

AI Ecosystem Team meeting

1/14/2010

January 27-28, 2010 9am - 5pm
NMML conference room 2049, AFSC, Seattle, WA

DRAFT Agenda / Discussion items

Purpose of Team meeting

1. What new ecosystem information is available about the Aleutian Islands, and is it relevant for the FEP/Council?
2. Plan for an addendum/revision to the FEP
3. How might the Council/Ecosystem Committee best act to continue work/implementation of the FEP?
4. What should our next steps be to improve the FEP?

Wednesday, January 27

9am -12:30pm

Intros, changes to team membership, discussion of purpose

New information on Aleutian Islands

- Council and other agency actions with respect to the AI, updates from the Alaska Marine Ecosystem Forum *Diana Evans*
- State managed fishery activity *Forrest Bowers*
- in the Ecosystem SAFE, NOAA ecosystem initiatives *Sarah Gaichas/Kerim Aydin*
- Physical oceanography and climate information *Carol Ladd*
- Update on AI groundfish species *Sandra Lowe/Steve Barbeaux*
- New habitat projects and EFH review (including fishing intensity analysis) *John Olson*
- Update to the AI ecosystem model, AI ecosystem assessment, tracking indicators
- Update on non-target initiatives, changes to AI spatial management *Paul Spencer*
- AI research and any new information from BSIERP *Francis Wiese*
- Update on AI communities (T) *Jennifer Sepez*

Time certain:

- 11am Population trends for Steller sea lions, N fur seals, whales *Rolf Ream*
- Noon Update on Adak fisheries *Nicole Kimball (teleconference)*

1:30-5pm

Review interactions and indicators associated with them

- Any new information that influences our conclusions/discussion? Review indicators, and suggested updates from September 2008 meeting. Do the indicators alert changing conditions? Are these being communicated to the Council?

- Is it possible to develop natural variability thresholds for any of the indicators?
- Any new data sources for the indicators that we have not yet found?

Plan for FEP addendum/revision

- At our last meeting, we identified a number of changes and updates to the FEP that we need to capture in a revised document.
- What other areas of the FEP should we be concentrating on for improvement?
 - directions we have identified in the past: quantified risk assessment; cumulative impacts/ comprehensive ecosystem assessment (multivariate definitions of AI ecosystem status); expand geographic area of FEP to look at transition areas to east and west; incorporate LTK; incorporating social science and human dimensions in the FEP

Thursday, January 28

9am -12pm

Approach to ecosystem policy/ evaluating tradeoffs

- In FEP we suggested that a next step for Council would be to better define parts of its goal statement ('ecosystem health and vibrant communities'). The Ecosystem Committee asked us to come up with a structure to work through various questions and decision points.
- At last meeting, we talked about using a star diagram to represent tradeoffs in ecosystem policy. Can we use something like that as a basis for the Council to work from?

Other topics for further implementation of the FEP

- Last year, we discussed the possibility of a workshop to talk about a systematic process for evaluating AI ecosystem considerations. Do we want to take that any further?

Discussion of team membership, need for an economist

1-4pm Meet jointly with Ecosystem Committee

AI FEP

- Discuss further action on the FEP with the Committee
- Discuss adding an economist to the Team

Marine Spatial Planning

- Council is considering whether to submit public comment on the national Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Framework that was issued in December 2009; Committee has opportunity to provide recommendations