

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION

+ + + + +
MARINE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 27, 2011

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The Marine Fisheries Advisory
Committee met at 8:30 a.m. in the Hyatt
Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New
Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, Heather
McCarty, Chair, presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

HEATHER D. McCARTY, Chair
TERRY ALEXANDER
PAUL CLAMPITT
BILL DEWEY
PATRICIA DOERR
PHILLIP J. DYSKOW
EDWIN A. EBISUI
MARTIN FISHER
KEN FRANKE
STEVE JONER
JULIE MORRIS
GEORGE C. NARDI
TOM RAFTICAN
KEITH RIZZARDI
VA'AMUA HENRY SESEPASARA
DAVID H. WALLACE

CONSULTANTS TO MAFAC:

RANDY CATES

JOHN V. O'SHEA

STAFF PRESENT:

MARK HOLLIDAY, Designated Federal Official

HEATHER SAGAR

JOSHUA STOLL

ALSO PRESENT:

FORBES DARBY

RUSS DUNN

JUDY GAN

ERIC SCHWAAB

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

8:34 a.m.

CHAIR MCCARTY: Where's my
microphone?

MR. SCHWAAB: They took it away,
huh?

CHAIR MCCARTY: I will. I can do
that. Welcome back to our third and final
day. I am so happy to have next to me Eric
Schwaab, our fearless leader.

We missed you really bad, so I'm
glad you are here. Thank you for coming.

MR. SCHWAAB: Thank you.

CHAIR MCCARTY: Make a few
comments?

MR. SCHWAAB: Absolutely. Thank
you Heather and given the point in the meeting
where you are, I won't go into any sort of
great detail around prepared remarks.

But I first want to apologize for
not being with you the past couple of days.
Things have spun up again, shockingly, in New

1 England, and that's -- so I spent a few days
2 at a council workshop with about 150 other
3 people, focused on next steps on the sector
4 program up there.

5 I do think that you know, while it
6 certainly is a more intense version of what we
7 are dealing with from a fisheries management
8 perspective around the country, it's pretty
9 instructive really, because while there has
10 been some, I would say, a vocal minority that
11 has been critical of things going back to
12 before the sector program was implemented, the
13 interesting thing about the workshop was, it
14 was very encouraging in the sense that
15 fishermen recognize what the sector program
16 has done for them, in helping them to move
17 through some fairly tight catch limits.

18 So as you know, the requirement to
19 end over-fishing and to rebuild stocks that
20 led to imposition of pretty tight catch
21 limits, and in a you know, multi-species
22 groundfish fishery, that's problematic, same

1 as it is in the trawl fishery on the west
2 coast and other places as well.

3 But sector management really came
4 in as a way to sort of give fishermen the
5 freedom and some additional tools to work
6 around those limiting stock issues.

7 And it really is paying off that
8 way and I think, again, despite the rhetoric,
9 you know, fishermen are beginning to see that.

10 So you know, if you go back to
11 2007, the fishery on the whole was, 2007/2008,
12 was catching about a quarter of its cumulative
13 tack for all of the species.

14 In 2009 that went up slightly. In
15 2010, the first year under sectors, it went up
16 again, and I think it's pretty clear it's
17 going to go up again.

18 So basically fishermen are getting
19 better at working around the limiting stocks
20 and taking fuller advantage of the healthier
21 stocks and they are using sector-based
22 management to do a better job of that.

1 So most of the focus over the last
2 couple of days was on you know, how do we
3 tweak that sector management program and make
4 it better.

5 I mean there are still legitimate,
6 you know, concerns about big boats versus
7 small boats, and fleet diversity and
8 consolidation and the like.

9 But there is a clear path forward
10 that a lot of the fishermen are beginning to
11 appreciate.

12 So you know, we have talked a lot
13 about turning the corner. We see you know,
14 the progress that we have made as noteworthy,
15 and certainly we haven't made that alone. I
16 mean, we've -- it's you know, the councils and
17 the fishermen around the country that have
18 made that progress.

19 And you know, I know that sort of
20 on your agenda has been you know, some other
21 really important issues. When we talk about -
22 - you know, when we talk about turning the

1 corner internally, one of the things we say is
2 you know, you can turn the corner on ending
3 over-fishing and rebuilding stocks, you know,
4 stabilizing sustainable fisheries in some
5 fashion.

6 Well, as you turn that corner, you
7 look ahead, and you look down the road and you
8 see some other really big things. And I know
9 you have talked about our habitat blueprint,
10 and we'll talk about that a little more.

11 You know, I know you continue to,
12 to express great interest and provide us great
13 input on ocean policy-related issues and that
14 encompasses a wide range of things.

15 You know, we still look at sort of
16 one aspect of habitat, which is kind of
17 temporal in nature, and that is the changes
18 that are coming about as a result of some of
19 the climate issues.

20 So all those things are out there,
21 and are really a big deal for us, and I know
22 you've been talking about that, and we

1 appreciate your continued input.

2 So let me -- I will stop there
3 other than to say that from a scheduling
4 perspective, I will be with you until a little
5 after 11. I have to go across town. I'll be
6 back around -- around a little before 2, and
7 then I'll leave again about 4.

8 So you know, I'll be here for a
9 couple of the breaks, for those of us that
10 haven't had any time to catch up, and I think
11 later on, you know, I hope to recognize some
12 of the longstanding members for whom this will
13 be the last meeting, and you know, they are of
14 course -- you know who you are.

15 And you were on the Committee when
16 I was on the Committee, so that's particularly
17 special for me. And I will say that it is
18 great, you know, with all the travels and all
19 the places I go, coming and spending time with
20 you guys is like, is very comfortable, and
21 it's like being you know, home.

22 So thank you for that and thank

1 you for what you continue to do for us. So
2 let me stop there, Madam Chair. If there's
3 anything that anybody particularly wants to
4 ask about and there are a few minutes, I'd be
5 happy to do that.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

7 MR. SCHWAAB: Or we can move on
8 with your agenda.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. It would be
10 nice probably to open it up just for a couple
11 of minutes, but I don't want it to be, you
12 know, a rap session right now. Otherwise we
13 won't get through our agenda.

14 So if anyone has burning issues or
15 burning questions for Eric. Burning?

16 MR. ALEXANDER: Well, it's more --
17 he was talking about the place that he went,
18 and you know, according to all the analysts on
19 amendment 16, it said that we needed to
20 consolidate and NMFS wanted us to consolidate,
21 and now consolidation is just a really bad
22 word up there. How are you guys handling

1 that?

2 MR. SCHWAAB: So I think in some
3 respects it's a question of pace and degree,
4 and you know, the endpoint ultimately is not
5 so much up to us as it is to the community.

6 And so for example one of the
7 things that came out of the management review
8 that we conducted up there was a need for a
9 long-term vision for fisheries across the
10 region.

11 And you know, if you don't know
12 what you are managing to, then you know, how
13 do you know how to get there?

14 And the council has actually taken
15 on the charge and the challenge of developing
16 a vision. The mid-Atlantic council has been
17 working on this, some of you know that; the
18 New England council is now committed to
19 undertaking some kind of a visioning exercise.

20 And you know ultimately, you know,
21 how much fleet diversity do you want, how much
22 community diversity do you want to preserve,

1 and at sort of what -- and what sideboards do
2 you then need to put in place in the
3 management systems to sustain that?

4 You know, because clearly the
5 other end of the spectrum is you know, you
6 just let the market take its course, and
7 that's clearly not where we want to go, or
8 anybody wants to go with most of these
9 fisheries.

10 You know, there are some
11 continuing needs for some sideboards to get to
12 sort of an appropriate place. But what that
13 place is, really has to come to us from those
14 communities. It's not something that we
15 should be imposing or dictating.

16 MR. ALEXANDER: It just seems like
17 the council of New England wastes so much time
18 working on stuff that nobody really cares
19 about except for two people in the room.

20 You know what I mean? And it's
21 taking away valuable time.

22 MR. SCHWAAB: And that was one of

1 the things that we talked about. You know,
2 the council has an incredibly challenging
3 workload, and you know, if you have 10
4 priorities -- there was actually a question
5 yesterday from the groundfish -- from Terry
6 Stockwell, the groundfish committee chairman
7 who said well, I need you to prioritize your
8 priorities so we can know what to work on.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: Thank you.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: I wanted to now
12 announce that the public comment opportunity
13 is available. I am not seeing any public,
14 though actually Eric, we did have quite a lot
15 of public at this meeting for a while.

16 MR. SCHWAAB: Okay.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: So it was actually
18 good, and nobody said anything. So I think is
19 that all we need to do, is just make it
20 available and ask if there's anybody in and if
21 there isn't, then there isn't?

22 And then Mark has several

1 announcements that he would like to make and
2 then we will move into the subcommittee
3 reports.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: Thanks Heather.
5 This afternoon we are going to go through the
6 election process and Heather asked me to
7 identify who the nominees were.

8 We received it yesterday. We
9 accepted nominations for the Chair and Vice-
10 Chair. We have two nominees for Chairman. In
11 alphabetical order, they are Tony Chatwin and
12 Keith Rizzardi.

13 We have two nominees for Vice-
14 Chair. In alphabetical order they are Martin
15 Fisher and Dave Wallace.

16 So we will conduct the election
17 this afternoon and we will have paper ballots,
18 and by majority vote, elect two officers for
19 the committee.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Question, did we
21 talk about whether each of those individuals
22 should make a short statement publicly before

1 the election? I can't remember if that was
2 the part of the process that we talked about
3 in Key West, and people have asked me so --

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: That wasn't part of
5 --

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. That's
7 fine, completely fine. I think there is
8 plenty of opportunity to speak individually
9 with folks. So I'm sure that's going to
10 happen. Thank you.

11 Then you had another --

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: A couple of
13 administrative issues. If you haven't gotten
14 me back your statements, non-disclosure or
15 foreign agent and you are able to sign them at
16 this meeting, I'd love to take them with me.
17 If not, I'll bug you in the email over the
18 coming weeks to respond to them.

19 MS. DOERR: Were we all supposed
20 to have them filled out?

21 DR. HOLLIDAY: We handed them out
22 on day one, so see us during the break time,

1 I'll just -- you weren't here when we handed
2 them out. I'm sorry.

3 We are also going to talk about
4 time and place for meetings for next year.
5 We'd like to get agreement on dates, what
6 days, and general venue, location, east coast,
7 west coast, particular state or city.

8 Josh sent out a reminder email to
9 people for a Doodle poll that we initiated a
10 week or 10 days ago. Only 11 people have
11 responded so far. These are the dates that we
12 identified that did not currently conflict
13 with a council meeting, a commission meeting,
14 or other international organization meeting
15 that we felt MAFAC members might have a
16 potential conflict with.

17 So if you can, look at your -- if
18 you have your computer with you, look at your
19 email, click on that link, link to Doodle poll
20 before we have our afternoon discussion, and
21 have your calendar, review it, it's pretty
22 straightforward. We'll try to do our best

1 this afternoon to nail down the dates and the
2 preferred locations.

3 Two other items, quick items. I
4 sent an email out this morning with another
5 link to a budget document. When the budget
6 committee reports out we are going to conduct
7 -- more details about that but just if you
8 have a computer, this would be a handy
9 reference.

10 It's the NOAA blue book, the NOAA
11 budget. It contains descriptions of these
12 line items that we will be talking about in
13 the budget. So if you haven't seen an email
14 and you have a computer with you, you might
15 want to browse through that at some point so
16 you have it for reference.

17 The last item, we found, it looks
18 like a charger like maybe for an iPhone or
19 something. I don't know. If someone is
20 missing --

21 MR. CATES: That might be mine.

22 DR. HOLLIDAY: Thank you.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: I have a question
2 Mark about the new members. Do we have
3 anything? Eric, you might know, as well.
4 Where are we at with that process?

5 MR. SCHWAAB: We're just moving a
6 package through. We have got a set of
7 recommendations. It's just a matter of
8 clearing them through and then --

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you anticipate that
10 relatively soon?

11 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes, I would hope
12 within a matter of weeks.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, great. We
14 determined by the way, Eric, that we are going
15 to do a half day sort of training session for
16 new members.

17 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh great.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: That was one of
19 our recommendations from last time, and we are
20 carrying that forward. So the next time we
21 meet -- you guys meet -- the new members could
22 come half a day early and have a preparatory

1 session.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: I think that's a
3 really good idea, and it's, as you know,
4 pretty substantial cohort, so it'll be
5 important.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Yes. I'm
7 excited about that. We are first going to
8 hear from the ecosystem subcommittee. Just
9 catching you up as we go, Eric, we dumped a
10 huge amount of work on this subcommittee, and
11 Tom graciously worked through it all.

12 I think almost all of the
13 subcommittees had two meetings in order to get
14 through everything that they had on their
15 plate. So that's where some of the real work
16 is done. So Tom, thank you.

17 MR. RAFTICAN: You bet, and
18 really, thanks to the folks on the committee.

19 We only met twice, the first time we had
20 Keith Rizzardi, Dave Wallace, Julie, Paul
21 Clampitt.

22 Paul participated and then we met

1 again yesterday with Dave again, Julie Morris
2 again, and Patty Doerr. So -- and that's you
3 know, you have got a lot of people spending an
4 awful lot of time.

5 As far as recommendations go, let
6 me jump quickly to the middle of the report.
7 We don't even have to go to -- follow-up upon
8 the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task
9 Force recommendations.

10 We crafted a letter on that, and
11 basically what it was, was a follow-up to the
12 work that we had done last summer, and a
13 special thanks goes out to Keith Rizzardi on
14 that. He did the lion's share of the work.

15 But took a look at the Gulf task
16 force recommendations, came back, saw whether
17 it fell in line with what we had asked for,
18 and came through with some other
19 recommendations.

20 We voted on that yesterday, as you
21 all know, and that was sent off, and that was
22 because of the Gulf Coast -- the timelines,

1 the deadlines for submission of comments.

2 So this got in yesterday, it got
3 in on time, and Heather, thanks for getting
4 that off and crafting it. Mark, thanks for
5 the support on that.

6 That brings us back to the other
7 elements that we looked at, and this is
8 particularly on Tuesday. We heard a report on
9 the Habitat Blueprint, and after receiving the
10 briefings, we had substantial discussions on
11 how to proceed forward.

