



Photo Credit: Romiro Cardozo

Marine Life Management Act Master Plan Amendment Discussion for Interested Stakeholders

Considering Approaches to Fisheries Partnerships Under the MLMA

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Photo Credit: Remiro Cardozo

Today's Discussion

- Introductions
- Review MLMA Master Plan amendment goals and process
- Discuss draft ideas and approaches to achieve MLMA collaboration objectives
- Solicit feedback, address questions



Marine Life Management Act (MLMA) Master Plan

- MLMA provides a framework for ecosystem-based fisheries management
 - Based on best-available science and involvement of tribes, fishing communities, and other interested stakeholders
- Master Plan adopted in 2001 and acts as a guide for the development of Fishery Management Plans
 - Amendment will reflect advancements in management tools, changing ocean conditions, stakeholder priorities, and new information to expand the scope of the current Master Plan



Goals: MLMA Master Plan Amendment Process

- Enhance **resource stewardship and sustainability** of fisheries
- Elevate **ecosystem health in decision-making**
- Help promote more **efficient, effective, and streamlined** fisheries management
- Establish a **clear pathway** for improving the management of individual fisheries
- Set **clear expectations** for managers and the public
- Foster **transparency and flexibility** in fisheries management with tribes and native communities, stakeholders, and interested members of the public

2015

2016

2017

2018

Engagement with California Tribal Governments

Stakeholder Engagement

Phase I: Build Knowledge

Gather Information

Tribal Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement

Draft Amended Framework for MLMA-Based Management

Phase II: Amend Master Plan

Stakeholder Input

Prepare Draft Master Plan Amendment

Late 2017

NEW Initial Draft Master Plan available for stakeholder review

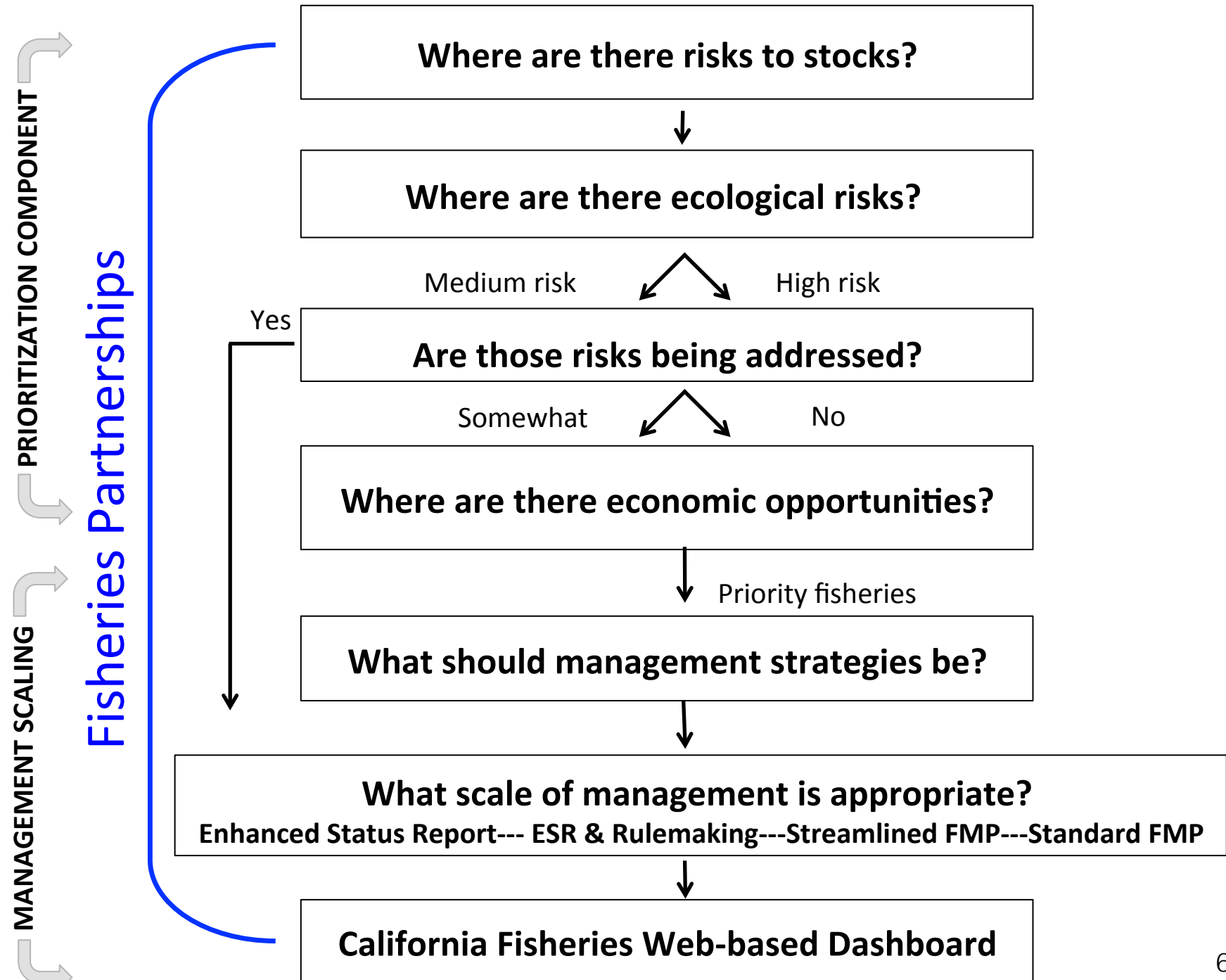
Submit Final Draft Master Plan to Fish and Game Commission

