
Climate Scenarios Workshop Report and Discussion

Katie Latanich, October 2024



Today's discussion

- **No action required**
- Opportunity for initial reflection and discussion of workshop ideas and themes
- The Council *could* provide staff with guidance to keep this work moving forward and inform future discussions in December 2024 and April 2025



Today's discussion

1. Climate readiness funding and pathways
2. Overview of workshop report
3. Discussion and next steps



Climate readiness funding and pathways



Concurrent climate readiness initiatives and pathways

- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding
 - Approved for \$2.5 million
 - Funds must be spent by end of 2027
- CCTF final report and recommendations (December 2024)
- Programmatic evaluation (next scheduled April 2025)
- Workshop and report



Concurrent climate readiness initiatives and pathways

Planning questions

- Are there specific ideas from the workshop the Council is interested to pursue?
- How do we use time and resources wisely?
- What steps are most impactful and strategic?
- What can be accomplished within the IRA funding timeline?



IRA funding for climate readiness

NPFMC proposal objectives

1. Develop a climate-resilient management policy. This work is intended to be carried out through the Programmatic Evaluation process.
2. Continue work to incorporate local and traditional knowledge.
3. Strengthen the consideration of uncertainty and risk in harvest specifications.



Initial IRA workplan and timeline (Feb. 2024)

- Needs to be updated (funding delays, postponing scoping on PEIS)
- Key points:
 - Work must be completed by end of 2027
 - Emphasis on workshops
 - Work ongoing between Council meetings and decision points
 - Envisions parallel tracks: management policy (primarily Council) and assessment and climate science (SSC role)



Table 1 Draft timeline and milestones for NPFMC climate work

| Council meetings | Management policy amendments through a programmatic evaluation | Assessment and climate science amendments |
|------------------|--|---|
| 2024 | | |
| Feb | Council input on structure and alternatives for PEIS, questions for workshop | SSC identifies dynamic reference point or other case studies for SCS8 |
| Apr | | SSC scopes contract work needed for sablefish MEY case study |
| Jun | Council Climate Scenario Workshop | |
| (summer) | July: Issue Notice of Intent to Prepare a Programmatic EIS | August: SCS 8 national workshop |
| Oct | Review scoping comments, workshop report, and refine alternatives | Discussion paper on potential for short- and long-term climate resilient adjustments (e.g. reference points, harvest control rules) |
| Dec | | |
| 2025 | | |
| (Feb) | Council Workshop on LKTK onramp opportunities, to inform PEIS | SSC Workshop to prioritize tools and procedures for FMP and non-FMP changes, and to develop an implementation workplan |
| Apr | Draft PEIS | |
| Jun | | |
| Oct | | |
| Dec | Final PEIS; Council adopts revised management policy and objectives | SSC and Council implement initial non-FMP amendment changes to groundfish harvest specifications process |
| 2026 | | |
| (Feb) | Council Workshop for future actions to further implement policy | |
| Apr | Council develops workplan and initiates action for next steps | SSC and Council implement initial non-FMP amendment changes to BSAI crab harvest specifications process |
| Jun | | |
| Oct | Tentative - Initial review(s) | |
| Dec | | |
| 2027 | | |
| | Tentative - Final action(s) | Initial/Final Review of FMP analyses for harvest specification adjustments |

2024-2027 Timeline

2024

- June: Climate Scenarios Workshop
- September: First installment of IRA funds
- October: CSW Report and discussion
- December: CCTF final report and discussion

2025

- SSC workshop - February? Or TBD
- April: Programmatic Evaluation (scheduled)
- TBD: NOI and NEPA scoping

2026

2027

- IRA funds must be spent by end of year

Timing and planning considerations

- NMFS and CEFI support on IRA timeline
- Maintaining progress on all 3 IRA funding objectives (noting separate tracks for policy and climate science components)
 - Climate resilient management policy
 - LKTKS
 - Uncertainty and risk
- Potential for more Council and SSC workshops
- Timing for NOI and NEPA scoping (discuss in staff tasking)



How could workshop ideas be used? For example:

- IRA activities in support of the 3 proposal objectives
- Development and consideration of programmatic alternatives
- Develop a climate workplan
- Other: new initiatives, tasking of Council bodies, building on previous work, communicating information needs



Overview of workshop report and discussions



Workshop purpose

The purpose of the workshop is to generate **short- and long-term** ideas for **management approaches** and **tools** to improve **climate resiliency** of federally managed fisheries in the North Pacific.