12 And these are the recommendations
13 that the subcommittee came up with. Consider
14 the following with defining geographic
15 priorities.

16 One, initial projects should have
17 a high likelihood of success by demonstrating
18 the value of how with habitat conservation,
19 the agency will garner long-term support for
20 the blueprint. Success will breed success.
21 Projects should build off and complement
22 existing programs.

1 A lot of this was done in
2 recognition of the extreme budget priorities
3 that the agency has at this time, and you
4 know, how do you craft projects that A, number
5 one, are going to work well, but also have a
6 chance of succeeding.

7 Projects should consider the
8 transferability of components the U.S. has
9 learned in technology science, increasing the
10 relevance to future projects.

11 Make sure that they are economical
12 forward, projects should coincide with species
13 and suites of species that will benefit
14 directly from the habitat improvements.

15 And again, you know, it makes it
16 easier to pin your success on something that
17 we can see in this working.

18 Some of the projects should
19 account for species that occupy multiple
20 habitat types over the course of their life
21 cycle.

22 This is, and we got into a little

1 bit of this in particular in the Caribbean,
2 that you know, it goes from mangroves to deep
3 ocean, and all of it is important.

4 The agency should also recognize
5 the need to collaborate, coordinate the status
6 in order to successfully manage, improve
7 coastal and marine habitats, more clearly
8 define the scales at which the geographic
9 priority areas will be established, more fully
10 understand how existing marine spatial
11 management overlays with priority species, and
12 more clearly articulate the value of habitat
13 restoration to the coastal communities.

14 And that last one probably is
15 going to be extremely important and again,
16 getting back to the budget priorities, NOAA
17 does a very good job, NOAA fisheries does a
18 very good job and I think this goes directly
19 to what Eric was just saying, that after the
20 yelling and screaming subsides and everybody
21 sits down to see what's actually on the table,
22 it's like, well this could work, let's see how

1 we do it.

2 Not only are economic values
3 important, I think one of the things that was
4 brought up in our meeting was the fact that
5 the social values, the societal values are
6 extremely important for coastal communities,
7 and especially coastal fishing communities,
8 and we need to make sure that that is part of
9 the blueprint.

10 Moving on to Blue Carbon. It was
11 an interesting -- there was a real good give
12 and take on the Blue Carbon debate, back and
13 forth, you know, it was -- everybody's really
14 strong on habitat but you know, there were a
15 number of different outlooks on carbon.

16 We came up with these
17 recommendations -- continue to look at the
18 role Blue Carbon and Blue Carbon markets can
19 play in protecting habitat, incorporate Blue
20 Carbon into the habitat blueprint when and
21 where appropriate, and encourage the U.S. Army
22 Corps of Engineers to include ecosystem

1 services into their standard cost benefit
2 analysis.

3 Carbon markets are going to
4 evolve, recognize them and let's look and see
5 where the work that NOAA is doing actually
6 plays well into this, and how do you
7 capitalize on that, I think was one of the big
8 things that's important, and I think that fits
9 overall into all of the recommendations on
10 habitat or excuse me, on Blue Carbon.

11 Moving down, ecosystem
12 subcommittee recommendations on a Caribbean
13 strategy. We put together kind of like an
14 overall statement that I think is -- it's very
15 -- I think clear, and goes to the point: MAFAC
16 support for a coordinated Caribbean strategy
17 is contingent upon no new resources being
18 required to implement that strategy.

19 Therefore the problem statement as
20 to why NOAA is proposing the strategy needs to
21 be sharpened to be clear that NOAA will be
22 leveraging and coordinating existing resources

1 and not creating a new program that requires
2 new funding and capacity.

3 The goal should be to realize cost
4 savings within NOAA's current Caribbean
5 activities that can be reinvested into the
6 regional Caribbean strategy.

7 And we understand where the budget
8 is. It was quite clear to us where it is. It
9 was quite clear to us where the budget's
10 going.

11 Working together, you know, our
12 first, my first instinct was what are we
13 talking about creating a new program here?
14 This is insane.

15 But I was kind of overruled by the
16 people in the committee who said hey look, if
17 this is really important to do the
18 coordination, why don't you try to utilize
19 existing resources and come back and put
20 together -- put some of those resources into
21 the overall strategy, and by doing that, you
22 can leverage some of the concurrent programs,

1 and come out -- actually come out with some
2 savings on this thing, but more importantly
3 come out with a good overall perspective on
4 it, number one, and then act on it, on that
5 long-term vision.

6 Specific comments regarding the
7 proposed goals and objectives -- goal one,
8 objective two: if progress has been made in
9 the first two years, priority watersheds
10 should be identified in the document.

11 Objective three: if progress is to
12 be made in the early years, this document
13 should list the species in need of recovery,
14 and the Caribbean habitats.

15 Objective four -- again, this is
16 in the first couple of years -- species
17 selected for genetic studies and hydrodynamic
18 modeling should be identified in the document.

19 Let's know exactly what we are talking about.

20 Goal three objective: need a
21 stronger emphasis on documenting the social
22 dimensions of community resilience.

1 Other areas that should be
2 included within the strategy: a better
3 understanding of Caribbean Sea circulation
4 currents that are important to delivering
5 resources to the Caribbean and the Gulf of
6 Mexico and South Atlantic -- extremely
7 important.

8 And you know, the circulation is
9 going to have impacts, habitat impacts and
10 beyond, you know, throughout the entire
11 region.

12 There was a map included within
13 the strategy but however, it wasn't really
14 clear what was on the map. A list of
15 Caribbean countries should be included in the
16 document. The map is insufficient to
17 determine which islands and countries are
18 included in the strategy.

19 And also, a recommendation that I
20 don't know that, you know, it's easy to make
21 recommendations -- sometimes it's kind of
22 difficult to follow them: the Caribbean

1 strategy should include the collaboration with
2 Cuba.

3 This is incredibly important right
4 now on habitat issues, on resource issues, but
5 in particular as we are looking at the
6 potential for drilling within the straits of
7 Florida, it's about time that we kind of
8 started talking to our neighbors about this
9 and put together a comprehensive plan.

10 Questions?

11 (No response)

12 Can I get a motion to adopt these
13 recommendations?

14 MS. MORRIS: I so move.

15 MR. WALLACE: Second.

16 MR. RAFTICAN: Discussion? All in
17 favor, aye?

18 (Chorus of ayes)

19 MR. RAFTICAN: Opposed?

20 (No response)

21 MR. RAFTICAN: So carried. Thank
22 you Madam Chair.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: You're not
2 supposed to do that.

3 (Laughter)

4 MR. RAFTICAN: You didn't give me
5 the gavel.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think there was
7 a question.

8 MR. DEWEY: I thought we were
9 going to have some legitimate discussion. You
10 guys covered a hell of a lot of ground there.

11 MR. RAFTICAN: We welcome
12 legitimate discussion.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Tom, if that's
14 okay.

15 MR. RAFTICAN: No, Bill please.

16 MR. DEWEY: Well, first kudos to
17 you guys for all the ground you did cover, and
18 some great recommendations that you guys
19 brought forward obviously, you had a lot of
20 work to do.

21 (Simultaneous speaking).

22 MR. DEWEY: Sorry, I was just

1 congratulating the committee for all of the
2 hard work they did and the good
3 recommendations. I didn't participate in it
4 and I am impressed with the amount of work you
5 guys have done along with your
6 recommendations.

7 I was on the Blue Carbon
8 discussion. There's a couple of things there
9 that came out yesterday in the presentation
10 that I wanted to suggest as recommendations
11 but didn't have a chance to participate in
12 that committee discussion.

13 And one of them, and this is from
14 their slide presentation, would be to ask that
15 NOAA provide science to quantify the value of
16 ecosystem services, to facilitate the
17 development of markets for their trading.

18 So I mean that's an area -- in the
19 spirit of limited resources, the more we can
20 stimulate private investment and public
21 conservation, the better.

22 I think that's wise public policy

1 and a role that NOAA can play to facilitate
2 that private trading is providing the science
3 to help quantify the value of those services,
4 whether it's -- frankly if it's carbon, water
5 quality, biodiversity, nitrogen, all of the
6 above.

7 I have a selfish interest in
8 shellfish and nitrogen trading, but I think
9 for Blue Carbon as well and all of these, it's
10 an area that NOAA could contribute
11 significantly.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Bill, are you
13 proposing an additional motion, which would be
14 completely fine.

15 MR. DEWEY: Yes, I was proposing
16 an additional recommendation. I was trying to
17 craft another one here and I didn't have a
18 chance before you called for the vote there so
19 --

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: And just a word on
21 process. Tom, that was fabulous, and I wish I
22 could do that, but after the committees make

1 their reports, the gavel comes back to me --

2 MR. RAFTICAN: Okay.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: -- and I'll run
4 the discussion and then take the vote. So
5 that's how it's going to work.

6 MR. RAFTICAN: That's fine.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: We don't have to
8 re-vote unless people have objections to what
9 was already passed, but we certainly can talk
10 about additional pieces, if that's okay.

11 So, if you'd like to make a formal
12 motion, one at a time I think might be better.

13 MR. DEWEY: Okay, well I would
14 make that as a formal motion, that that be
15 added as an additional recommendation.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Could you state it
17 succinctly please?

18 MR. DEWEY: So, that NOAA provide
19 science to quantify the value of ecosystem
20 services to facilitate the development of
21 markets for their trading.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second?

1 MR. RAFTICAN: I second.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, it's been
3 moved and seconded. Is there any discussion
4 on this? I think it's been spoken to. All in
5 favor of this additional motion say aye.

6 (Chorus of ayes)

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Any opposed?

8 (Pause)

9 Randy, are you serious this time?

10 MR. CATES: Yes.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

12 MR. CATES: I think we are just
13 getting in an area that is a bit unknown and
14 controversial.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. The motion
16 passes with one objection.

17 MR. CLAMPITT: And I object.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Two objections.
19 I'm sorry. So there's two objections.

20 MR. DEWEY: So just further
21 discussion, and this would be more to the
22 third bullet there, and one thing that was

1 presented in Roger's PowerPoint yesterday is
2 that there's policy needs in that when we are
3 doing NEPA review, we are not evaluating
4 coastal carbon in that NEPA, when it impacts
5 on coastal carbon.

6 And he was suggesting that there
7 needs to be policies adopted so that that's a
8 consideration when you are reviewing coastal
9 development projects.

10 And I don't know that we have --
11 if that's been captured here, if that was
12 discussed by the committee or not.

13 MR. RAFTICAN: I think the concept
14 was discussed and I think that --

15 MR. DEWEY: I guess, to put it out
16 there, the reason I am -- again the reason I
17 am thinking about it is somewhat selfishly,
18 and not so much -- well, it's both. It's both
19 from a concern about the negative impacts a
20 project might have on carbon, but also if
21 there's projects proposed that can offset that
22 carbon, that that should be considered in

1 their NEPA review as well.

2 So we run into this challenge when
3 we try to get new shellfish farms permitted
4 and we go into federal consultation because we
5 need core permits -- that's our federal nexus
6 -- and all we are evaluated for are the
7 negative impacts of the shellfish farms. We
8 have trouble getting the services to recognize
9 the beneficial effects that the shellfish
10 provide, whether it's nitrogen mitigation or
11 water clarity.

12 And so trying to get policies in
13 place that clearly state you need to look at
14 both the negative impacts and potential
15 beneficial impacts -- granted there's not a
16 lot of projects they look at that probably
17 have a beneficial impact.

18 I would argue that shellfish farms
19 are one and somewhat unique and that's
20 probably why we have so much challenge getting
21 them to look at that side of the equation.

22 But that's a frustration for us.

1 MR. RAFTICAN: Bill, I think we
2 tried to capture that and encourage the Army
3 Corps of Engineers to include ecosystem
4 services including carbon sequestration in
5 their standard cost-benefit analysis, and I
6 think that this -- I'm not sure that it
7 totally quite helps --

8 MR. DEWEY: It definitely gets --

9 MR. RAFTICAN: But I mean if that
10 was the exact quote, this is what we are
11 doing, there are net gains on some of these
12 things and where appropriate, incorporate
13 them.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Bill are you happy
15 with that?

16 MR. DEWEY: Yes, I think that's
17 fine. That captured my concern.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, if you want
19 to amend it and add a few lines --

20 MR. DEWEY: That's fine.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: -- that would be
22 appropriate.

1 MR. DEWEY: That's fine. Thank
2 you for the discussion.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there any other
4 additions or revisions that people would like
5 to make?

6 (No response)

7 Okay. That's great. Thank you to
8 you and your committee. That was awesome that
9 you got that done. Appreciate it.

10 The next one is the one that I
11 chaired, and I have the jump drive right here.

12 I wasn't able to get online long enough to
13 send it to you. I apologize.

14 It's also on the screen, so
15 whichever works. I think it's on the jump
16 drive. I'm kind of a Mac neophyte, so I think
17 it's on that, but I'm not entirely sure if
18 that's where it was saved. I know you do Mac
19 so --

20 MR. STOLL: Okay. Let me just see
21 here.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: So we'll take a

1 brief stand-down while we do this technical
2 stuff, a cup of coffee, whatever, very brief.

3 (Whereupon the above-
4 entitled matter went off the record at 9:07
5 a.m. and resumed at 9:10 a.m.)

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, we're coming
7 back to order. Mark and his staff are passing
8 around a couple of matrices that were provided
9 to the subcommittee -- just one right now, but
10 we are going to talk about the second one too.

11 But we can put it up on the board
12 right? Okay. And while Josh is getting the
13 recommendation ready for us to look at, Phil -
14 - Phil has agreed to make this report for the
15 committee, so that he can hand it back to me
16 when he's done.

17 MR. DYSKOW: You want me to just
18 use your computer?

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Absolutely. You
20 want to sit right here?

21 MR. DYSKOW: I can sit right here.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

1 MR. DYSKOW: I'd sit on your lap
2 except that wouldn't be a pleasant experience.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: You can sit on
4 Eric's lap.

