



# California's Coastal Fishing Communities Project Update



**Presented at FGC's Marine Resources  
Committee Meeting**

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# Project Overview



- Identify coastal fishing community resilience priorities and uncover potential opportunities to provide support
- Help to prioritize future Commission discussion or action by analyzing staff recommendations
- Conduct background research and analysis of staff recommendations from 2019 staff synthesis report



# Recent Project Updates

- November 2019, MRC:
  - Adopted 2019 staff synthesis report as final
  - adopted draft working definition of “coastal fishing community”
  - directed staff to prepare additional information on the ten staff-recommended options in report (“staff recommendations”)
- July 2020 MRC Meeting
  - Staff provided sample update to be used for each staff recommendation
  - Staff proposed analytical framework for applying to recommendations

# Today's Updates



- Completed updates on efforts to date for all recommendations from the 2019 staff synthesis report
- Completed an in-depth analysis of Staff Recommendation 1 (SR 1): *Develop and adopt a policy and definition for coastal fishing communities*

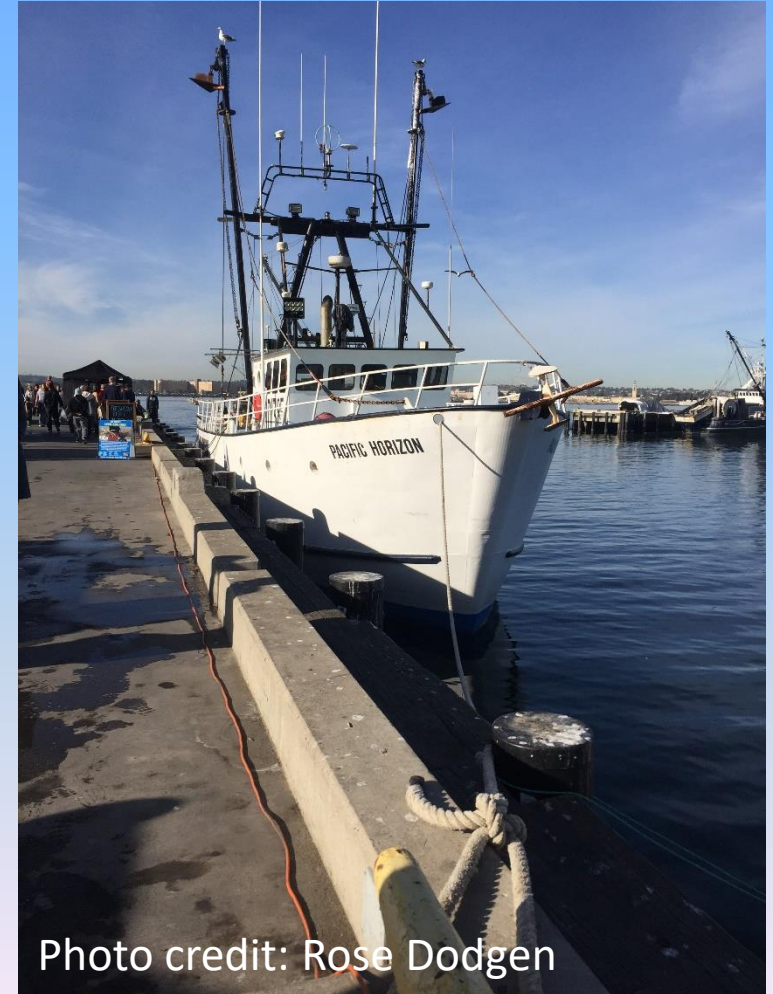


Photo credit: Rose Dodgen

# Findings



- Flexibility in analysis is needed when applying the analytical framework for SRs
  - Analysis of SR 1 suggests that while the analytical framework has strong points, flexibility is needed to address unique elements of each SR
- In-depth SR analysis will take varying time
  - Will be brought forward as completed, but differences in complexity will affect timeline and order of completion
- SR 1 is likely to affect all subsequent recommendations



# Recommendations



- Direct staff to continue analyses of remaining staff recommendations.
- Direct staff to explore a potential policy with stakeholders and return in March 2021 with a recommendation.



Photo credit: Rose Dodgen



Photo credit: Rodger Healy

# Potential Next Steps



- Consistent with SR 1 and previous stakeholder input, begin shaping a potential policy direction recommendation
- Work with stakeholders to explore SR1 further
  - Consider convening roundtable group of key coastal fishing community members and fishing organization representatives
  - Consider hosting at least one public workshop to solicit feedback and input
- Develop working products to present to MRC in March 2021

# Thank You

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# Background Slide:

## Working definition adopted by MRC in November 2019

- *“A **coastal fishing community** is a social, cultural, economic, and/or place-based group whose members are fishermen dependent upon or engaged in commercial, recreational, or subsistence fishing to meet the social or economic needs of the community; this includes, but is not limited to, businesses and organizations that depend on or support fishing by providing goods and services, including infrastructure.*
- *A fishing community may be a subset or member of larger or associated coastal communities which have an interest in and/or are dependent on healthy ocean ecosystems.”*