Workshop objectives

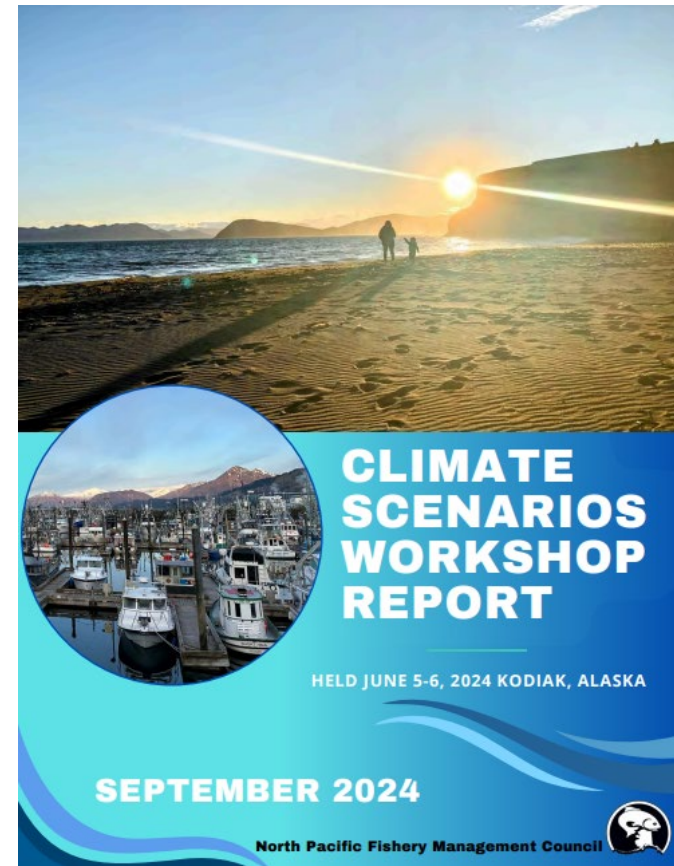
- Examine case studies and hypothetical scenarios to explore plausible “what ifs” and identify specific examples of **climate readiness needs**, barriers, tools, information needs, opportunities, and risks.
- Explore **strengths and weaknesses** of status quo management and governance for supporting climate readiness of fisheries under the Council’s jurisdiction.
- Consider where the pace and deliberative aspect of the Council process is a strength, and where a more **rapid response** to changing conditions may be appropriate; and clarify the opportunities for and constraints to responsiveness within the Federal regulatory process.
- Develop strategies for ensuring a **robust and inclusive process** for advancing the Council’s climate readiness planning.



Workshop report organization

Sections (each includes multiple subsections)

1. Defining climate resilience
2. Council process
3. Management measures
4. External coordination
5. Science and information
6. Scenario-specific discussion themes
7. Post-workshop feedback form



Workshop report organization

Reminders

- Ideas, not consensus or recommendations
- Ideas vary in feasibility and level of support
- Some are and some are not within Council authorities



Workshop report inputs

- Detailed notes from in person and Zoom breakout sessions
- Flipchart and online notes used by virtual participants
- In-meeting facilitator summaries
- In-meeting synthesis slides
- Ideas provided using the post-workshop feedback form



Workshop report organization

Most subsections include:

- A key message
- A text box with ideas (from workshop discussions, in-workshop synthesis, and post-workshop feedback form)
- Further discussion and context



4.4 Disaster relief, subsidies, and financial tools

Key message: The ability to weather climate shocks depends both on reactive responses, including disaster relief, and proactive opportunities such as access to capital, insurance programs, and subsidies that could equip people and communities with the resources to adapt to changing conditions,

Ideas for the Council process

- Engage in disaster planning to develop strategies for worst-case scenarios. This could be a Council-led initiative or led by communities and sectors.