5 (Laughter)

6 MR. DYSKOW: Maybe it is, I don't
7 know. I was assuming it wasn't.

8 MR. SCHWAAB: I'm sorry, I missed
9 that. That's probably better?

10 MR. DYSKOW: It was an
11 inappropriate comment so it's just as well you
12 didn't hear it.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's all part of
14 the process, right?

15 MR. DYSKOW: That's right.
16 Actually, since this is on the board I will
17 resume my original seat.

18 MS. MORRIS: Okay, I'm going to
19 miss you.

20 MR. DYSKOW: Keep myself out of
21 trouble.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Phil claims that

1 he is never going to come to another meeting
2 without his computer.

3 MR. DYSKOW: The strategic
4 planning budget and program management
5 subcommittee, although we talked about a
6 number of issues, we have three specific
7 elements that we wanted to bring to the full
8 committee, one of which I am going to talk
9 about briefly and then defer to the end,
10 because Eric has given us an extraordinary
11 opportunity to help prioritize the NMFS budget
12 prior to it getting far enough downstream that
13 that comment is moot.

14 So I want to spend the most time
15 on that, but there are two issues we want to
16 address before that, and if you could scroll
17 down a little bit please.

18 Let's see. I guess one more, to
19 item number three. There are two motions that
20 we want to bring before the full committee.
21 The first one is as budgets are reduced -- we
22 assume that they will be, but even if they

1 stay the same, there are many, many pulls and
2 tugs on that money.

3 We, MAFAC, recommend that NMFS
4 protect the core programs that are required to
5 efficiently assess, manage and sustain
6 fisheries.

7 As an example, as the NOP is
8 implemented, as other programs like the
9 Caribbean strategy come forth, we want to make
10 sure that those core programs are properly
11 funded and whatever money remains, get
12 delegated to those non-core projects.

13 So that was the first motion that
14 we had, and we can take these one at a time.
15 We can open that up for discussion right now.
16 So if you could just stay on that one please,
17 number three.

18 Any discussion on that? Anybody
19 have comments?

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Phil I'm going to
21 do that part, so --

22 MR. DYSKOW: Oh okay, I'm sorry.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Keep on asking
2 questions but --

3 MR. DYSKOW: No, no, you can do
4 whatever -- I'm just unclear of my role here
5 since I am talking fully as a bad model for
6 you.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: You present the
8 report and --

9 MR. DYSKOW: He was a bad role
10 model.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: You present the
12 report, and people can ask you questions about
13 the committee and all that sort of stuff, and
14 then when you are done with the report, we'll
15 take it back and do the motions.

16 Questions? You can ask questions.
17 Sorry. Ask questions of Phil if you would,
18 and other people that were on the committee
19 can answer as well.

20 MS. MORRIS: Thanks Phil. Do core
21 programs required to assess, manage and
22 sustain fisheries, include things like habitat

1 and protected species, things like that?

2 MR. DYSKOW: Our concept was that
3 there are core activities that NMFS is
4 involved in without which the fishery is put
5 into peril. We are talking about things like
6 fishery management and enforcement. We are
7 talking about accurate fish assessments, and
8 we are taking a very macro look at that and
9 not drilling down into those specific
10 projects.

11 We all have areas that are near
12 and dear to our heart that are important and
13 should be respected in the budget. That said,
14 I'll give you an example of what the concern
15 is.

16 Let's just say that Eric gets a
17 budget proposal back from Congress and he is
18 asked to cut 20 percent. If he cuts 20
19 percent from every area, he has a -- he ceases
20 to have a viable program within NMFS.

21 We are recommending that those
22 core areas where we are out of business

1 without, be protected, and that those non-core
2 areas get addressed as far as budget
3 reductions.

4 In other words, in an environment
5 where money is going to be critical, we want
6 to protect the core programs, perhaps at the
7 expense of non-core programs.

8 I'm not going to name one as an
9 example, but it may mean we stop doing
10 something as opposed to cutting regulatory
11 activities or fish assessment activities that
12 are core to our very being.

13 MR. JONER: I guess one man's core
14 is another man's extravagance, so I guess on
15 behalf of the commerce committee folks or the
16 aquaculture folks, would the aquaculture --
17 office of aquaculture be considered a core
18 program?

19 MR. DYSKOW: Well, Steve, let me
20 answer that question differently, and I'm not
21 going to give you a direct answer, but I'll
22 say this.

1 The last portion of our
2 subcommittee report would be a matrix that was
3 developed by Dr. Holliday, where each of us
4 will get to score our own personal priorities
5 as to the NOAA budget.

6 There are some core activities
7 that they are required by law to provide and I
8 would say those are off the table. We can't
9 eliminate them.

10 However each and every person in
11 this room would have the opportunity to use
12 this matrix form to determine for themselves
13 what they think the priorities are. That
14 would then go back to Dr. Holliday and that
15 would be MAFAC's recommendations of where the
16 key areas are.

17 So if aquaculture is measured as a
18 key area, then it is so noted.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's an
20 explanation that we need to make right away
21 Phil, that what is being handed around are
22 those matrices or at least one of them, and

1 it's addressed in our number one up there.

2 If you could scroll down so people
3 could read number one and number two, I think
4 that would be explanatory. No, the other way,
5 sorry.

6 Oh, I guess -- number one and
7 number two explain these matrices that Phil is
8 referring to.

9 MR. DYSKOW: I wanted to address
10 the other two areas first so we would have the
11 most time on that, but to answer your
12 question, the subcommittee didn't identify
13 those core areas.

14 Dr. Holliday will indicate, and he
15 has volunteered to be proctor during this
16 process as we fill this out, which programs
17 are very difficult to touch, and then you as a
18 member, Patty as a member, Julie as a member,
19 Keith as a member, all of us will get an
20 opportunity to help establish those priorities
21 through our own vote.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think Keith had

1 a question.

2 MR. DYSKOW: Does that make sense?

3 MR. JONER: Yes it does. I just -
4 - I didn't see aquaculture on there. I guess
5 that would be other activities so when we fill
6 this out, do we put what other activities are?

7 MR. DYSKOW: There are -- there's
8 a blank space at the bottom and I am sure that
9 Eric would -- if that is an area that is not
10 addressed to your satisfaction, you could
11 certainly write it in at the bottom.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, and Keith
13 had a question.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: My question really
15 was to Eric, and I'll ask it openly.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Please do.

17 MR. RIZZARDI: Which is, in light
18 of this table, I am not fully understanding
19 the need for the specific MAFAC statement.
20 This table seems to capture the way to do that
21 assessment.

22 I have been through this exercise

1 on my end in my agency, so I understand
2 exactly what they are doing. This seems the
3 responsible way. So I am just looking for
4 some feedback, what do you guys want?

5 MR. DYSKOW: I was thinking the
6 same thing as I was speaking, that this
7 exercise may supersede that motion. Madam
8 Chair, how do you feel about that?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think that we
10 need to more fully explain the process that we
11 went through so that people understand how we
12 got to this place.

13 And if you don't mind, so I can do
14 that, and then maybe Mark wants to jump in.
15 We were faced with prioritizing items on a
16 budget. There are so many ways you can do
17 that.

18 You can go really macro. You can
19 go at a really high level. You can go down to
20 line items. You can do whatever people ask
21 you to do.

22 But all of that takes time and not

1 only did we not have time in the subcommittee
2 to do that, but we felt that it was more
3 appropriate that the full MAFAC committee get
4 the opportunity to do that.

5 So Mark provided us with two
6 matrices, the one that you have in front of
7 you -- may I -- is this one and he indicated
8 that it was used internally to sort of
9 determine where people's major emphases were.

10 And he provided this to us as a
11 tool in order to get to what we felt were the
12 top priorities if you had to cut money.

13 And so this is a really high-
14 level, you know, group, protected -- protected
15 species research -- fisheries research,
16 fisheries mapping and so on, as you can see.

17 That's the one that we filled out
18 during our meeting and we felt that it was
19 possible for the rest of MAFAC to fill it out
20 during this meeting, not right now but before
21 the end of the meeting.

22 So, arriving at what MAFAC

1 believes are the core missions and functions
2 that need to be protected in the budget-
3 cutting process is a longer process than we
4 had time to do, you know, on the spot.

5 And so the motion was to address -
6 - everybody kept saying we have got to protect
7 the core programs, we have got to protect the
8 core programs.

9 It remains to be seen what MAFAC
10 believes those core programs are, and it's a
11 very difficult thing to start with if you
12 don't have anything in front of you on paper.

13 So that's what Mark provided. He
14 provided a second matrix that goes down into -
15 - not line items exactly, but way more detail
16 based on the budget outline that we got from
17 Gary Reisner.

18 And it gives people an opportunity
19 to get way more specific about the programs
20 and the functions that they want to
21 prioritize.

22 So it's a little unwieldy, but the

1 second recommendation is to use that second
2 matrix, which I believe you already to put on
3 the screen for us, that has much more detail,
4 throughout the whole budget.

5 We just had a little piece of the
6 budget as an example and we rate them against
7 each other and again, Mark told us that was
8 used as an internal tool as well.

9 And so he recommended that we use
10 those tools to try to arrive at what MAFAC
11 will recommend as the most important places to
12 put money, if that makes sense to everyone.

13 Now this may not be the way to get
14 there --

15 MR. DYSKOW: -- that you didn't
16 mention. There are certain activities that
17 NMFS is required by law to provide and to
18 implement.

19 Those have to be identified before
20 we can do a lot of ranking and I think most of
21 those -- Mark, correct me if I am wrong -- in
22 item A.

1 And what we had suggested in
2 committee, is that NMFS fill out the priority
3 for item A since most of those are areas that
4 they are required by law to provide.

5 So that we would start with item
6 B. We can't eliminate an activity that they
7 are required to provide by law. So we had
8 requested that NMFS fill out the first column.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: I would like to
10 ask you Eric if that is the best way to do
11 this.

12 MR. SCHWAAB: Well, maybe I would
13 sort of back up a little bit and provide some
14 additional context. You know first of all
15 when we did this exercise internally, so this
16 sheet, these program areas are the major
17 budget lines, and maybe you knew that already.

18 So there are a lot of things
19 obviously buried inside in some of those that
20 are, you know, in and of themselves very
21 important to you know, sort of programmatic
22 activities and you know, a good example that

1 was already brought up here was aquaculture.

2 So at some level, sort of you lose
3 that. When we did this exercise, this was
4 done across all the NOAA lines, so it was as
5 much about assessing relative importance and
6 values between say the fisheries service and
7 the ocean service or satellites, as it was
8 about sort of digging down a little more
9 deeply into the priorities that we have.

10 The second thing I would say just
11 by way of sort of context is, and it's really
12 sort of a macro perspective that we have tried
13 to bring to this is balance in two ways.

14 One is, you know, we look at our
15 activities as falling into sort of three major
16 categories, some of which are very
17 interrelated, of science, service and
18 stewardship.

19 So it would -- and stewardship
20 includes a lot of the management activities
21 that we either undertake directly or fund in
22 other places, councils, some inter-

1 jurisdictional, some state-related activities.

2 And so we kind of approached this,
3 and I would say this was not only fisheries
4 service-specific but NOAA-wide, in a way that
5 suggested that we needed to maintain some
6 balance across those different areas.

7 I think that's sort of inherently
8 understood when it comes to the work we do,
9 because without science, you can't affect your
10 management actions. It's maybe less clear in
11 other places.

12 But I also think that there is
13 another way in which we have to look at
14 balance that probably would be important for
15 you to think about too in giving us some
16 advice, and that's sort of the balance between
17 meeting the demands of the day and preparing
18 for some of the challenges of the future.

19 So you know, if you think about
20 some of those big issues that loom on the
21 horizon, and if we ignore them solely to just
22 simply continue to incrementally meet the

1 demands of the day, we'd do so in a way that
2 probably is not particularly strategically --
3 not very -- not strategically smart and is
4 going to come back and bite us pretty quickly.

5 So, you know, I think in part sort
6 of the question is -- and we've got these
7 statutory mandates. But the statutory
8 mandates also have in some respects a lot of
9 room for you know, a range of responses.

10 And I'll use you know, the example
11 that I think many of us are familiar with and
12 that's providing the best available science to
13 make fishery management decisions.

14 Well, if we decrease the frequency
15 of surveys, then the uncertainty in
16 assessments goes up, and that gets factored
17 into management decisions, and therefore
18 quotas go down in a lot of cases.

19 Now that's a perfectly legitimate
20 response under Magnuson, but it's not very
21 smart business. So you know, it's this sort
22 of range of issues that we are trying to

1 balance as we make some of these decisions in
2 what is very clearly a declining budget
3 environment.

4 And so we have to make decisions
5 in that reality. We at the same time we have
6 to inform -- we have to inform the, you know,
7 the appropriators about, from the educational
8 perspective, the implications of some of those
9 decisions and we do that internally as well,
10 when we make choices across NOAA.

11 So I think in some respects, the
12 advice that we need most from you, that would
13 be most useful, is sort of that kind of macro
14 advice, you know, here's how we see, you know,
15 these competing demands.

16 Here's how, you know, here's how
17 we see, you know, across program areas, across
18 sort of the science-service-stewardship
19 continuum.

20 And then you know sort of over
21 time, the sort of inter-generational strategic
22 challenges that we face. And so that doesn't

1 lead to necessarily a real clean filling out
2 of the boxes, but it does I think suggest a
3 real opportunity for some -- some perspectives
4 that you might share with us.

5 And so how to best -- how to best
6 gather that input, I guess I would still leave
7 a bit to Mark and to you.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right.

9 MR. SCHWAAB: But that's the sort
10 of the context that I would put the challenge
11 in.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, thank you,
13 and that's very helpful, because we were
14 working at your request to try to give you
15 something that was useful and we didn't know
16 how deeply you wanted us to get into the
17 budget line items and separate sections.

18 This was really macro. If -- if
19 we did fill this out, there might be a way
20 forward to reaching a consensus. But if we
21 have to discuss all of the mission and all of
22 the programs at this meeting, I don't think we

1 are going to get there.

2 Because around this table there
3 are competing interests, and not competing
4 unless you are cutting the budget. But you
5 know, they are all important to some people
6 and some constituencies.

7 And my guess is that if you have
8 sort of a wide-ranging discussion over what's
9 important for everybody around here, then you
10 are going to have a tough time arriving at a
11 consensus recommendation.