Phase III: Review and Possible Adoption

Adoption of Amended MLMA Master Plan

Draft Framework Overview *(simplified)*

- Draft framework for **prioritizing** and **scaling the intensity of management** to the risks and potential benefits for each fishery
- MLMA objectives are translated into key questions
- For the full draft framework, visit: <http://bit.ly/MLMAMasterPlanUpdate>





MLMA Objectives, FGC Section 7059

- Successful marine life and fishery management is a complex and collaborative process that requires ongoing communication and participation of all involved in the management process
- Maximize expertise in marine science, economics, collaborative fact-finding, and dispute resolution
- Inform development and implementation of research plans, marine managed area plans, Fishery Management Plans (FMPs), etc.



CDFW Goals and Potential Benefits

- Well-structured fisheries partnerships may help to:
 - Support short- and long- term fishery management goals
 - Add adaptability and additional perspective to management decisions
 - Strengthen support for management decisions
 - Enhance and increase the state's capacity to effectively manage all fisheries under the MLMA



Examples of CDFW Marine Region Collaborations and Partnerships

- Herring FMP, steering committee
- Dungeness Crab Task Force (DCTF), advisory body
- Marine Protected Area (MPA) signage, local MPA Collaboratives and the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation
- MLMA Master Plan Amendment process, key communicators



Improving Partnerships

- Currently, no standardized approach to identify and engage in constructive fisheries partnerships
- Information Gathering Project with The Nature Conservancy
 - Opportunities, benefits, and limitations of partnerships
 - Elements of effective partnerships
- Master Plan Amendment aims to translate lessons learned into more structured guidance to help managers and stakeholders effectively partner



Fisheries Partnerships Considerations

- Partnerships vary in terms of responsibility-sharing and duration
- Require different approaches
- Organization capacity of CDFW and partner organizations is an important consideration



Matching Opportunities with ‘Partner Capacity’

- How representative the group is of the broader fleet or community
- The level of resources the group has available to allocate to the collaboration
- How long-standing and durable the partner is





Some Elements of Effective Partnerships

- Partnership organization has necessary capacity, resources, and durability, and is sufficiently representative
- Advance shared or aligned goals and operate within agreed-upon defined roles and objectives
- Depend on effective communication, the ability to build trust, and the exchange of knowledge and information



Discussion and Q&A

- Are there questions about how CDFW is considering the role of partnerships in fisheries management (now and in the future)?
- Have you engaged in a successful partnership with CDFW? Were there any lessons learned?
- Are there specific elements of effective partnerships that CDFW should prioritize?



Thank you!

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MLMA>

or contact MLMA@wildlife.ca.gov

