



NPFMC EBFM Overview

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North Pacific EBFM starting point – management framework

- Conservative, strict catch limits
- Total catch accounting
- Surveys and stock assessment
- Bycatch mitigation
- Marine mammal and seabird avoidance
- Essential Fish Habitat delineation, protections
- Fishery seasons and spatial management
- Limits on fishing capacity
- Effective monitoring and enforcement



For Council to balance competing objectives, need to understand how things are connected

EBFM management policy evolving over time

Programmatic groundfish policy (2004)

- Comprehensive management approach, with objectives addressing all components of ecosystem

Ecosystem Vision Statement (2014)

- Vision statement and implementation strategy to promote EBFM in all of Council's work, including long-term planning, management actions, and science planning

Fishery Ecosystem Plans

- Deeper dive into specific ecosystem areas and the key needs for Council management
- Aleutian Islands (2008)
- Bering Sea (2018)



North Pacific Fishery Ecosystem Plans

- Strategic planning documents
- Action informing not action forcing
- Value added?
 - Transparency, common understanding about ecosystem area, connections within the ecosystem, role of EBFM in Council decision-making process
 - Opportunity to evaluate cumulative effects, tradeoffs
 - Partnership opportunities, interagency cooperation
 - Framework for new research, prioritizing key topics, building decision-making tools
- FEPs evolve based on needs and lessons learned
 - Bering Sea: initial focus on 2 initiatives: climate change resiliency, and protocol for incorporating other ways of knowing

