



California's Coastal Fishing Communities Project Update



Marine Resources Committee Meeting
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November 14, 2018



State Law: Marine Life Management Act Goals

- Conserves Entire Systems
- Non-Consumptive Values
- Sustainability
- Habitat Conservation
- Fishery Restoration
- Bycatch Limitation
- **Fishing Communities:** *Fisheries management should recognize the long-term interests of people dependent on fishing, and adverse impacts of management measures on fishing communities are to be minimized.*





Coastal Fishing Communities Project (2016-2018)

Goal: To identify coastal fishing community sustainability goals and potential opportunities to support them



Coastal Meetings Staff Report

- Public input synthesized into a staff report
- July 2018 MRC meeting: Staff report opened for public feedback
- Comments received:
 - 14 letters and emails
 - Over 75 unique comments



Public Comments: Key Ideas

- Requests for revisions/additions to staff report
- Develop more context and background, including analysis of potential options
- Recommendations for specific fishery pilot projects
- Requests to defer discussion of “next steps and recommendations” to March 2019 MRC meeting
- Expressed desires to collaborate



Additional Developments

- Discussions with:
 - Commercial fishing organization leaders
 - Environmental non-governmental organizations
 - Academics
 - Local, state and federal agencies
- Ad-hoc interagency work group



Recommended Next Steps

- Revise staff synthesis report (corrections, clarifications)
- Develop new, more comprehensive report
 - Additional background/context
 - Analyze range of options for potential action
- Continue dialogue
- Discuss report, next steps and possible recommendations at March 2019 MRC meeting



Questions?





Staff Report Initial Recommendations - Recap

1. Develop Commission policy on fishing communities
2. Review Commission policy on restricted access
3. Identify specific projects to test new approaches
4. Engage legislative staff to pursue adjustments to laws as ideas are refined
5. Direct staff to increase engagement and coordination with sister agencies on management decisions affecting California
6. Explore/research possible community-based adaptable fishery structures
7. Explore filling data needs through collaborative research and data collection
8. Survey communities, commercial and recreational fishers, and processors about their priorities for Commission focus

Staff Report Initial Recommendations - Recap Additions

9. Explore impact of climate change on fisheries, management, and communities
10. Consider state companion to federal "Fishing Community Sustainability Plans"