Ideas for national level action

- Improve the timeliness and equity of disaster relief, and consider whether disaster relief could be used in a more proactive way.
- Provide national-level support for seafood production (for example, through the Farm Bill or equivalent) to provide tools for resilience and risk mitigation.

Discussion

Participants discussed the role of financial mechanisms including disaster relief, subsidies, and other approaches to bolster resilience and insulate against climate shocks and impacts. The impacts of climate change to people, communities, and fisheries, and their ability to recover, will be felt unevenly. Participants reiterated that while climate change is outside of the Council's control, the ability to respond and mitigate the socioeconomic impacts can be an area of focus. Participants emphasized the need for equity and timeliness.



Orientation to the report

For each section:

- Key message
- Implementation (what is and isn't within the Council's purview?)
- Topics of significant focus



Section 1: Defining resilience

- Diverse perspectives
- Not a one size fits all definition
- A shared working definition could be grounded in clear goals, objectives, and values



Section 1: Defining resilience

Implementation

- Council could choose to develop a working definition
- Context for continuing to develop the Programmatic Evaluation.
- Linked with workshop purpose: *Generate short- and long-term ideas for management approaches and tools to improve **climate resiliency** of federally managed fisheries in the North Pacific.*
- Also linked with IRA funding objective 1: *Develop a **climate-resilient** management policy.*



Section 2: Council process

Key message

Climate readiness depends on:

- Timely, responsive, and inclusive process
- Mechanisms for rapid response
- Using time and resources strategically
- Building trust and mutual respect
- Taking a strategic approach to define and achieve climate readiness



Section 2: Council process

Subsections

- 2.1 Rapid response capability
- 2.2 Council planning and prioritization
- 2.3 Public participation
 - 2.3.1 Two-way communication and feedback loops
 - 2.3.2 Capacity
 - 2.3.3 Building trust and respect
 - 2.3.4 Equity, inclusion, and representation of perspectives
 - 2.3.5 Representation of Tribal perspectives in workshop planning and outcomes
- 2.4 Goals, objectives, and values
- 2.5 Metrics and evaluation



Section 2: Council process

Implementation

- Process adjustments
- Intersects with current discussions including efficient use of Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) time
- Policy initiatives (the Programmatic Evaluation) and potential future initiatives (for example, the role of goals, objectives, values, and metrics in developing a climate workplan)



Section 2: Council process

Implementation (continued)

- Not all ideas are specific to climate change
- Public engagement and communication ideas could help support any climate readiness steps the Council pursues
- Linked with workshop objective: *Develop strategies for ensuring a **robust and inclusive process** for advancing the Council's climate readiness planning.*



Section 3: Management measures

Key message

- Existing programs and management measures can both support or constrain adaptation
- Opportunities to leverage existing tools more intentionally in support of climate readiness and emerging challenges



Section 3: Management measures

Subsections

- 3.1 Adaptation, diversification, and flexibility
- 3.2 Early warnings and responsiveness
- 3.3 Ecosystem-based approaches
- 3.4 Bycatch management
- 3.5 Dynamic, in-season, and spatial management
- 3.6 Shifting and emerging fisheries
- 3.7 Harvest specifications, TACs, and risk
- 3.8 Precautionary management
- 3.9 Habitat conservation and ecosystem resilience
- 3.10 Magnuson Act, National Standards, and legislative solutions



Section 3: Management measures

Implementation

- Section includes specific ideas as well as broad themes of discussion (diversification, early warnings)
- Most are within Council purview, may be regulatory
- Could inform development of the Programmatic Evaluation, management actions to implement a revised management policy, or other pathways
- Ideas could be short or long term



Section 4: External coordination

Key message

- External stressors and opportunities will impact resilience
- Maintaining a voice for fisheries



Section 4: External coordination

Subsections

- 4.1 Climate action
- 4.2 Markets and marketing
- 4.3 Building durable capacity
- 4.4 Disaster relief, subsidies, and financial tools
- 4.5 Cross-agency and international coordination
- 4.6 Integrated cross-sector coordination



