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# NMFS Policy Updates

**Council Coordination Committee  
Fall 2022 Meeting - October 18, 2022  
Washington, D.C.**

**Kelly Denit - Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries**

# Allocation

## GAO Report (March 2020): SA & GOM Councils Would Benefit from Documented Processes for Allocation Reviews

### GAO Recommendations (paraphrased)

NMFS should work with the SAFMC and GMFMC to better document allocation decisions, including what factors were considered, and documenting when allocations were considered but not changed.

### SAFMC

- Developed an [Allocation Decision Tree](#).
- Revised sector allocations for dolphin/wahoo and red porgy stocks; and provides overviews of the Council discussions on their website.

### GMFMC

- Presented the [Allocation Review Procedures](#) to their SSC.
- Completed [Allocation Review Guidelines](#).
- Updated sector allocations for red grouper.

## NMFS Allocation Review Policy

- Upcoming review/renewal in Fall of 2023
- Interest in discussion for May 2023 CCC meeting?



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# Data Confidentiality

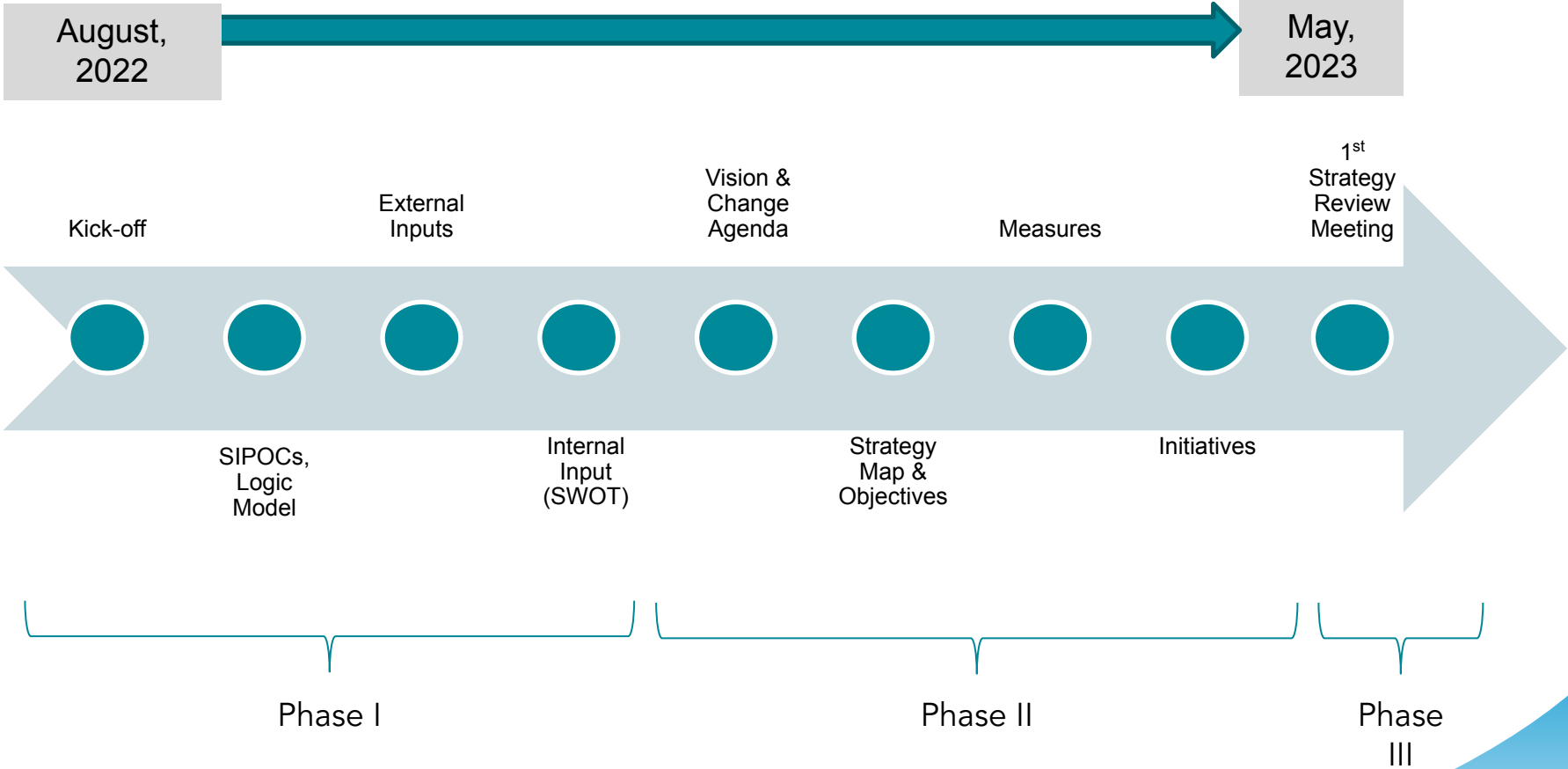
**Projects:** Proposed rule and internal policies/guidance to revise the procedures related to MSA confidentiality of fisheries information.

