

Copy of email sent January 21, 2015

TO: Fishery Management Council Chairs and Executive Directors

**FROM: Eileen Sobeck, Assistant Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service**

SUBJECT: NOAA Fisheries releases draft Climate Science Strategy for public comment

I am pleased to inform you that NOAA Fisheries has released a draft Climate Science Strategy for public comment. The purpose of the Strategy is to increase the production, delivery, and use of climate-related information in fulfilling NOAA Fisheries stewardship mission for marine and coastal resources. The draft Strategy and information for submitting comments can be found on our website: <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/ecosystems/climate/national-call-for-comments>.

While the Strategy is focused on strengthening the NOAA Fisheries science enterprise needed to prepare for and respond to a changing climate, NOAA Fisheries depends on you and many science partners inside and outside of NOAA to meet these needs. Your input, engagement, and support for the draft Strategy is critical to its success.

Specifically, the draft Strategy is part of a proactive approach to collect and provide information on changing climate and ocean conditions to resource managers and affected sectors. Implementation of the Strategy will help reduce impacts and increase resilience of marine resources and the communities that depend on them in a changing climate.

In 2015, science centers and regional offices will seek your input on regional action plans to implement the Strategy during the next 5 years. To help with this effort, the draft Strategy identifies seven key steps needed to increase the production and use of climate-related information to fulfill NOAA Fisheries mission. It also proposes specific actions to address common needs across regions and agency mandates.

Note, this draft strategy is responding to drivers such as the Presidents National Climate Action Plan and the National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy that call for increased action to address the impacts of a changing climate on the nation's valuable natural resources and resource-dependent sectors.

Thank you for your interest and assistance. For more information, please contact Roger Griffis, Climate Change Coordinator at 301-427-8134 or roger.griffis@noaa.gov.