Section 4: External coordination

Implementation

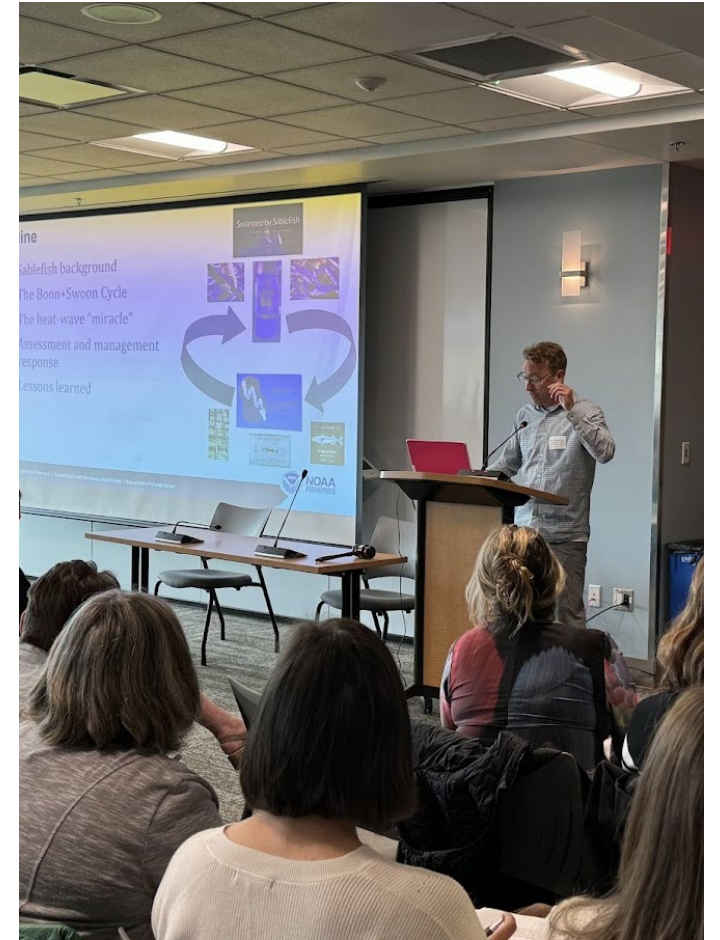
- Mostly outside the Council's purview but could be opportunities for the Council community to collaborate, network, and communicate priorities and information needs
- Opportunities for user groups to engage in advocacy and planning



Section 5: Science and information

Key message

- Climate readiness depends on having the data, information, and science products needed to anticipate, understand, and respond to climate change impacts
- Includes building capacity to work with uncertainty, leveraging existing information, investing in fundamentals including research surveys, and supporting adaptation and innovation.



Section 5: Science and information

Subsections

- 5.1 Diverse information inputs and knowledge systems
 - 5.1.1 Local knowledge, traditional knowledge, and subsistence information
 - 5.1.2 Industry and community observations and data
- 5.2 Social and economic vulnerability and information needs
- 5.3 Tools for communicating climate information (ESRs, ESPs, risk tables, CVAs)
- 5.4 Stock assessments
- 5.5 Research surveys
- 5.6 Predictive tools and understanding vulnerabilities and tradeoffs
- 5.7 Other information needs and gaps



