



**Climate Change
Scenario Planning:
Potential East Coast Initiative**

April 7, 2020

Overview

- Additional details on Pacific Council's process & next steps
- Possible approaches and considerations for an East Coast climate change scenario planning process

Pacific Council Process

- Initiated in 2018 as part of Council's Climate and Communities Initiative (under Fishery Ecosystem Plan)
- Early 2019: established "core team" to lead process along with contracted facilitator
- **Focal question:**
 - How will West Coast fishing communities be affected by climate-related shifting stock availability and other developments between now and 2040?

Pacific Council Process

ESTABLISH

Council decides to undertake a scenario exercise

Determine the focus and goals of the investigation

Train a core team in the essentials of scenario planning

RESEARCH

Review existing materials on forces driving change

Interview a selection of stakeholders / experts

Discussions with Advisory Bodies and Council to gather additional views

CREATE

Synthesize ideas to create initial 'building blocks' for scenarios

Design and prepare for a scenario creation workshop

Conduct workshop (January 2020)

VALIDATE

Construct first draft scenarios

Present to Council (March 2020)

Edit and enhance scenarios as required (March 2020)

APPLY

Use refined scenarios to inform a series of 'implications conversations' with various stakeholders (April-June 2020)

Create final report for Council (September 2020):

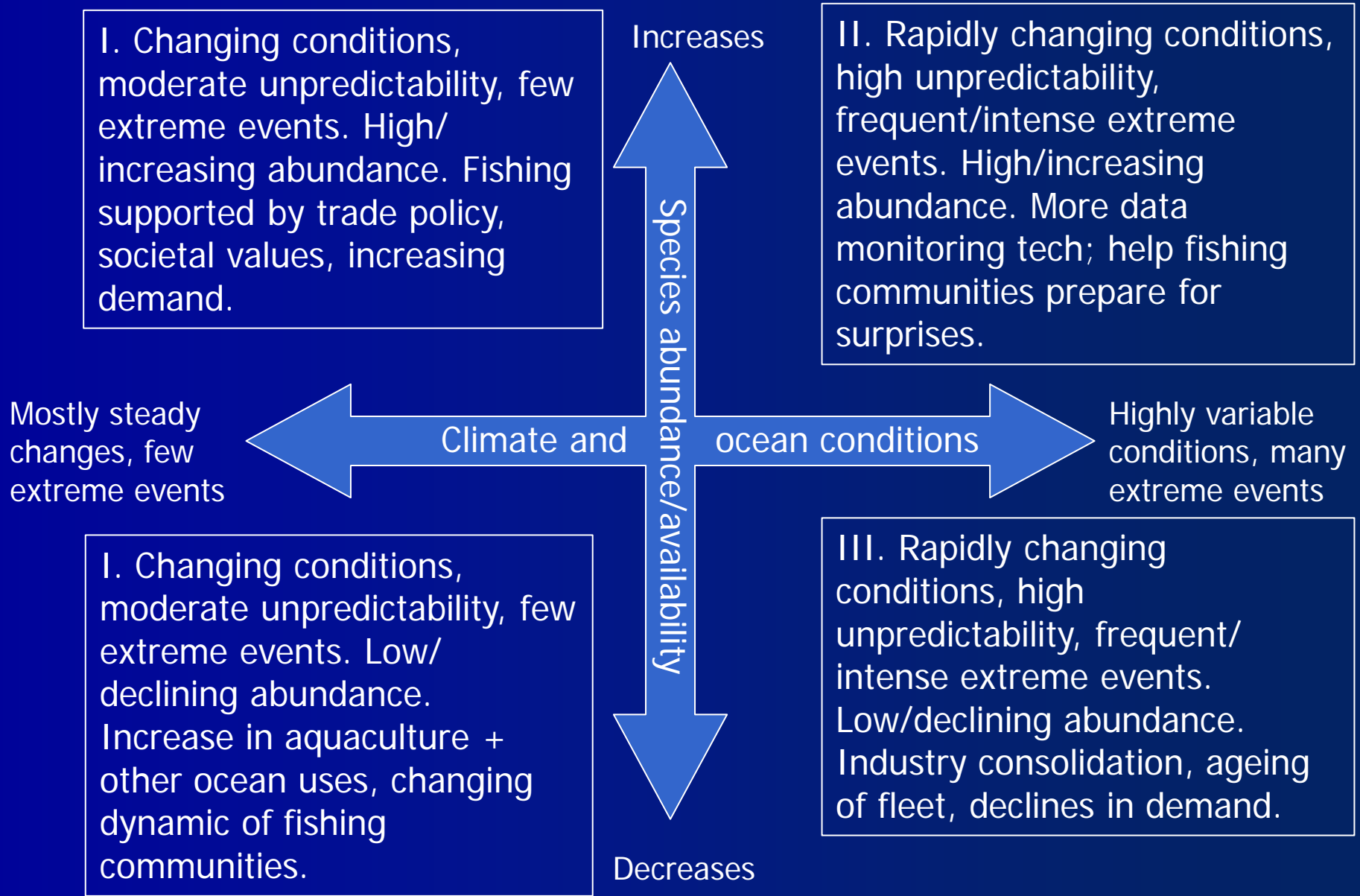
- **Scenarios:** what futures should we prepare for?
- **Insights:** what do these futures mean for us, other stakeholders?
- **Process tools:** (how) should we use this approach more regularly?