12 MR. DYSKOW: Heather, I have a
13 recommendation on how we might proceed with
14 that.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, let me just
16 finish --

17 MR. DYSKOW: Sure.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: If I could. Mark
19 provided this tool and that's what we fastened
20 on because it's sort of a concrete way to kind
21 of focus on that macro level. Sorry, go
22 ahead.

1 MR. DYSKOW: The purpose of our
2 objective number two was to protect the core
3 programs within NMFS. That was the motion
4 that we were discussing.

5 We can amend that to say that
6 there's a recommendation of MAFAC to protect
7 core programs of NMFS as defined by the
8 collective results of this matrix survey that
9 everybody in the room will get to fill out.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's right.

11 MR. DYSKOW: If we would amend it
12 to that point, that would then become the
13 budgetary direction of MAFAC. Now, if
14 aquaculture comes up, number one, then Eric
15 has to weigh that again to see if that
16 outweighs fishery management, fishery research
17 or something else.

18 It may skew the results one way or
19 the other based on the makeup of MAFAC, but it
20 is nonetheless the collective response of
21 MAFAC.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks Phil.

1 Tony.

2 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, I had a
3 question. I understand the interest in having
4 a tool through which we can capture our
5 collective priorities. But I haven't heard
6 anything about how, once you have everybody
7 fill this out, how you are actually going to
8 summarize and synthesize and calculate what
9 actually is our collective priorities.

10 Given the matrix number two, which
11 seems fairly complex, I would imagine it's not
12 going to be easy to synthesize that. And if
13 we haven't really thought about that aspect of
14 it, well I'd like to hear if we know how we
15 are going to do that and how long it takes.

16 MR. DYSKOW: Well, as Heather
17 mentioned earlier, it -- with the long form
18 which you see right here, it was our intent
19 that that would be addressed via an audio-
20 conference because of the complexity of
21 filling it out.

22 These are the documents that NMFS

1 is using to provide feedback on their budget,
2 so our request, would I imagine be folded into
3 that.

4 We don't get to decide the NMFS
5 budget. We are being asked for input on the
6 budget and these are the tools that they have
7 prepared to get our input.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Eric would like to
9 make that another comment and then we will go
10 to Julie and then to Randy.

11 MR. SCHWAAB: So thank you. So I
12 would perhaps put another way of looking at
13 this on the table, and that is, you know,
14 something that has come up already in the
15 context of your, you know, of your habitat
16 discussion and it's really been inherent in
17 our habitat blueprint thinking.

18 And that is, you know, how do we
19 do business more effectively or more
20 efficiently? So it might be that, for
21 example, when we look -- and this isn't
22 something that necessarily translates into --

1 immediately sort of into a table like this.

2 But you know, when we think about
3 advancing aquaculture in a flat or declining
4 budget environment, well what are the
5 strategies that should rise to the top of the
6 list, and which ones that perhaps, that might
7 be more expensive or less effective, would
8 move to the bottom of the list.

9 It's the same thing we are
10 thinking about. You know, we have these
11 habitat challenges that we want to -- we want
12 to address more aggressively.

13 But we know that we are doing that
14 in a declining budget environment, so how do
15 we use the science and the technical expertise
16 that our staff brings to the table to
17 leverage, to align resources from other
18 places, to perhaps, not just from a NMFS
19 perspective, but regionally with a bunch of
20 other partners, get to a better outcome.

21 Stock assessments, you know,
22 survey methodologies is another example of

1 that, and we are going to likely, assuming we
2 get something close to our '12 budget,
3 dedicate even in these tight times a chunk of
4 our expanded stock assessment money to looking
5 at alternative technologies so that we can you
6 know -- so that we can find ways to do the job
7 that we are doing more efficiently.

8 And you know, there are examples
9 of that that are not sort of on the water
10 survey examples, things like alternative
11 methodologies for computing stock assessments
12 and the like.

13 I mean, you're going to write down
14 our programs and you can identify areas where
15 we have to sort of rethink our business model,
16 and so I would also suggest that that's maybe
17 an area where some input from the committee
18 might be particularly useful, because when you
19 start thinking about those, you know,
20 alternative approaches, it's, you know, the
21 power of -- of broader thinking that really is
22 going to help us get there.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. You know
2 what, just a comment and then we will go to
3 other people and try to answer Tom's question.
4 I haven't forgotten it.

5 I think, you know, we grasped this
6 as a way of getting to some really concrete
7 things. What you are talking about now is
8 more philosophical and much harder to
9 formulate I guess.

10 But we can certainly take a crack
11 at it right now. I mean we did not do that
12 kind of philosophical discussion in the
13 subcommittee, other than to try to imagine the
14 worst scenario, and how you might cut back to
15 the bare necessities.

16 And that was kind of where we were
17 going in the subcommittee, so we didn't
18 address the sort of more philosophical,
19 business model type of approaches.

20 And I actually do wish that you
21 had been there because I think it would have
22 been very useful to get that up front. You

1 know, I do think this is still a valuable tool
2 and I'd like Tony's question to be addressed,
3 and Mark, and then we will go to the other
4 folks -- Julie, Randy and Bill.

5 So you talked about how this would
6 be compiled and vocabularized and put back
7 together.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm listening to
9 the discussion this morning and I'm thinking
10 that we are taking some of this out of context
11 about what the objective was for this meeting
12 and perhaps pushing a little too far too fast.

13 Yesterday when I discussed this
14 with the subcommittee I was characterizing
15 this as research, that my attempt was to bring
16 some tools to the table because over several
17 meetings, not just the last meeting but three
18 or four years' worth of meetings, the
19 committee has been asking about how do we get
20 more involved, more engaged in the budget
21 process of NOAA and the management of the
22 fisheries service.

1 And I always had Gary come and
2 give his descriptions about where the budget
3 is, but there has never been an opportunity
4 for you to express your thoughts about what
5 the priorities are.

6 And based on Gary's presentation
7 about what's happening in '12 and '13, the
8 importance of setting priorities seems to be
9 now more and more you know, our top concern
10 about how do we make these choices.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: So we brought to
13 the table for the subcommittee to try on for
14 size different ways of looking at
15 prioritization and my point, or my objective
16 was to look at what was doable by the
17 committee, what their interest and level of
18 knowledge would be, in order to help express
19 your preferences.

20 But it wasn't a done deal that one
21 of these was you know, preferred and these
22 were just options to be considered about how

1 we could capture your input and then use that
2 in subsequent advice to NOAA and then to the
3 department.

4 So you know, the technical aspects
5 of what do you do with data that you collect
6 with a tool, the tool is just that. It's a
7 means to get towards an outcome of having a
8 discussion about what these core programs are.

9 I mean the tool's not going to
10 reveal that. That's the starting point for
11 you to discuss so this is my thought of how
12 this all fits together is that if you use a
13 tool to help have a starting point for the
14 discussion about what you think the priorities
15 are, what you think the tradeoffs are, and
16 then you have at some level of granularity,
17 could be a mission level, this is at the line
18 item level, the one that you have in front of
19 you, the third one, this is the other
20 spreadsheet that we looked at, was some line
21 items, but it was only part of that breakout
22 sheet that you asked Gary to maintain for you.

1 So we are conducting some
2 research, what's feasible, what's possible,
3 and how -- how do you turn that into advice,
4 is through discussions, not -- we will
5 calculate the geometric mean of the responses
6 from the committee and then feed that back to
7 you and say here's where there seems to be
8 differences. Here's there seem to be
9 similarities in your responses. And that's
10 the departure point for further discussion.
11 It's not -- your advice is not a calculation.
12 Your advice is the deliberative process of
13 looking at where you think things are
14 important as a group, and see hey, we are all
15 on the same page and we have widely different
16 interests, why is that?

17 That's how we use tools like this
18 in prioritizations to reveal where people are
19 and where they could go and find common ground
20 and where their differences are, and explore
21 it.

22 So when I started my little

1 soapbox here, I said, taking it a little bit
2 out of context, the intent was not to come and
3 surprise anybody today with an exercise that
4 says you have to fill this out in an hour,
5 this is going to be your advice to NOAA.

6 No, it's -- this is the starting
7 point, an accumulation of interests that you
8 have said how can we better provide some
9 input, and we haven't been able to get
10 traction on that for a number of meetings.
11 This was our attempt to provide a different
12 way of looking at it.

13 Phil yesterday said, well, another
14 alternative is just so we can start
15 brainstorming on what we know, what are our
16 critical or core missions, and you know, we
17 just have a round-robin discussion. That's
18 another way of getting at the same issue.

19 So these are just -- think of them
20 as tools, but they don't replace your -- and
21 that's why I was cautioning yesterday that we
22 had an hour for this on the agenda today, and

1 I was a little concerned about trying to
2 squeeze this into that interval.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: So we're not.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: I think, Tony, you
5 know, we have this as a mechanism to see what
6 it looks like, and if we don't think it's
7 appropriate, our research says we don't want
8 to operationalize it and take it any further.

9 But there are -- there's a lot of
10 detail in the budget, you know, what's within
11 a particular area, what's mandated, what's
12 not. I mean these are all things that you are
13 not going to resolve in an hour.

14 But it's a starting point for
15 further discussion that could set up
16 subsequent meetings or webinars that you know,
17 suggest --

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think that's a
19 very good explanation, and basically, what you
20 are hearing is what we all heard and talked
21 about at subcommittee level.

22 We didn't anticipate that we were

1 going to get to the end of this process at
2 this meeting, hence our recommendation in
3 number two, to go through a process, some of
4 which could be done through that second matrix
5 that we had up on the board a minute ago, to
6 get to the real details of each of the
7 subcategories.

8 And we acknowledge that in order
9 to do that, there would have to be experts on
10 line to help us get to that understanding so
11 that it is like a huge opportunity, like Phil
12 said, for us to participate much more fully in
13 the budgetary process, and to understand more
14 fully what the budget really contains and
15 where the money is and what it goes towards.

16 So hence our suggestion for this
17 webinar, and that was Phil's idea, the idea
18 that we would get on the webinar in a format
19 that we can all participate in, if you have
20 interest in doing so.

21 And so we are just throwing that
22 out as an idea for getting MAFAC membership up

1 to speed basically on what is really in the
2 budget and where, so that we can give
3 realistic advice going forward.

4 I appreciate Mark explaining that
5 because that's how he explained it to us and
6 it was hard to capture that in these little
7 paragraphs.

8 So you know, this was just our
9 shot at starting that process. The only thing
10 we could agree on was this motion, which is
11 number three, and that is sort of a starting
12 point.

13 But as Phil said earlier those
14 core programs are up for discussion. What are
15 the core programs that are required to
16 efficiently assess, manage and sustain
17 fisheries? It could include habitat
18 protection. It could include aquaculture. It
19 could include all kinds of things and it
20 probably does.

21 But we didn't think that in this
22 meeting, in an hour, we could arrive at those

1 specifics. So we are suggesting kind of a
2 process to get there, with Mark's help, which
3 I thought was well-explained a minute ago.

4 So I hope that helps and I'm sorry
5 we didn't get more explicit when we put this
6 up. But it's a complex thing. So we will go
7 to Julie, Randy and then Bill.

8 MS. MORRIS: I like the process as
9 Mark just described it, as he put it, this as
10 a good first step in that process. But it's
11 real important that we have ample opportunity
12 to discuss the results of this first step in
13 the way that Mark described.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you.

15 MR. CATES: I think Mark mentioned
16 the question -- the question is twofold. Are
17 we voting on -- are we filling these out
18 today, and if so, if we come upon a category
19 that we are unfamiliar with, do we leave it
20 blank? And what does that blank mean? I want
21 to make sure I don't fill out a hanging chad
22 or anything.

1 See, I'm not comfortable about
2 commenting on something that I know nothing
3 about, so I typically would leave it blank,
4 but if that blank means something, what is
5 that?

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: So I mean, before
7 we go too much further with the spreadsheet,
8 it's not a test. There are no right answers.

9 And so if your answer is blank it's important
10 information that people didn't understand it
11 enough to complete it.

12 And that will be noted in how we
13 interpret the results. The point you made
14 about not knowing what's in a column, one of
15 the things I was thinking about overnight is,
16 we have information that describes what is in
17 these columns in the NOAA budget. So the top
18 level, or each row -- excuse me, each column
19 is equivalent to a line item and each of these
20 line items is described in what we call the
21 NOAA blue book, the NOAA budget, and that was
22 the link that I tried to send around this

1 morning so that as you fill this out, you need
2 to have these references because you can't
3 just -- you don't know what's in these
4 columns, I don't know what's in these columns,
5 I have to go back myself and say what are
6 other -- what's included in other activities,
7 and there's a whole lot of very important
8 things in there, and there's a whole lot of
9 congressionally-directed programs that are in
10 there.

11 It's a mixed bag but you have to
12 know what's in there and it may be at too high
13 an aggregate level to make you know, a very
14 precise judgment because some of the things,
15 you might say, are very important and other
16 things within that category are not.

17 And that was what we were trying
18 to test and this is what I call granularity,
19 you know, how much detail are we going to ask
20 you to try to evaluate.

21 But if you lump things too big,
22 to, you know, grow, the advice you give is

1 going to be watered down and sort of
2 meaningless.

3 If we ask you to get too specific,
4 then it's, you know, it's not something that -
5 - you are getting into the weeds of a program
6 or an activity, and I don't think that's
7 necessarily what you -- where you want to be
8 either.

9 You want to be some place, at some
10 level of comfort where you can make your
11 advice meaningful to the leadership.

12 MR. CATES: I just have to follow
13 up on that comment. I appreciate us having
14 the opportunity to do this. I mean over the
15 years I have looked at our local office in
16 Hawaii and I have been amazed at the growth
17 and how big of an entity it is now, and it
18 just -- it seems so inefficient.

19 I am constantly going my God, look
20 at what this has got to be costing us. So I
21 think there's huge room for being more
22 efficient, just on our local levels, and then

1 save some money, I mean real money.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you Randy.