Section 5: Science and information

Implementation

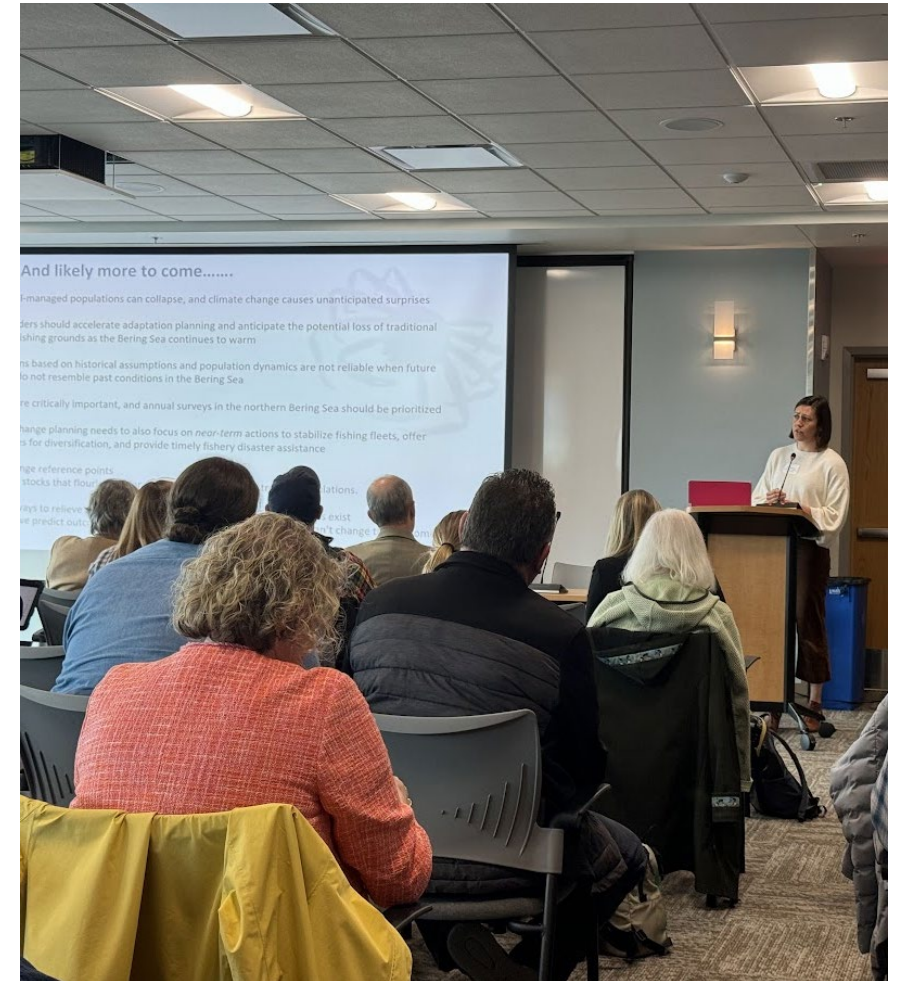
- Most are not Council action items
- Relevant to how the Council articulates questions, sets priorities, and communicates information needs to NMFS and scientific partners
- Potentially relevant to SSC tasking



Section 6: Scenario-specific discussion themes

Key message

- Challenges and needs could depend on the tools the Council has available and the degree of climate change impacts experienced.



Section 6: Scenario-specific discussion themes

Subsections

- 6.1 Scenario 1: Current trajectory
- 6.2 Scenario 2: Best of both worlds
- 6.3 Scenario 3: EBM and rapid change
- 6.4 Scenario 4: Siloed management and high challenges



Section 6: Scenario-specific discussion themes

Implementation

- Does not include specific ideas, included to provide additional context and nuance
- Resource for continuing to consider a range of climate futures



Section 7: Post-workshop feedback form

Key message

- Feedback on use of scenario planning
- Ideas for improving future workshops, including more participation and representation in the workshop planning and synthesis process, and providing more opportunities for discussion.
- Interest in actionable next steps



Section 7: Post-workshop feedback form

Subsections

- *Respondents provided feedback on the representation of Tribal perspectives in workshop planning and outcomes. This information is summarized in Section 2.3.5.*
- *Specific ideas for climate readiness (e.g. related to Council process, management, and science) are integrated into the report*
- 7.1 Workshop format and logistics
- 7.2 Next steps and workshop follow-up



Section 7: Post-workshop feedback form

Implementation

- Council staff will account for logistics and development feedback in planning future workshops.