**Process:**

- Proposed rule in 2023 to cover topics such as:
  - Defining when information is considered submitted
  - Mandatory vs. discretionary information
  - Limited access program exception
  - Handling data submitted to states, Interstate Commissions, and other third-parties, among other topics
  
- Following rulemaking, policy development, for example:
  - Replace NOAA Administrative Order 216-100
  - Procedures for releasing information in aggregate or summary form
  - Improved access to confidential information by Fishery Management Councils, Interstate Fisheries Commissions, state fishery management agencies, contractors, and other partners
  - Streamline the processes for how a current vessel permit holder can request and access fisheries data and other information



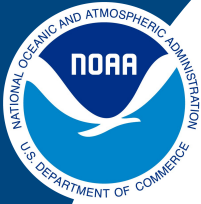
# OSF Strategic Plan



# Questions?



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# Seafood Strategy

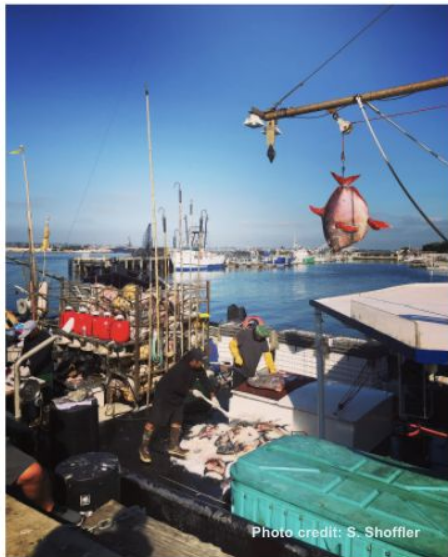
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**Michael Rubino - Senior Advisor for Seafood Strategy,  
NMFS**

# National Strategy for Seafood Sector Resilience and Competitiveness

The Strategy will capture what NMFS should do given current capabilities and authorities over next five years to: support seafood industry resilience and competitiveness, increase U.S. seafood production, raise domestic per capita seafood consumption, reduce illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and contribute to climate-friendly food production.

A draft Strategy was crafted based on input our agency has received from the seafood sector over many years. The CCC reviewed a draft annotated outline earlier this year.



## Four Strategy Objectives

1. **Wild-capture fisheries:** Optimize sustainable production of U.S. wild-capture seafood
2. **Aquaculture:** Increase domestic marine aquaculture production and establish the U.S. as a global leader in sustainable aquaculture
3. **International trade and monitoring:** Fair, reciprocal, and sustainable seafood trade
4. **Seafood promotion, infrastructure and workforce development:** Strengthen the entire seafood sector through collaborative marketing, infrastructure modernization, and workforce development

## How you can help us create an effective Strategy:

- The Draft Strategy will be posted for public comment. **Provide your written input at that time.** Councils will be notified when it is available.
- Listening sessions will also occur during the period the Strategy is in the *Federal Register*. **Provide your feedback verbally at that time.**
- The draft Strategy will be revised based on public feedback.



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