3 Bill?

4 MR. DEWEY: So, like Randy, I've
5 come here on the committee I appreciate the
6 opportunity to comment on the budget.
7 Personally I think this tool is not going to
8 provide us a lot of valuable input. I mean we
9 have got a lot of diverse opinions, obviously,
10 on the committee, and I am just not so sure
11 that this exercise is going to produce a
12 result that is truly meaningful for NOAA
13 personally. That is my own observation.

14 I think, harking back to what Eric
15 said, I think there would be value in having
16 further discussion about each of these columns
17 in the programs, and then from this body,
18 which is you know, a representative group of
19 stakeholders, hearing back some of our
20 philosophies on where we think within these
21 programs might be the highest priorities to
22 focus on, that you know, I would -- I think

1 through some discussion, whether it's webinar
2 or here, you know, we could get to some
3 agreement.

4 I know within aquaculture, I
5 think, you know, in a few minutes, we could
6 come to agreement on where that program should
7 focus the resources they get.

8 And I suspect in each of these
9 other categories, with the wealth of knowledge
10 around the table, you could help, from a
11 constituent standpoint, give NOAA some
12 perspective of where we think the priorities
13 are within those programs.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: So what you are
15 suggesting Bill, then, is that instead of
16 using this tool to compile everybody's ideas,
17 one, two, three, four, five, in a ranking, you
18 want to rather talk about these issues now,
19 and we have quite a bit of time because that
20 first section is so efficiently dispatched, we
21 could do that, and rather than trying to say
22 this is how MAFAC feels as a whole, give Eric

1 the benefit of our discussion, and that in
2 itself is valuable, and that could be a really
3 good first step to take at this meeting.

4 And then further, to consider --
5 and I'd like to hear from you on how deeply
6 you want us to delve if we do decide to do
7 kind of a webinar format and really get into
8 the nitty gritty of the budget, which I think
9 is a good idea, and that's what I have been
10 hearing from a lot of MAFAC members as long as
11 I have been sitting at this table, is that
12 they want to understand that better, and
13 participate in it more fully.

14 So I really think that that is a
15 good recommendation personally, but I see that
16 at this meeting, it would be valuable to do
17 what Bill is suggesting rather than try to do
18 the exercise, you know, sitting at the desk
19 kind of thing. So I think that's personally a
20 good way to approach it right now.

21 Randy and then Steve and then
22 Richard.

1 MR. FISHER: I agree with what
2 Bill and Randy were saying. I think, you know
3 my experience of being here -- 15 years I have
4 listened to the same discussion and after a
5 while it gets a little bit frustrating to tell
6 you the truth.

7 But a couple of things, I have a
8 couple of thoughts, and that is I think there
9 are some basic obligations that NMFS has and
10 they don't show up on this thing.

11 They do but this -- the devil's in
12 the detail. So the question I would have of
13 Eric is what is really useful to you because
14 you are already working on the 2014 budget in
15 reality, we already heard that, so somebody is
16 putting something down on those sorts of
17 things and I'd be curious to know what those
18 are, and when the cuts really do happen,
19 depending on what they are, do you really care
20 what we think? I mean that's the other thing,
21 because you are not going to have some
22 choices, but you do have some choices.

1 And what I worry about is not only
2 is the federal government hurting, but the
3 states are hurting maybe even worse, and some
4 of the stuff you do is going to really affect
5 every form of fisher and maybe we should have
6 a big discussion that says are you going to
7 protect things that ensure that fisheries can
8 continue because that's really what your job
9 is, or are you going to worry about
10 aquaculture, or what are you really going to
11 do, because that seems to me to be the big
12 issue that I think people are kind of thinking
13 about, because when you talk about core, what
14 is core? You know, is core the fact that we
15 have got to keep people fishing because it
16 means money to the United States of America
17 and we all should eat fish? Probably yes.

18 So I mean I think there are
19 certain things that you can cut out that
20 aren't core, but I guess my question is, are
21 you going to let us play the game, and if so,
22 what's the best way to do that in the real

1 world?

2 Because we could spend a lot of
3 time talking about it here, and it goes
4 nowhere. It never has.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Would you like to
6 address that Eric?

7 MR. SCHWAAB: I would, I'm just
8 trying to think about how. So, I think, you
9 know, I would first suggest that while we have
10 had some budget challenges in the past, and I
11 recognize your point about sort of having
12 these conversations over a period of 15 years,
13 I think everybody would recognize that we are
14 in a whole different place this time, and
15 trying to figure out how we are going to
16 continue to conduct core business with
17 substantially less money this year than the
18 year before, and potentially substantially
19 less money the year after, is not a problem
20 that we are going to solve by lopping off some
21 extraneous programs.

22 So while -- and there's part of

1 me, you know, when you for example, Randy, say
2 well you know, let's cut these things out.
3 Well, I'd love to hear what you guys think
4 those things are.

5 And I don't mean that -- I don't
6 mean that facetiously or sarcastically, I mean
7 I mean that in a real way. But I don't -- I
8 think this situation is not dissimilar to you
9 know the national budget situation where
10 there's this sort of you know, there's a scale
11 of response that doesn't necessarily match up
12 with the -- what we can cut, you know, say we
13 cut the aquaculture program, well that's \$8
14 million. That doesn't really do anything for
15 us in the big scheme of things. I'm not
16 saying we shouldn't -- we might not at some
17 point be in a place where we weigh the value
18 of the aquaculture program at \$8 million
19 against you know, some, a couple of surveys.

20 But that's not going to solve a
21 \$100 million problem, and \$100 million problem
22 means you know, we have really dramatic

1 reductions in you know, ship time, we have you
2 know, we are cutting core staff that are
3 dealing with, you know, with consultations
4 that allow, you know, business activities to
5 continue.

6 And so to me, I mean it's the
7 right conversation to have, but it's really
8 about you know, how we -- you know -- how we
9 both sort of cut around the edges if you will,
10 but then also sort of reposition in some core
11 areas, because we are not just going to get
12 there by cutting around the edges, and I don't
13 know if that helps.

14 MR. FISHER: Well, yes, it helps -
15 - you know every \$8 million in the pile adds
16 up to something after a while, you know, it
17 really does.

18 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes, right. Right.

19 MR. FISHER: You know, what I'm
20 concerned about are things like you know, the
21 basic gathering information around the
22 commercial fishery for instance. I mean, if

1 you cut \$100,000 out of my pie, then I am
2 going to go down to the states and cut it out
3 of their pie, well then there goes all the
4 commercial data on the west coast, down the
5 tubes.

6 So it's really about -- you know
7 it's evaluation between \$100 or 100,000 that
8 affects me, or \$8 million that affects him or
9 whatever, but it all makes some difference,
10 but some of it makes a bigger difference than
11 others, and I think that's what we need to
12 deal with.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: So Randy, I would
14 ask you, if you had to identify what you think
15 the core, essential functions are, what would
16 you say?

17 MR. FISHER: Well I think you
18 could start with what runs a commercial
19 fishery, I think that's pretty important.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: So surveys,
21 assessments --

22 MR. FISHER: Surveys, yes.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: The management
2 staff, the management functions.

3 MR. FISHER: Yes.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: The council
5 process.

6 MR. FISHER: Yes.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: What else?

8 MR. FISHER: I think you start
9 protecting those things first, because
10 otherwise you are going to start shutting
11 things down that you know, affect a lot of
12 people, and I think you know, that's my
13 personal opinion about how you can start
14 looking at that first step.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you, that
16 was essentially the opinion of the
17 subcommittee.

18 MR. DYSKOW: That's what we
19 started with --

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's what we
21 started with. Yes, that's what we started with
22 and that's what we meant when we said core

1 programs, and the question was asked by Julie
2 and others, does that include habitat
3 protection, does it include, you know,
4 protected resources and so on. Maybe it does,
5 but if you had to prioritize, maybe it
6 doesn't.

7 You know, if you had to cut to
8 nothing and then add on, you know, what you
9 really needed, start from scratch, it may not
10 include, you know, all of those things. It
11 just depends on how much money you've got and
12 how efficiently you use it, which I think is
13 one of those things that Eric is concerned
14 about. Is this helping? I think you know
15 where a lot of us are coming from.

16 I have Steve Joner, and then
17 Randy, and then somebody else --

18 MR. JONER: Heather, I'd like to
19 answer the question that you just asked Randy,
20 and it's the same answer, and that is when I
21 think of the core program, I think of the
22 stock assessment as probably core because that

1 really drives everything, everything on there.

2 If we don't know the status of
3 these stocks, then everything else suffers.
4 And when Eric, you used your example of if
5 management -- if we have across the board
6 deductions, you know, we might have to cut out
7 a couple of surveys, and I know you didn't
8 mean that literally, but I think it's --

9 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh no, no I mean
10 that literally.

11 MR. JONER: Okay.

12 MR. SCHWAAB: I mean we are
13 already cutting back.

14 MR. JONER: Okay, okay, I'm glad
15 you put it like that because you know, I -- I
16 am often frustrated by the inflexibility of
17 the assessment, the survey and assessment
18 folks, to take advantage of the fishing
19 industry's offer to help, and you know, there
20 has been some change in the northwest region,
21 on the west coast, they have been a little bit
22 more flexible and adaptive to incorporate the

1 fishermen.

2 But the problem I see -- and we
3 see this with halibut as well -- we have got
4 standardized methods, and we will not violate
5 these standardized methods, you know, it's --
6 come on, who made the standardized methods?
7 You did. And they didn't come down on the
8 tablets, like we saw the other day, you know.

9 (Laughter)

10 And the fishermen here, I hope, I
11 hope you agree with what I'm saying, when we
12 are told that well, we can't do it this way
13 because it won't really tell us where the fish
14 are.

15 Hey come on, the fishermen can
16 catch a guy in a little rag-tag skiff and go
17 out and catch a fish, so when we are told that
18 well, it has to fit our standardized method,
19 so change your standardized method.

20 And so rather than talking about
21 cutting out two assessments, let's talk about
22 changing the assessment methods and let's talk

1 about incorporating, being -- improvising.

2 You can still get the same answer
3 with a different method. So I just -- you
4 know to me again, the core is the assessments
5 because that answers everything here as far as
6 protected species, how that's going, habitat,
7 all of that and we just need to really find a
8 way to make sure that we don't drop any
9 assessments.

10 We need to -- we need to change,
11 maybe change the way they are done, not
12 assessments but surveys --

13 MR. SCHWAAB: Surveys.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

15 MR. JONER: The surveys, make sure
16 they are all done.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you want to
18 come in there?

19 MR. SCHWAAB: Well so for example,
20 we have already, because another part of this,
21 remember, is not just the NOAA fisheries
22 budget, but OMAO which runs the ships.

1 And we have already seen a pretty
2 dramatic reduction in our ship time and our
3 response to that has been to prioritize the
4 surveys that support the stock assessments
5 over for example some of the, you know, the
6 more system-oriented surveys, and frankly over
7 some of the protected resource surveys.

8 So I think -- I mean that's been
9 certainly a short-term reaction that has I
10 think been along the lines of Steve, what you
11 are suggesting.

12 But I also don't think that that
13 is -- that's -- it might not even necessarily
14 be sustainable even if we maintained that
15 prioritization.

16 I also think in the big scheme of
17 things, that prioritization has the potential
18 to come back and bite us and has the potential
19 to come back and bite fisheries, because you
20 all know for example how quickly protected
21 resource issues and predicted resource
22 uncertainty can have an effect on fisheries,

1 that it might be in respects more dramatic
2 than increased uncertainty.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Oh yes.

4 MR. SCHWAAB: And so you know,
5 those are the challenges that we are
6 struggling to balance in a dramatically
7 declining budget environment, and so there
8 aren't easy answers to this. Additional
9 perspectives and insight help.

10 Ideas help. New approaches are
11 certainly a big part of our thinking. But
12 they can't -- they don't emerge overnight
13 necessarily, and they don't transfer into sort
14 of a scientifically-valid new assessment
15 overnight either.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I ask a
17 question Eric? What Steve said brought to
18 mind the idea that many people have had in
19 Alaska of participating -- of industry
20 participating in surveys and participating in
21 that process and paying for part of it,
22 basically, saying you know we are going to

1 self-assess, we are going to tax ourselves in
2 order to access the resource.

3 And I don't know if you have had
4 any big conversations about that at your
5 level, but in the regional sense, we have been
6 doing quite a bit of that in Alaska.

7 The problem being, is that many
8 science folks don't believe that the industry
9 should be involved in that sort of stuff and
10 so they are resisting it because they are
11 worried about the credibility of the data that
12 comes from industry-funded, industry, you
13 know, cooperative ventures in that way. I
14 don't know if you have had those
15 conversations.

16 MR. SCHWAAB: So there are several
17 parts to that.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

19 MR. SCHWAAB: And the answer is
20 yes to all.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

22 MR. SCHWAAB: I mean, the -- you

1 know, the first place you look at, the first
2 place you look is at the platform for an
3 officially independent survey right?

4 And certainly you know, we
5 utilized lots of different, you know,
6 platforms including commercial vessels.

7 Then the second piece of that is
8 you know, how do you factor differently
9 fishery-dependent data into the assessment
10 process.

11 And then the third piece is the
12 piece -- the part about who pays, right? So
13 if the you know, industry gets squeezed to the
14 point where they say well wait a minute, you
15 know, this uncertainty is bad business, and
16 bad business to the point that we are willing
17 to dedicate a, you know, a portion of the you
18 know, of the value of the catch to getting,
19 you know, a more precise assessment, thereby
20 allowing us to set catch limits closer to you
21 know, closer to alarm.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right.

1 MR. SCHWAAB: You know, I think,
2 you know, we have seen that happen in places,
3 I mean you know, research set-aside programs
4 is a sort of -- an early example of that but I
5 could clearly see that kind of a discussion
6 emerging probably.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, I think it
8 has to.

9 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think it has to.
11 Not just in research, but even in restoration
12 for example. You know, habitat restoration.
13 We talked a little bit about that.

14 The private industries who were
15 interested in the results of that could
16 participate in doing it, and pay for it, and
17 they are going to have to I think. That's
18 just my opinion. So thank you. That's good.

19 Randy Cates, Tony, Paul and Terry
20 is who I have.

21 MR. CATES: A very good
22 discussion. I think this is quite valuable.

1 So every business, every household has had to
2 budget and make cuts.

3 The way I view this is it's quite
4 simple: there are certain things that you
5 invest in the future. Aquaculture I would
6 categorize as it's an investment into the
7 future.