Pacific Council "Driving Forces"

Factors Shaping West Coast Fishing Communities to 2040

1. Ocean warming
2. Ocean acidification
3. Sea-level Rise
4. Hypoxia / HABs
5. Range shifts and productivity
6. Ecological surprises
7. Terrestrial climate impacts
8. Marine pollution
9. Alternative ocean uses
10. Aquaculture
11. Societal values
12. Consumer demand
13. Global trade / industry policy
14. Regulation and environmental policy
15. Protected species status
16. Food technology
17. Data and monitoring technology
18. Fishing industry structure
19. Aging of fleet and expertise
20. Coastal community development
21. Range shifts and productivity

Resulting Draft Scenarios



Pacific Council Next Steps

- Scenario “deepening”: sub-group to enhance scenario descriptions
- Advisory Panel feedback
- Present enhanced scenarios to Council in June
- Public and stakeholder engagement process (plan uncertain given covid-19)
 - Focal groups to explore implications of scenarios among fisheries, communities, regions

POTENTIAL EAST COAST SCENARIO PLANNING PROCESS

2020 MAFMC Implementation Plan

- Under Ecosystem and Ocean Planning/Habitat:
 - “Initiate climate change and distribution shift scenario planning”

NRCC Discussions

- November 2019 Northeast Regional Coordinating Committee: agreed to move forward with East Coast scenario planning initiative to explore governance issues related to shifting stocks
- Agreed to form working group to explore & plan, with reps from MAFMC, NEFMC, ASMFC, GARFO, NEFSC
 - Has not yet met

Project Scope & Participants

- Additional discussions needed about how to coordinate this effort, who would participate, roles of each organization
 - One coordinated effort? Separate but coordinated processes?
- Experienced facilitator needed?

Project Scope & Participants

■ Considerations:

- Distribution shifts and governance issues impact all partners; beneficial to coordinate efforts among all interested groups
- But, broader participation has implications for focusing goals, participation, and applications
- Regardless of approach, close coordination needed; minimize duplicative efforts

Near-Term Planning Questions

- **How should this process be coordinated?**
 - Hire a facilitator?
 - One coordinated East Coast process? Which partner organizations?
- **Who should participate on a core team?**
 - NRCC working group?
 - Core team would work with facilitator (if applicable) to focus the questions, plan workshop(s), research background information, produce workshop products, plan application phase

Questions to be Addressed Early in Process

- **How should we determine the goals and refine the focal question?**
 - Goals, question, and expected outcomes should be clearly defined relatively early in process
- **Who should participate in workshops and other parts of the process (e.g., interviews)?**
 - Broad range of perspectives & creative thinkers are beneficial
- **What future time frame should be considered?**
 - Long enough to consider long-term uncertainties; short enough to be relevant to planning & adapting

Intersection with other EAFM Initiatives

- Largely independent, but could draw on past/ongoing initiatives
 - EAFM framework can help frame goals & question
 - Insight from risk assessment could be used to identify and refine driving forces
 - Conceptual model could be adapted to link climate/ ecological factors and sociopolitical factors
 - Overall, intended to advance and support Council's EAFM framework without duplicating efforts

Tentative Timeline

- VERY tentative timeline given current uncertainties:

<u>Spring/early summer 2020</u>	Form core team. Core team learns scenario planning, develops draft project plan. Find a facilitator?
<u>Late summer/early fall 2020</u>	Stakeholder and advisory body input to inform driving forces and focal question
<u>Late 2020/early 2021</u>	Scenario building workshop prep/ workshop
<u>Winter/Spring 2021</u>	Workshop follow up, scenario validation, possible second workshop or other process to inform application