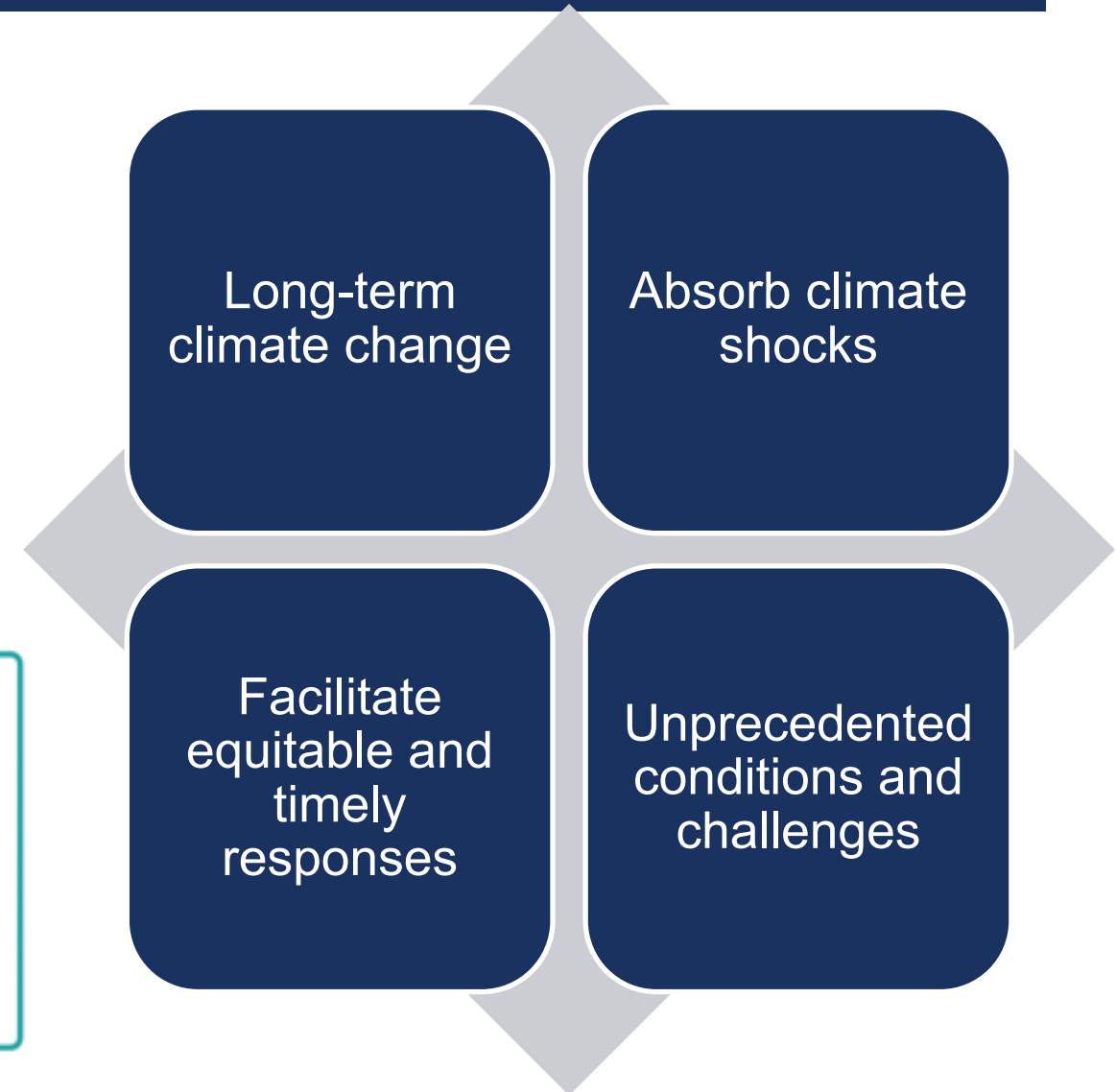


Climate Change Taskforce

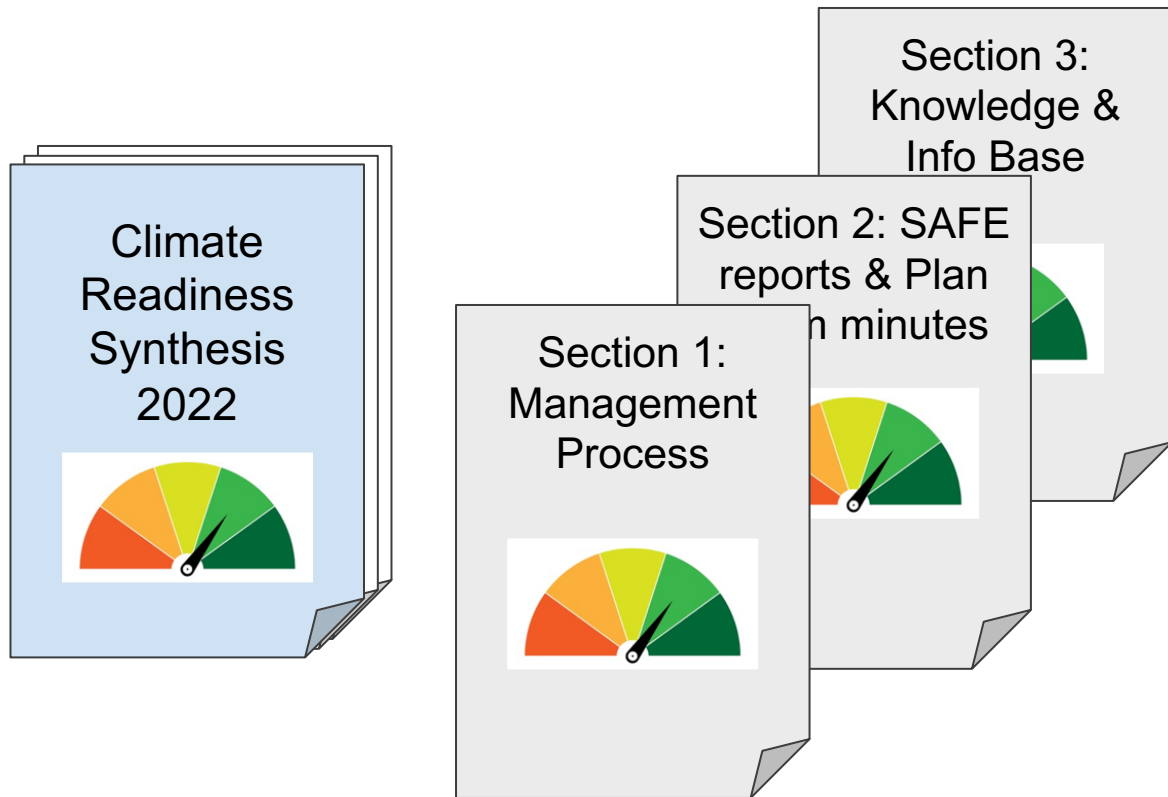
Goal: evaluate vulnerability of key species and fisheries to climate change, and strengthen resilience in regional fisheries management

Provide tools and approaches for Council to be able to support climate-informed management decisions

Timeline: midway through 5-year scope



Climate Resilience Synthesis Report



Draft issued in October 2022, will finalize in early 2023

Measure of the degree to which NPFMC management program is resilient to climate change

Identifies three primary onramps for climate information in fishery management:

- Management framework

- Harvest specifications process

- Knowledge and information sources



Some ongoing challenges for NPFMC

- How to manage expectations about Council initiatives and the potential for change
- How soon is it realistic to have difficult conversations when changing conditions are still uncertain
- How to achieve Council and stakeholder buy-in for new tools and models that may appear unfamiliar, complicated, and unproven
- How should new tools fit into the existing processes