8 In my office, I have a sign right
9 above my desk, it says 40 percent into the
10 future, and I put -- normally I put about 40
11 percent of my time and resources into the
12 future, either looking at a new site for
13 aquaculture, a new technology, whatever it is,
14 a new business, and I have had to cut back on
15 that.

16 So I will probably make my
17 colleagues unhappy, but one of the first
18 places I would cut is aquaculture, and I say
19 that because I haven't been very happy with
20 what I've seen the use of the money in the
21 last 10 years. I think we have done a poor
22 job.

1 And so unless the administration
2 is going to be willing to change and invest
3 into aquaculture that is going to promote
4 jobs, I say cut it, and I have been very vocal
5 about that for years, that the direction we
6 are going has been the wrong direction.

7 We have been investing in
8 satisfying environmental groups. We have not
9 invested in creating a business or an industry
10 and unless we are serious, let's pull back
11 until times are better.

12 Having said that, if we identify
13 the core areas, which I agree on, what I have
14 heard so far, I really agree that that's what
15 needs to be protected, in those core areas we
16 have also got to be looking at making it more
17 efficient. It can't be just surveys are
18 important and then business as usual, go on,
19 it's how can you do the surveys more
20 efficiently and get the same results, knowing
21 that you are cutting other areas.

22 So it's never easy, but I put that

1 on the table. I think that if we are going to
2 be at this stage, then let's be serious about
3 it.

4 MR. SCHWAAB: I would just -- no,
5 I don't need to comment.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, we have
7 Tony, Paul, Terry.

8 DR. CHATWIN: Thank you. I like
9 the way the discussion has evolved and I think
10 that -- and the best support we can give is to
11 focus on outcomes and focus on what it is we
12 would like to see coming out of the surveys in
13 a reduced -- coming out of meaning what they
14 produce in a reduced budget scenario.

15 I don't think we are the best-
16 suited folks to go dive into the NOAA budget
17 and say we should cut this program or that
18 program.

19 I think from the user perspective
20 we should be able to offer advice on things
21 that we would like to see continue being used.
22 So I agree with Randy's fisheries observation,

1 that the stock assessment survey is important
2 information --

3 (Simultaneous speaking)

4 DR. CHATWIN: Right, but I was
5 going to say that you might want to consider
6 from the perspective of what keeps the
7 fisheries operating and it did come around
8 with Eric's comments to protected resources,
9 but I think that's just as important.

10 Because if you value the council
11 system and the opportunity for input on
12 management that that offers, you don't want
13 the Magnuson act to be subsumed by other acts
14 that are out there.

15 So I think you do need to pay
16 attention to protected resources and the cuts
17 that have happened there already, are of
18 concern, and I think it would be a good thing
19 for MAFAC to comment on that.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: So you would then
21 advocate for protected resources to be close
22 to the core list, is that what you are saying?

1 DR. CHATWIN: On the core list.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: On the core list.

3 And I missed what you said earlier because of
4 the noise in the hall. Did you say you don't
5 like the idea of MAFAC going into the line
6 item sort of category?

7 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, I think -- you
8 know I think to do that, a detailed NOAA
9 budget is available. We can go into that and
10 look at that and individuals around the table
11 can look into that and come with
12 recommendations they want.

13 I don't think it's a wise use of
14 our time to do that, because the agency is the
15 one that's best positioned to look across that
16 budget and see where they can afford to have
17 cuts.

18 I think it's important for the
19 agency to hear from its constituents what are
20 the services that they value the most, and
21 then leave it up to the agency to figure out
22 ways to provide those services in reduced

1 budget scenarios.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you very
3 much. Jump in any time Eric, if you want to
4 comment.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: Sure.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Paul.

7 MR. CLAMPITT: Thank you. Just
8 thinking about fisheries that I'm involved in
9 personally where I can see the agency save
10 money, I'm involved in a halibut fishery in
11 Alaska. Well this year, they got involved in
12 the trawl rationalization.

13 We leased a trawl port -- it was
14 pretty successful, and just looking at the
15 data that has to occur to make these things
16 successful, and the way they are going about
17 it, you're talking about, I mean we have to
18 have 100 percent -- in order to keep track of
19 every species that we are responsible for.

20 And I just -- I don't think that's
21 really true. I think they could -- I don't
22 see the electronic equipment that can observe

1 us in integrated fashion, I mean -- I talked
2 to a gentleman here the other day, and I'm
3 sorry I don't remember his name, and he said
4 there was a little pilot program going up
5 north, but he didn't sound very enthusiastic
6 about it.

7 And I was just thinking you know,
8 in Canada they have already implemented these
9 things and I think you can -- with a mix of
10 observer coverage -- because in the old days,
11 I mean, I was an observer back in the '70s, 10
12 percent was -- I mean we covered an entire
13 foreign fleet with 10 percent.

14 I'm not saying it was completely
15 successful, but you know, between a mix of on-
16 board cameras, BMS and some percentage of
17 observer coverage, I think you know, you can
18 gain some real savings, I mean, in the cost of
19 training these observers, in the cost of
20 managing the program. It just seems to me
21 that's kind of a real low-hanging fruit, I
22 know, a little bit of investment there is

1 going to pay off.

2 And I don't see a lot of
3 enthusiasm for that, but I -- and I have a
4 hard time understanding why there isn't more
5 rapid adoption of what's been successful in
6 Canada.

7 The other thing is we are being
8 charged three percent for data -- well, for
9 the management of our IFQ fisheries up north,
10 and every year we have been getting back about
11 1.4 to 1.5 percent, almost half of it.

12 And so you know the guys have been
13 pretty, really kind of bought into that
14 because you know, it's nice, to actually get
15 the check back at the end of the year and they
16 go hey, you know, they didn't waste this
17 money.

18 I mean we all expected, three
19 percent, they are going to take that and next
20 year it's going to be six, and so we have been
21 pretty happy that it's you know, they are
22 being responsible with the money, and there's

1 not even really any talk, I mean I think if
2 fishermen want to have a successful data
3 collection, a successful program, they should
4 buy into it a little bit, I mean, they should
5 -- some of that should come off.

6 And you know, I'm not suggesting
7 anything too radical, but the combination of
8 the things, you know, it should be -- you
9 should be able to make some savings.

10 And then the other thing is, is
11 the Halibut Commission, I think is one of the
12 most successful organizations collecting data
13 out there, and if you watch the way they
14 operate, you know, they do a lot of shore-
15 based observing, you know, where they are at
16 the fort, they measure the fish there, they
17 take the species composition out of the catch,
18 they, you know, they do their collection.

19 And then they do a combination
20 where they -- they charter industry boats, and
21 I know we do that in the sablefish fishery,
22 there's a couple of cooperative trawl surveys

1 that go on every year.

2 But those surveys are really
3 narrow in their scope in that they hit their
4 grids, and it's important. But I just think
5 there's a real -- enough -- you know we are
6 collecting this detailed data on the boat, I
7 mean we have observers on the boat.

8 And we fill out these logbooks and
9 not much is done with that information. I
10 mean, I've asked, you know, what do you do
11 with that?

12 Well really it's only used for
13 enforcement. I mean if they suspect somebody
14 is poaching and they look at their logbook and
15 see if there's some kind of you know,
16 discrepancy.

17 But I really think you know,
18 especially if you've got a camera on the boat,
19 you know, you operate like you do in Canada,
20 now all of a sudden that logbook becomes very
21 valuable for fishing data and you have every
22 boat in the fleet collecting good quality

1 data.

2 So I guess, that's -- I just think
3 I see -- I don't understand why we are not
4 adopting this book.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: Thank you. So I can
6 make a couple of comments there. You know we
7 are, and whether it's fast enough or not I
8 guess is debatable, you know, pushing hard on
9 some of these electronic monitoring options.

10 I mean they run the gamut right,
11 from just simply 100 retention dockside
12 monitoring and the cameras are used as
13 essentially a big brother to you know, for
14 enforcement purposes, to you know, the range
15 of you know, where you are actually using sort
16 of cameras and other technologies to measure
17 fish, and to procure you know, more robust
18 data.

19 That's the place where I think we
20 are having sort of the biggest challenges in
21 sort of crossing the threshold to utility. We
22 are actually going up to archipelago in

1 November -- the 14 ? I thought it was the
2 following week.

3 MR. CLAMPITT: Maybe still it is,
rd
4 yes, the 23 .

5 MR. SCHWAAB: Thank you. You
6 scared me there for a minute. And I am going
7 personally because you know, we want to look
8 at you know we keep hearing about this sort
9 of, you know, what they are doing in Canada,
10 and we want to sort of match up the sort of
11 the reality with the rhetoric, and get a sense
12 of you know, whether we are pushing fast
13 enough.

14 And so we are going to do a trip
15 up there for that purpose, in addition to a
16 lot of the other things that are going on,
17 like the pilot project in New England which I
18 don't happen to view as a little pilot
19 project. It's a substantial pilot project and
20 it's an important one.

21 But you know, the last thing I
22 would say, just about the 100 percent, I mean

1 my recollection is that the 100 percent
2 observer coverage dictated for the trawl IQ
3 was a council decision, not necessarily
4 something that the agency dictated or pushed.

5 MR. CLAMPITT: That's right and
6 they only went to 20 percent, and 10 percent
7 on the long lines, and if it's a fight between
8 the long line fleet and the trawl fleet,
9 you've got 100 percent on the trawl.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: Okay. So just so
11 that you know, we'll own the ones we own, but
12 you know sometimes it's not just us.

13 MR. CLAMPITT: I think we have a
14 new reality.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, 100 percent
16 coverage in the Alaska fisheries that have
17 rationalized is demanded by the council
18 process, almost always, and in some cases 200
19 percent, and that's the price people pay for
20 having the rights to those fish. That's the
21 way it's looked at in a sense, you know,
22 that's kind of the tradeoff.

1 You are going to have the rights
2 to the fish, then we are going to watch
3 everything you do, and that's the way it's
4 being discussed at the council.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: And I do think that
6 this is going to be an area where -- this sort
7 of, this whole box is an area where we are all
8 -- the agency, the councils, the fishermen --
9 are going to spend a lot of time thinking
10 about and talking about cost benefits in the
11 coming years because of the pressure.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: But you still
13 agree that observers is kind of a core issue,
14 no? I am assuming.

15 MR. CLAMPITT: I think we can
16 observe the fleet more efficiently.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

18 MR. SCHWAAB: I don't doubt that.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I was just
20 going to say, to your IPHC model, you know,
21 the IPHC is a successful model, you know how
22 they get a lot of their money?

1 MR. CLAMPITT: Yes, they sell the
2 fish.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. They catch
4 the halibut and they sell it, and they make
5 millions and millions of dollars off their own
6 managed resource, and that's how they fund
7 their programs.

8 So that's a model that is
9 established in the halibut fishery. I'm not
10 so sure that it would work in the fisheries
11 that you are talking about but it is a model.

12 So -- is it? Okay. That's one
13 place mentioned.

14 MR. SCHWAAB: I'm going to step
15 out.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Terry and
17 then Keith and whoever else.

18 MR. ALEXANDER: Just a general
19 thing, now that Paul mentioned it, I have been
20 up there, seen it work, and it's a really
21 efficient way to count fish. They weigh it on
22 the fixed gear boats. So far they haven't

1 been able to figure out how to do it on their
2 trawl boats, but their fixed gear boats, yes.

3 We did this industry-based cod
4 survey -- I'm kind of agreeing with what Steve
5 said -- about letting the boats do the survey
6 work.

7 We did the industry-based cod
8 survey. We put 800 buoys in over four years.

9 We had chief scientists on the boat.

10 There was always -- it wasn't NMFS
11 staff but it was the state of Massachusetts
12 staff, or independent scientists on board each
13 vessel.

14 And when we got done with that
15 four years of data, really good data
16 collected, it still wasn't allowed to be used
17 in the models and stuff, and I didn't
18 understand it, because you know, we had
19 perfectly qualified people there counting the
20 fish, and they did use the yellowtail, they
21 did a yellowtail survey too, and they -- I
22 believe they used that into the model there,

1 you know. Dave?

2 MR. WALLACE: I'm sorry?

3 MR. ALEXANDER: The yellowtail
4 industry-based survey, did they use that in
5 the model, the assessments?

6 MR. WALLACE: Yes.

7 MR. ALEXANDER: Yes. But they
8 wouldn't use cod data. So I mean they kind of
9 cherry-picked it, and I didn't quite
10 understand it. So that sort of makes me
11 nervous about wasting our money on industry-
12 based boats. And I'm one of the guys that did
13 it, so --

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: It goes to that
15 credibility issue.

16 MR. ALEXANDER: Right.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: And the acceptance
18 by the establishment. Thank you. Keith.

19 MR. RIZZARDI: I guess three
20 observations. The first big one is echoing a
21 point that Bill made earlier, we are all
22 stakeholders so everybody here is asserting

1 their self-interest and self-preservation and
2 their bias.

3 You know so of course then my next
4 point is some of my bias is legal in nature. I
5 look at that first line on this chart, to what
6 degree is a program required, and you get into
7 the whole analysis of is it statutorily
8 compelled, is it a statutory maybe which then
9 leads you to think that hey, you need to make
10 this budget discussion coincide with a
11 legislative strategy, because it may be in
12 some instances that you have a mandate that
13 can be modified to be less of a mandate, and
14 you may be able to ease the limitations and
15 not have the trap where you have to do
16 something that maybe you don't think is a
17 priority and you'd rather have more funds for
18 something else. So there needs to be some
19 thought given to how the budget debate fits
20 with the legislative angles.

21 And then we have been talking a
22 lot about the programs approach, but I'd also

1 point out that within the programs there's
2 need for a species by species approach. You
3 know, on a protected resources issue, you
4 might say that one population of salmon is
5 critically endangered, but another one is
6 really not, and maybe you don't need to
7 dedicate as much effort to a different -- to
8 one species versus another.

9 Now that requires you to drill
10 down at a whole different level of the budget,
11 and it also requires some easing on the
12 legislation, all right? But there does need
13 to be some assessment of is this an acute
14 need, or is this a moderate need, and that's
15 in here at the program level, but my point is
16 it needs to be at the species level as well.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: So, does that go
18 for like protected marine mammals as well as
19 for fish species?

