled in Anchorage*