Discussion and next steps



Suggested topics for today's discussion

- Ideas and reactions
- What's feasible within the IRA timeline (through 2027)
- How concurrent initiatives can fit together



Timeline present - 2027

2024

- June: Climate Scenarios Workshop
- September: First installment of IRA funds
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2025

- SSC workshop - February? Or TBD
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- TBD: NOI and NEPA scoping

2026

2027

- IRA funds must be spent by end of year

Upcoming discussions:

- December 2024 – CCTF final report
- April 2025 – Programmatic Evaluation

Other timing and planning considerations

- NMFS and CEFI support
- IRA objectives
- Future workshops
- Timing for NOI and NEPA scoping for Programmatic Evaluation



Suggestion 1 – Map out resources, tradeoffs, and pathways

Staff could support the Council by mapping out the **resources**, **tradeoffs**, and **pathways** for advancing the Council's climate readiness work, including IRA funding and the Programmatic Evaluation timeline.

Examples of planning questions from the Executive Summary:

- Which ideas are specific to climate change?
- What are the advantages and constraints of different action pathways?
- Which ideas are one-time investments and which are ongoing practices?



Suggestion 1 – Map out resources, tradeoffs, and pathways

- Staff could develop a document mapping the opportunities, constraints, and timelines of the Council’s concurrent climate readiness efforts (IRA funding, programmatic, workshop, ideas from CRS and 2023 SSC workshop), and ideas for how they could align.
- Could clarify timing considerations and potential decision points, and enable the Council to prioritize work that could be completed within the IRA funding timeline
- May be useful when reviewing CCTF report and recommendations in December 2024



Suggestion 2 – Continue establishing a baseline

- Staff could help assess the degree to which the Council is or is not making progress toward addressing the needs identified by participants and described in the workshop report.
- Approach could be to clarify where there are existing pathways, tools, and work in progress, and where there may be opportunities for change and improvement.
- The Council may find this information helpful for the April 2025 Programmatic Evaluation agenda item.



Suggestion 2 – Continue establishing a baseline

- The 2022 Climate Readiness Synthesis prepared by the CCTF provides a baseline and assesses the current state of climate readiness for the BSAI focusing on the management system, stock assessments and SAFE reports, and knowledge bases.
- Next steps could include a deeper dive for specific topics and information needs identified by workshop participants



Suggestion 2 – Continue establishing a baseline

Potential topics for assessing progress and opportunities

- 2.1 Rapid response capabilities – Clarify mechanisms including opportunities, bottlenecks, considerations, and tradeoffs.
- 2.2 Council planning and prioritization – Clarify underlying needs for process improvements and assess resource needs and tradeoffs.



Suggestion 2 – Continue establishing a baseline

Potential topics for assessing progress and opportunities

- 2.3 Public participation – Assess past efforts to improve two-way communication, clarify messages that would benefit from more effective communication, distinguish between ongoing needs and those specific to climate change, identify potential success metrics and priorities



Suggestion 2 – Continue establishing a baseline

Potential topics for assessing progress and opportunities

- 3.1 Adaptation, diversification, and flexibility – Explore ways to systematically consider climate adaptation and vulnerabilities as part of all future management actions.
- 3.2 Early warnings and responsiveness – Identify where in the process early warnings could be integrated; explore examples of information or scenarios that could constitute early warnings and assess opportunities to bring this information into the process.



Suggestion 2 – Continue establishing a baseline

Potential topics for assessing progress and opportunities

- 5.1 Diverse information inputs and knowledge systems – Identify areas where the Council has been working to address concerns raised at the workshop, particularly with regard to integration of LKTKS and where there are opportunities to advance this work and the ideas in the LKTKS Protocol and onramps.



Suggestion 2 – Continue establishing a baseline

Potential topics for assessing progress and opportunities

- 5.2 Early warnings and responsiveness – Identify data and information products that are already available to inform the Council process, work in progress, and opportunities to elevate specific questions and information needs.



Summary and next steps

- Workshop ideas and reactions
- Upcoming discussions in December 2024 (CCTF report) and April 2025 (Programmatic Evaluation)
- Two ideas:
 - Develop a document or roadmap describing the opportunities, constraints, and timelines of the Council's concurrent climate readiness efforts and how they could fit together. *Suggested: Dec 2024*
 - Develop a discussion document or series of documents on selected topics to continue assessing where the Council is or is not making progress. *Suggested: April 2025*
- Other ideas?



Questions

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