20 MR. RIZZARDI: Yes, I mean I even
21 think it would apply in fisheries. You may
22 decide that in some fisheries, you know, some

1 populations can get by with a lot less
2 regulation than others, you know, and that
3 requires some careful thought, but it's sort
4 of an extra layer on top of the analysis
5 that's already taking place.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I ask a
7 question then? How do you feel about the issue
8 in number two there, about going into the
9 webinar process in the next few weeks and
10 going into the more detailed budget?

11 MR. RIZZARDI: I like it.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: You like it?

13 MR. RIZZARDI: I think if we are
14 really going to engage in this process, I
15 think we should have a webinar, I think we
16 should have access to NOAA staff who can
17 educate us on it. I think this exercise would
18 be very hard for MAFAC. I don't think we have
19 the knowledge to really do this at the level
20 that staff could do it. But it might be a
21 good discussion starter for us, and if we are
22 in that webinar context with staff walking us

1 through, I think it could be helpful.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: That was the plan.

3 That's what we talked about, having staff
4 there and getting into the detail from them.

5 MR. RIZZARDI: I'd also note if we
6 are going to do that, it would be nice if we

th
7 could do it before December 8 , that way we
8 would have the value of all the long-time
9 members --

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's the plan.

11 MR. RIZZARDI: still --

12 MR. DYSKOW: You're getting right
13 back to where we started.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, that's the
16 plan.

17 MR. DYSKOW: I'm interrupting.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: No that's okay. I
19 have got Dave over here, but you go ahead.

20 MR. DYSKOW: The purpose of this,
21 if we don't have all the necessary
22 qualifications, we still have your

1 preferences, and I think that's what's
2 important and what we have been asked for
3 isn't to evaluate NMFS's budget form an
4 internal perspective with all that
5 information, but externally what do we think?

6 And most of the discussion comes
7 right back to where we are with this motion,
8 do we want to recommend that NMFS protect the
9 core programs that are required to efficiently
10 assess, manage and sustain fisheries? Is that
11 what we want their core activity to be? And
12 at some point Madam Chair, we either need to
13 vote on that motion or withdraw that motion.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I agree, and
15 nobody actually made the motion yet. So --
16 but if you would like to, I would entertain
17 that.

18 MR. DYSKOW: Since we have other
19 things to discuss, I would like to move that
20 as budgets are addressed within NMFS, MAFAC
21 recommends that NMFS protect the core programs
22 that are required to efficiently assess,

1 manage and sustain fisheries, that that is our
2 core area of focus. It's broad but
3 nonetheless that's where the committee is and
4 we would like to ask the question of the full
5 MAFAC committee.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: All right, and
7 second -- it's been moved and seconded. Now
8 we will discuss that. If you want to speak to
9 it more you can right now, but I want to go to
10 Dave because he had his hand raised earlier.

11 But if you have any more --

12 MR. DYSKOW: I didn't mean to
13 interrupt your process. I'm sorry.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Dave?

15 MR. WALLACE: Well, I guess we
16 have a motion.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: We do.

18 MR. WALLACE: So, and I think that
19 I just seconded it.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Several people did.

21 MR. WALLACE: But all I was going
22 to say is I know a little bit about NOAA's

1 budget. I've been paying attention to it for
2 years.

3 I couldn't tell you a thing.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

5 MR. WALLACE: If I spent a huge
6 amount of time -- Julie is over here looking
7 at it right now in the detail, right? But you
8 just have to be careful, and Eric pointed that
9 out, you cut one thing and you get an
10 unintended consequence over somewhere else and
11 you say well I didn't realize that was an
12 effect. And the NMFS staff understands all
13 this minutia and asking us to understand that
14 on the fly is just going to give them a bunch
15 of useless information in my opinion.

16 Do I -- I don't have any problems
17 with the motion. That's pretty
18 straightforward you know, because the law
19 requires them to deal with the core issues and
20 you know, so we are going to have to deal with
21 fisheries management, we are going to have to
22 -- that depends then on very good science and

1 assessment and an analysis of that, and then
2 you get into the other mandates you know,
3 Endangered Species Act, marine mammal
4 protection act, all the protected species, but
5 they all influence fisheries in one way or the
6 other. And so you know, this would be like
7 voting against motherhood, but it's still not
8 -- it's going to happen no matter whether we
9 make a motion and pass it or not. So you
10 know, so I call the question -- let's vote on
11 it and move forward because we have a lot of
12 things to do.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: We have until
14 10:45 and I'm going to allow it to go until
15 then. So if you don't mind. There are
16 several people that we haven't heard from. I
17 think we are still speaking to the motion in
18 the broad context so I think it's appropriate
19 that we do that by additional comments.

20 If for example people want to
21 list, at risk of not making it easy, we could
22 list the core functions that we have been

1 talking about around the table and amend the
2 motion to include those, so that people know
3 without having had the benefit of this
4 discussion what we are talking about as a
5 group when we say core functions. We could do
6 that and I can't make a motion or I would. So
7 if others feel that that's important to do, I
8 would entertain an amendment to that effect.
9 Was Julie first or was it Bill?

10 MS. MORRIS: Bill was first.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Bill and then
12 Julie.

13 MR. DEWEY: Well, just speaking to
14 the motion, I agree with Dave, I mean this is
15 motherhood and apple pie. It's pretty much a
16 no-brainer. I don't know how helpful it is to
17 NOAA, but I would agree. It's not a bad
18 statement for NOAA to make in support of it
19 and so I would agree that we should move this
20 motion, and I have another one I'd like to put
21 on the floor for consideration after we have
22 done that.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, how do you
2 feel Bill about additional information as part
3 of this motion, so that there's some capturing
4 of this group's feelings about what the core
5 programs and functions are?

6 MR. DEWEY: Well, I mean I spoke
7 to that earlier. I think in response to
8 Eric's query, I think that that's a place
9 MAFAC should go, you know, and spend some time
10 on these -- each of these columns and let us
11 as constituents share our thoughts on it. I
12 don't know if we can come to consensus around
13 them, but even just capturing some of the
14 discussion might be valuable for NOAA.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: I've been trying
16 to capture the discussion as we went. Julie.

17 MS. MORRIS: I think the way this
18 is structured, we can all project our own
19 meaning onto it. So I don't think we need to
20 go into discussion that would delineate
21 whether protected species are part of a core
22 program or not. My concern about the motion,

1 I just want to clarify, the word protect as
2 the verb kind of suggests that we want
3 everything to stay the same, and I think what
4 we want is greater efficiency in terms of data
5 collection and timeliness, and we are always
6 pushing for more efficient and better
7 processes in these core programs and I would
8 hate for this to be interpreted otherwise.

9 MR. DYSKOW: We can amend it to
10 say focus on instead of protect.

11 MS. MORRIS: Or prioritize or
12 something like that.

13 MR. DYSKOW: Focus on it I think
14 would be a way of doing that, because we don't
15 know what the budget number is and our intent
16 is not to protect the current budget, but to
17 focus on those core areas.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Julie do you want
19 to propose an amendment to this?

20 MS. MORRIS: I think that Bill has
21 a suggestion a response that's fine with me,
22 so you could do it as a friendly amendment.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay and what is
2 exactly the wording that you are suggesting?

3 MS. MORRIS: Focus on, instead of
4 protect.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, is that a
6 friendly amendment Phil?

7 MR. DYSKOW: I'm sorry?

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is that a friendly
9 amendment? That's a friendly amendment?

10 MR. DYSKOW: Well, it's sort of a
11 point of order. We have a motion and a second
12 on the floor. Do we vote on that or --
13 because we didn't have the discussion period,
14 we could amend it to use a different term as
15 opposed to protect.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, the rules of
17 order that I follow, the motion is on the
18 floor, it's been seconded. We are discussing
19 it and someone is proposing an amendment. But
20 if you take it as a friendly amendment, then
21 we don't have to go through the voting
22 process. Because you made the original

1 motion, if you agree to what she suggests, as
2 a friendly amendment, then you say I take that
3 as a friendly amendment and we don't have to
4 vote on current language.

5 MR. DYSKOW: Well if we change
6 protect to focus, I take that as a friendly
7 amendment.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks. Did you
9 have a comment Tony?

10 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, I just don't
11 want us to be saying something we don't mean.

12 And it can be read that as you reduce your
13 budget's focus on these core programs to
14 reduce the budget. That's kind of -- I just
15 want us to be very clear on what we mean,
16 okay?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Can you
18 suggest some language that might make that
19 more clear?

20 MS. MORRIS: Well, my suggestion
21 was prioritize --

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well.

1 MR. DYSKOW: Well, I think that
2 would be certainly -- that would solve both of
3 your issues.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: So I take it that
5 you are open to a friendly amendment of the
6 language to read what exactly?

7 MR. DYSKOW: To do what?

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: You are okay with
9 friendly amendments to clarify the language
10 and I would like to note what that clarifying
11 language is.

12 MR. DYSKOW: Well, if we can agree
13 on prioritize, that certainly preserves the
14 intent of the motion.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, thank you.
16 Tony, does that deal with your issue?

17 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, I think so.
18 It's our issue. Should we be recommending
19 something that we are trying to -- the
20 opposite of what we said.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: But you're okay
22 with that?

1 MR. RIZZARDI: How about
2 prioritizes and maintains adequate funding
3 for?

4 DR. CHATWIN: Well, prioritizes --

5 MR. RIZZARDI: And maintains
6 adequate funding for the core programs,
7 because then that gets to your point that you
8 don't misread this language as prioritizing
9 the wrong thing for cutting.

10 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, that's all.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is that a
12 friendly, Phil?

13 MR. DYSKOW: Sure.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Friendly
15 amendment. As budgets are reduced, MAFAC
16 recommends that NMFS prioritize and maintain
17 the funding for --

18 MR. DYSKOW: Anything after the
19 financial --

20 MR. RIZZARDI: It may go down.

21 MR. DYSKOW: Yes.

22 MR. RIZZARDI: Right, maintain

1 adequate funding.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Switch those,
3 switch adequate and maintain.

4 MR. DYSKOW: Move adequate.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: So, so far we have
6 a multiply-amended motion by friendly
7 amendment. Is there further discussion on this
8 motion?

9 PARTICIPANT: I can't hear you.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there further
11 discussion on this motion or any further
12 amendments to be brought forward?

13 If not, we will vote. All in
14 favor of this motion please say aye.

15 (Chorus of ayes)

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: All opposed?

17 (No response)

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, the motion
19 passes with no opposition. Thank you.

20 As far as what else we may
21 accomplish here to help Eric, I think I am
22 going to ask him if capturing the discussion

1 that we have had in writing would be an
2 adequate outcome for you. We decided
3 apparently that we are not going to add any
4 more language to this to describe what we
5 believe the core programs might be by name,
6 for a variety of reasons which I am fine with.

7 I would as I said earlier,
8 probably do that but nobody has come forward
9 with that. So what we have is a list that I
10 have been keeping and I'm sure the minutes
11 will reflect what some of us have agreed the
12 core programs might be, as well as some of
13 these other suggestions for efficiencies and
14 for collaborative work with industry and so on
15 and so forth. I just gave you what I have got
16 on my list and if people want to argue with
17 it, we don't have time.

18 MR. DYSKOW: We have one more
19 committee motion.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes we do, and
21 Bill also has another motion. I think we will
22 go to him first. I have leverage other

1 agencies and industry, and then I have
2 research, surveys, data collection, address
3 the business model and seek efficiencies.

4 And then I've got a long list of
5 things under that that are my personal
6 observations, things like travel and training
7 and what we spend on councils and all of those
8 things, because it's a lot of money. And then
9 I've got identify core programs and I've got
10 under that stock assessment and surveys,
11 fisheries management, observers, VMS,
12 electronic monitoring, council process and
13 protected resources.

14 That's what I have on my list as
15 trying to capture -- I don't think we reached
16 any kind of consensus on whether aquaculture
17 was on that list, though I heard some people
18 say yes and some people say no.

19 And then, you missed something
20 that Keith said, which --

21 MR. SCHWAAB: He was just
22 whispering it to me.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: I thought he might
2 be, and I think it's really valuable, the idea
3 of what is mandated and whether a legislative
4 strategy could be approached to ease those
5 mandates in some of those areas. I think that
6 is extremely important, and he also talked
7 about a species by species approach in
8 addition to a programmatic approach to seeking
9 whatever you need to cut or do or focus on.
10 So that's what's on my list, and I think
11 that's kind of capturing it. Are you okay
12 with that? Bill.

13 MR. DEWEY: So, this may not be in
14 order if people are just comfortable with
15 forwarding our notes from discussion, but one
16 of the points that you mentioned earlier,
17 Heather, I picked up on, is a thought that has
18 been going through my mind as well, and so I
19 was going to propose a motion that would read:
20 MAFAC recommends that NOAA fully explore
21 options to encourage private investment, in
22 parentheses, in kind, in cash, in

1 conservation, resource assessment and
2 management and research.

3 Options should include but not be
4 limited to payments for ecosystem services,
5 resource assessments to enhance stock
6 assessments, increased use of commercial
7 vessels for stock assessments, in lieu fee
8 programs for wetlands and estuary restoration.
9 Those are just some examples that came to mind
10 for me.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Did everybody hear
12 that? Can you hear it over there? Okay.

13 MR. JONER: Is there a way to have
14 it up on the screen?

15 MR. DEWEY: I emailed it to Josh,
16 so it's in your email.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: There's yet been
18 no second, because people want to look at it.

19 MR. RIZZARDI: Bill, you are
20 striving to flesh out --

21 MR. DEWEY: What's that?

22 MR. RIZZARDI: Your goal is to

1 flesh out the list of core --

2 MR. DEWEY: Not necessarily and I
3 said that options should include but not be
4 limited to. I mean other people here may have
5 some great ideas to add to the list or
6 disagree with my ideas. I just threw them out
7 there, so --

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think more than
9 the core programs, you are identifying
10 opportunities for collaboration on covering
11 costs of some of the important functions.

