

East Coast Climate Coordination

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Agenda

- Describe roles and operations of the East Coast Climate Coordination Group (E3CG) and East Coast Climate Core Team
- Summarize climate action priorities identified by New England, Mid Atlantic and South Atlantic Councils and ASFMC at fall meetings
- Describe relationship between IRA funding proposals and these climate coordination efforts

East Coast Climate Coordination Group

Objectives

- Prioritize actions, jointly and by individual management organizations
- Assess and allocate resources from participating groups to address issues
- Ensure joint/cooperative actions are executed in a coordinated manner
- Consider information provided by the Climate Core Team, including:
 - (1) climate-related trends in the fisheries,
 - (2) core team suggested actions,
 - (3) progress updates on ongoing actions
- In cooperation with the Climate Core Team, identify opportunities for external support and partnerships to address actions
- Task the Core Team on information needs and projects as needed

East Coast Climate Coordination Group

Membership and operations

- One each from:
 - ASMFC
 - New England, Mid Atlantic, South Atlantic Councils
 - NMFS Greater Atlantic and Southeast Regional Offices
 - NMFS Northeast and Southeast Fisheries Science Centers
- Rotating chair/meeting host (GARFO 2024)
- At least two meetings per year; summer meeting to inform priority setting
- Consensus recommendations
- Generally open to the public, broadcast online

East Coast Climate Core Team

Mission and tasks

- Regularly review changes to the factors shaping East Coast fishery management, particularly those related to climate change
- Highlight potential actions that are ready for near-term consideration
- Present an update of changes and recommendations for actions to the Climate Coordination Group
- Periodically update the Potential Action Menu
- Participate on, or coordinate with, the teams implementing actions

East Coast Climate Core Team

Operations

- Will meet at least twice per year, or more often; smaller working groups may meet more frequently to develop projects
- Rotating chair, coordinated with Climate Coordination Group chair
- Guided by an annual work plan describing tasks, organizations and personnel involved, timelines, etc.
- Will assist Coordination Group members with providing progress reports to their respective management bodies or organizations

Potential action items	ASMFC	NEFMC	MAFMC	SAFMC	Total
G1: Reevaluate Council committee structure, use, and decision making			1	1	2
G2: Re-evaluate and potentially revise Advisory Panel representation			1	1	2
G3: Develop joint management agreements with aim of clarifying roles and increasing efficiency	1	1	1	1	4
G4: Improve coordination across NOAA offices and regions		1			1
G5: Evaluate mechanisms for cross-pollination of SSCs	1				1
M1: Identify ecosystem-level contextual information that can be considered within the management process to help incorporate climate information into decisions	1	1	1	1	4
M2: Streamlining FMP documentation and rulemaking		1	1	1	3
M4: Identify and establish best practices for increasing nimbleness and/or responsiveness in management.	1				1
D1: Expand the study fleet, include recreational fisheries, and ensure data are used.	1	1	1	1	4
D3: Improve the use of existing data.		1	1		2

New England Council Climate Priorities

- G3: enable response to NOAA Policy Directive; address elements of G1, G2
- G4: noted importance of coordination related to stock assessment
- M1: has implications for stock assessment
- M2: streamlining documents/rulemaking
- D1: possible role for Artificial Intelligence?
- D3: clear choice

*Noted that there should be a relationship between ecosystem and climate information and risk policy

*Acknowledged opportunity presented by IRA funding

*Other climate-related priorities identified as possible IRA projects

Mid Atlantic Council Climate Priorities

- G1: committee structure, use, decision making
- G2: Council will reappoint AP members in early 2024
- M1: relates to EAFM risk assessment
- M2: hiring a contractor to conduct a program review
- Include these climate planning themes in next Strategic Plan and Research Priorities update
- Longer term: G3, D3, integrate outcomes in EAFM framework and initiatives, consider guidance/policy document related to climate resilience

South Atlantic Council Climate Priorities

- G1: changes will require thorough Council discussion
- G2: broad benefits to expanding and diversifying recruiting
- G3: will need to account for governance overlap with GMFMC
- M1, D3, D8: consider a workshop to ID ecosystem data, current and new; support more frequent Ecosystem Status Reports; identify data needs via individual plan teams
- M2: working with SERO to streamline
- D1: consider rock shrimp fishery for pilot
- M4, M7: interested in management triggers, alternative management approaches
- M5: permits will require action by NMFS
- D4: want to learn more about outcomes of 2020 Atlantic Coast Science Coordination Workshop

ASMFC Climate Priorities

- G3: examine MAFMC joint management
- G5: improve sharing between SSCs and Commission's science committees
- M1: planning to include Commission interests in ESRs, SOEs
- M4: considering strategies for responsiveness
- D1: can support Recreational Study Fleet Pilot Project, including via monitoring

IRA Proposal Development

- Significant IRA funding opportunity not on our radar during last winter's Scenario Planning Summit or during Action Menu development
- We hope to make significant progress towards completing most of the items in the Action Menu, with help of IRA funds
- Will consider the Council's September 2023 input when crafting our IRA proposals
- East Coast Executive Directors and NOAA will meet in January to review plans for IRA proposals

Future updates

- Going forward, our goal is to align the timing of E3CG meetings with both climate science updates (e.g., State of the Ecosystem reports) and the priorities/work planning processes of each management organization
- We will plan a Climate Coordination update at future Council meetings when there's significant progress to share, or when seeking feedback on how to prioritize work