

East Coast Climate Coordination Group

Draft Outline of Charter for November 7, 2023 Discussion

Below is a suggested **outline** of a Climate Coordination Group charter with points of discussion for the Coordination Group. A complete charter would be drafted following the November meeting and could be formally adopted at a future meeting. The elements below loosely follow a similar structure to the [NRCC charter](#), however our understanding is that this group is intended to be separate from the NRCC, and while coordination and communication between the two groups could be useful, **NRCC oversight of this group is not required or planned.**

1. Introduction

- a. Brief overview of how this group came to be as the result of East Coast Scenario Planning process
- b. Explanation of what types of actions/initiatives this group is meant to coordinate (scenario planning outcomes and future collective East Coast priorities related to climate-resilient fisheries issues)

2. Objectives and Roles

- a. Ensure actions are prioritized, jointly and by individual management organizations
- b. Assess and allocate resources available from participating groups to address issues (including monetary and staff resources)
- c. Ensure joint/cooperative actions are executed in a coordinated manner, including identifying and tasking the appropriate group(s) to address each action
- d. Review and consider information provided by the Climate Core Team on trends in the fisheries and suggested actions
- e. In cooperation with the Climate Core Team, identify opportunities for external support and partnerships to address actions, as appropriate
- f. Populate and provide guidance to the staff-level Climate Core Team, including tasking and directing on information needs and projects as needed beyond routine Innovation Group tasks

3. Membership

- a. Formal members include one leadership-level member from each of: ASMFC, MAFMC, NEFMC, SAFMC, NMFS GARFO, NMFS SERO, NMFS NEFSC, NMFS SEFSC.
- b. Additional participants from each organization, or external participants, may be invited to participate in some meetings as needed based on the topics of discussion.
- c. Support staff may be designated (likely on a rotating basis) to help with planning, logistics, and documentation for meetings. Support staff may be from the Climate Core Team or other staff, ideally from the host organization for the meeting.

4. Operations

a. Rotational chairs

- i. The core team recommends designing a rotating chair schedule where each member organization rotates as the chair and host of meetings on an annual basis.
- ii. The current chair would plan the Coordination group meetings for that year, including determining meeting location and type (in-person, virtual, or hybrid). Some meetings could be held in conjunction with other meetings (such as NRCC or CCC meetings) if desired and feasible; others could be held independently.
- iii. Chairs are responsible for developing the agenda (in coordination with other Coordination Group members, the Climate Core Team, and other staff as necessary) and for facilitating discussion and decision making during the meeting.

b. Meeting Frequency and Timing

- i. The core team recommends that this group meet twice per year, targeting one in person meeting and one virtual meeting, plus intersessional meetings as needed.
- ii. Given the timing of the priorities setting process for each management organization, the core team recommends that one of the Climate Coordination Group meetings occurs during the summer, to allow for those discussions to feed into the priorities setting processes from the beginning.
 - The core team notes that a late spring or summer meeting would also allow for a report from the Climate Core Team with consideration of the most recent State of the Ecosystem Reports in the Greater Atlantic Region, which are typically available in early spring, as well as the most recent South Atlantic Ecosystem Status Report. The Climate Core Team would be reviewing those reports, if available, to inform their recommendations and issues to flag for the Climate Coordination Group.

c. Decision Making

- i. The Coordination Group's role is as a coordinating body that makes consensus recommendations to coordinate resources and priorities among the participating organizations.

d. Public Engagement

- i. The core team recommends most meetings would be open to the public with webinar broadcasts provided. Some closed sessions may occur to discuss sensitive matters.
- ii. Public comment opportunities would be at the discretion of the chair.

e. Meeting materials

- i. Meeting materials should be made publicly available. The Coordination Group should discuss the appropriate venue for posting meeting information and materials.