Fishing Impacts Working Group Meeting Notes October 29, 2008

This was the first conference call for the Fishing Impacts Working Group. In attendance: Jim Bohnsack, co-chair; Jennifer Koss, coordinator (with Anita Pritchett); Chris Jeffrey (with Bob Leeworthy); Tom Potts; Cara Wilson; Paige Rothenberger; Andrew Gude; Arielle Levine; Tony Chatwin, Paul Dalzell, Dennis Heinemann

Agenda:

- Welcome and introduction from Jim Bohnsack
- Introductions with background, interest in topic from working group members
- Overview of charge to working group
- Discussions of procedures for next calls
- Discussions of "homework" to complete before next call in November

Decisions:

- Will take guidance from existing plans, but recognize that working group will be reassessing based on current knowledge.
- Will work to make this process complementary with other agency's activities (e.g. EPA's fishery impacts focus group).
- Looking at logic modeling and/or conceptual models to think through goals and objectives and performance measures. Working to understand interim outputs that will lead to measurable changes in resource (outcomes).
- Meeting notes and public reference documents will be posted to public Web site, but listserve will reserved for working group members. New topics do not have to be brought up initially via co-chairs but can be discussed via the listserve.
- Will continue to coordinate with the other working groups (LBSP, climate change), and recognize that these threats are inter-related.
- Working group members are encouraged and expected to coordinate with colleagues to gather input and comments throughout the process.

Action Items:

- By **November 12**, each working group member will provide suggested goals and objectives to the co-chairs and coordinators, who will compile into a strawman document.
- Each working group member should also provide list of reference documents that might be useful during this process.
- Jim will put together a list of specific fishing impacts on coral reef ecosystems (looking back at earlier CRCP working groups).
- Jennifer/Anita will email pie chart to group to provide perspective on how the guidance of working group members will be used to influence funding decisions.
- Jennifer/Anita will provide link to external review materials, highlighting the sections specific to fishing impacts.
- Jennifer/Anita will provide NMFS definition of "ecosystem" to begin establishing common terminology.