12 MR. DEWEY: That's what I was
13 trying to --

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: I like the idea of
15 putting in a motion form. That would be my
16 opinion. I think that's much more helpful.

17 Keith. It hasn't been seconded,
18 so --

19 MR. RIZZARDI: I understand. I
20 think I like the idea of going here, I'm just
21 -- I'm considering the timing of where we are
22 right now, and I'm thinking about if we are

1 going to have the teleconference and the
2 budget discussion.

3 I'd like to see that kind of
4 language evolve out of the budget discussion.
5 So after we have been through the exercise of,
6 as a group, drilling into this a little bit
7 more and chewing on it, I think we have had a
8 big discussion and I think it's 10:45 and I
9 think if we really start down this path it's
10 going to be a lot longer, with people tacking
11 on their bullet items.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well I guess I
13 have to disagree with that, but it hasn't been
14 seconded, so could you read it again Bill?

15 MR. DEWEY: So MAFAC recommends
16 that NOAA fully explore options to encourage
17 private investment, in parentheses, in kind,
18 in cash, in conservation, resource assessment
19 and management and research.

20 Options should include but not be
21 limited to payments for ecosystem services,
22 resource assessments to enhance stock

1 assessments, increased use of commercial
2 vessels for stock assessments, in lieu fee,
3 wetland, estuary restoration.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second
5 for the motion?

6 DR. CHATWIN: I'll second it.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: The motion's been
8 made and seconded. If, like Keith fears, this
9 is going to be a long discussion, we don't
10 have time for a long discussion. I think it's
11 pretty self-evident that this is a good thing
12 to explore, but that's just my own opinion.
13 That's my comment on it. Eric?

14 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes, so I actually
15 think this sort of the flip-side of cutting
16 and what I read this as -- and I think it's an
17 important statement -- which is that you will
18 have to look at other business models that
19 leverage resources from other places and not
20 get into an exhaustive list, but these are
21 illustrative of the kinds of -- and I think
22 it's a valuable statement to have on the

1 table.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'm glad you think
3 that. I do too. Bill.

4 MR. DEWEY: I just want to respond
5 to Keith's recommendation, in that I see this
6 a little bit differently than the discussion
7 of each of these areas and what priorities are
8 within them. This is over and above that.
9 This is a recommendation, like Eric suggested,
10 kind of a different business model here, to be
11 thinking outside the box for other ways to get
12 your work done.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: I agree. I think
14 it's more of a policy-type discussion rather
15 than a detailed budget discussion. It's a
16 direction to go.

17 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there any
19 further discussion on this? Keith.

20 MR. RIZZARDI: Well, if that's --
21 if this is the path we want to go down, how
22 about things like increased reliance on

1 private research monitoring and data? There's
2 lots of organizations out there that are doing
3 work in these arenas. Should be we reducing
4 how much NOAA is generating and being more
5 reliant upon private sector data and maybe
6 paying for that private sector data, where it
7 will still be less money than what NOAA is
8 expending on the cost of their own to look at
9 the program.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Maybe. Maybe that
11 could be part of the investigation.

12 MR. DEWEY: I think it's worth
13 adding to the list.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Absolutely. Go
15 ahead and add it.

16 MR. RIZZARDI: Increased reliance
17 on private research monitoring and data.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Did you get that
19 Josh? Anything further? If not, all in favor
20 of this motion, please say aye.

21 (Chorus of ayes)

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: All opposed.

1 (No response)

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: It passes. Thank
3 you. Let's go to the second part of our
4 report.

5 MR. DYSKOW: We have one other
6 area that the budget committee was tasked to
7 address and that was the National Ocean Policy
8 and the position of MAFAC. We have done a
9 lengthy critique of the draft via audio-
10 conference, and during the session on I
11 believe it was Tuesday morning, we were asked
12 and encouraged to generate additional
13 comments, and there was a vehicle for doing
14 that. I think we got an email address where
15 we could address individual comments.

16 The committee had one comment we
17 wanted to make after the presentation. What
18 we recognized is when we looked at the
19 implementation of the National Ocean Policy,
20 many stakeholder groups have already hit the
21 ground running and they have massive resources
22 and they are intimately involved in the

1 process, be they oil exploration
2 organizations, be they natural gas, there are
3 elements that are already deeply entrenched in
4 the implementation of National Ocean Policy
5 and are carving out their turf.

6 Our champion to represent fishing
7 interests in the NOP development and
8 implementation process is Eric. We don't have
9 any other skin in the game as fishermen. So
10 what we recommended is that -- I wish you'd
11 get back to where we started -- so what we
12 proposed is that it is the intention and
13 belief -- as an addendum to our comments -- it
14 is an intention and belief of MAFAC that NOAA
15 will act throughout this very challenging
16 implementation process as a vigorous champion
17 of the interests of fishermen, and we identify
18 fishermen in the broadest sense.

19 In other words we want NMFS's
20 position to be very clearly within the rollout
21 of the National Ocean Policy to be champions
22 of fishing interests, that we don't get shoved

1 aside by these very powerful oil interests or
2 natural gas interests or wind farm interests
3 or anything else.

4 We don't have skin in the game
5 individually. Our skin in the game is through
6 NMFS and through Eric, who sits in a powerful
7 position, and we want him to champion fishing
8 interests and I would classify fishing in its
9 broadest context.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Would you like to
11 make that motion?

12 MR. DYSKOW: I will make that
13 motion, but then we can have discussion on the
14 motion --

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. You are
16 making the motion. Is there a second?

17 MR. FISHER: I second.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: The motion has
19 been made and seconded. Discussion. Tony,
20 Bill, Tom. Sorry? I'm sorry. Julie and
21 Patty.

22 DR. CHATWIN: Thank you. I am a

1 supporter of the motion but I want some
2 clarification. If we are intending the NOAA
3 team and Eric, we probably should say NMFS.

4 MR. DYSKOW: Right, we would mean
5 NMFS.

6 DR. CHATWIN: Okay, and I was just
7 curious to learn more about whether you had a
8 discussion of what you mean by a vigorous
9 champion. And again, I like the language,
10 it's just --

11 MR. DYSKOW: This is almost going
12 to go forward as the Oklahoma land rush or the
13 California gold rush as various elements carve
14 out their piece of the National Ocean Policy.
15 We want a champion to make sure that fishing,
16 whether it be commercial, whether it be
17 recreational, whether it be other forms of
18 aquaculture, although that is addressed
19 separately in the NOP, don't get pushed aside.

20 And where this enters into the
21 discussion, is a wind farm area going to be
22 exclusive to wind farms and prohibitive of

1 fishing? If you look at some of the charts we
2 were shown, a lot of that turf that is being
3 contemplated for these other activities is
4 turf currently being used by commercial
5 fishermen or recreational fishermen. How is
6 this all going to be carved out? And right
7 now we don't have skin in the game
8 individually. We have that skin in the game
9 through NMFS, and we want them to vigorously
10 champion fishermen, not these other interests,
11 because that's the only method and vehicle we
12 have.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: And I think you
14 know, Eric mentioned it could be NOAA and
15 NMFS, I mean it could be both, both, NOAA and
16 NMFS.

17 MR. SCHWAAB: I don't think that
18 you would find any objection at the NOAA level
19 to taking on that role.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, so that was
21 Tony. We have got Bill, Tom, Julie, Patty,
22 Keith.

1 MR. DEWEY: Madam Chair I would
2 like to offer a simplified substitute motion.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead.

4 MR. DEWEY: That would read MAFAC
5 recommends that NOAA/NMFS champion the
6 interests of fishermen and aquaculture
7 throughout the NOP implementation process.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's not just
9 simplified. You added stuff.

10 MR. DYSKOW: Our assumption was
11 that aquaculture was addressed in the National
12 Ocean Policy Act in different areas, where
13 fishing is less defined.

14 MR. DEWEY: Or not at all.

15 MR. DYSKOW: It is mentioned,
16 twice, I was told, but it isn't defined to the
17 extent that aquaculture is and frankly we
18 can't attach aquaculture to everything. The
19 risk we have here is that fishermen's rights
20 are not being addressed adequately and we want
21 to make sure that fishermen's rights are.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: I got that. So I

1 would like you to repeat that --

2 MR. DEWEY: Clearly the
3 aquaculture committee was meeting at the same
4 time as --

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

6 (Laughter)

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Would you repeat
8 that again much more loudly please, and it has
9 not been seconded.

10 MR. DYSKOW: Would you like me to
11 repeat --

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: No. I would like
13 him to repeat his proposed substitute motion.

14 MR. DEWEY: MAFAC recommends that
15 NOAA/NMFS champion the interests of fishermen
16 and aquaculture throughout the NOP
17 implementation process.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second
19 for the substitute motion?

20 MR. NARDI: I'll second.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's been made and
22 seconded. Now the way I approach substitute

1 motions is that if this passes, it's not an
2 amendment. It carries the whole thing. We
3 don't go back and look at the original motion
4 again.

5 That's -- is that acceptable to
6 people?

7 MS. MORRIS: I'm sorry, are you
8 saying there's no more discussion?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: No. That's not
10 what I said. I said that if the substitute
11 motion carries, then it carries the original
12 motion too, that's all, unless somebody else
13 thinks of it differently. I know different
14 bodies follow different processes, so -- Tony
15 you are frowning.

16 DR. CHATWIN: I don't have a poker
17 face. I'm just trying to understand, so once
18 we pass the motion to -- if the motion to
19 substitute passes, then we'll have to take a
20 second vote to --

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: No. No. Carries
22 the original vote in other words it

1 substitutes for the original motion so the
2 original motion goes away. If the substitute
3 motion does not pass, then we go back to the
4 original motion. That's the process that is
5 familiar to me. Patty, do you have a question
6 on process?

7 MS. DOERR: Yes.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

9 MS. DOERR: So does the original
10 motion include one, two and three or just
11 number one?

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: No, it's just one,
13 just the underlined portion. The others are
14 just discussion points that we had during our
15 meeting. Do you have a process question Andy?

16 MR. CATES: Did we have discussion
17 on the second motion or the first motion?

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: We have now, since
19 it's on the floor, discussion on the
20 substitute motion and then we will take a vote
21 on the substitute motion. The substitute
22 motion can also be amended.

1 MR. CATES: I raised my hand for
2 discussion.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Discussion, go
4 ahead. Well I think, since we have a
5 substitute motion on the table, the other
6 people who wanted to speak, unless they are
7 speaking to the substitute motion, would be
8 superseded by the people that were speaking to
9 the substitute motion. So that would be you,
10 I guess.

11 Unless Tom, Julie, Patty and Keith
12 want to speak to the substitute motion. Do
13 you?

14 Tom, do you want to speak to the
15 substitute motion?

16 MR. RAFTICAN: No, actually Keith
17 answered my question.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Julie, do
19 you want to speak to the substitute motion?

20 MS. MORRIS: My comment would
21 address either motion.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: I didn't hear you,

1 I'm sorry.

2 MS. MORRIS: My comment would be
3 germane to either this motion or --

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead then. Go
5 ahead.

6 MR. DYSKOW: I'm sorry we can't
7 hear you.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: She said her
9 comment is germane to either one, so I've
10 asked you to make your comment.

11 MS. MORRIS: Oh, okay. Well I am
12 new enough on MAFAC that I remember what our
13 charge is. And our charge is to advise the
14 Department of Commerce on all living marine
15 resource matters. And so this motion, whether
16 it's Bill's or Phil's, focuses specifically on
17 fishermen, and I would be more comfortable if
18 it embraced our entire charge, which is all
19 living marine resource matters.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think that's a
21 very legitimate comment and I would ask that
22 if you feel that way, that you might make an

1 amendment to the language.

2 MS. MORRIS: I can't amend a
3 substitute motion until the substitute motion
4 has become the main motion.

5 MR. RIZZARDI: But he could accept
6 it as friendly.

7 MS. MORRIS: He could accept as
8 friendly that we include the interests of
9 living marine resources, especially fishermen
10 and aquaculture.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: So your friendly
12 amendment suggestion would be champion the
13 interests of living marine resources,
14 especially fishermen -- where did it go -- I
15 think you can amend the substitute motion
16 because once it passes you can't go back, so
17 Randy, can you help us with this, Randy
18 Fisher, do you know? Do you know?

19 MR. FISHER: No.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, sorry.

21 MR. DYSKOW: Tony's got a point of
22 order --

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Let's get this on
2 the board so we can see it.

3 MR. DYSKOW: Just to, while they
4 are doing that, we would have to approve as a
5 friendly modification Bill's comment, and I
6 think I would do that, and also Julie's if
7 that would speed things up. I think they are
8 both good amendments. That phrase at the end.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, that's --

10 MR. RIZZARDI: Interests of
11 fishermen, aquaculture and living marine
12 resources.

13 Josh, can you move that clause at
14 the end? Living marine resources comes at the
15 end of -- so it's fishermen and aquaculture
16 and living marine resources.

17 PARTICIPANT: Fisherman comma
18 aquaculture and other marine resources.

19 MR. DYSKOW: And Julie I think you
20 said especially fishermen then aquaculture.

21 MS. MORRIS: That's what I said,
22 but Keith just made a different grammatical

1 suggestion, which is fine.

2 MR. DYSKOW: I liked your original
3 one better.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Keith
5 you're on the list.

6 MR. DYSKOW: I think the intent of
7 the original motion was that there are other
8 interests that are perhaps looking after some
9 of these other elements, but fishermen are
10 particularly under-represented in the process,
11 so we wanted to charge NMFS and NOAA
12 specifically with looking out for the
13 interests of fishermen. But we have no
14 objection to them looking out for other
15 interests as well. Obviously that's a better
16 motion. But I do think we want to maintain
17 your earlier suggestion about emphasis on
18 fishermen and I guess aquaculture.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, here's what
20 we are going to do. We are going to not have
21 people speak out of order. Number one. So,
22 that will make this a lot easier. But if you

1 want to do an amendment to a substitute
2 motion, we can vote on it and this is the
3 language that Julie has accepted, right? And
4 Bill has accepted.

5 MS. MORRIS: He accepted as a
6 friendly.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right, I
8 understand, so we don't need to vote on it if
9 he's accepted it as a friendly. You can vote
10 against the motion, the substitute motion,
11 Phil, if you would like to do so.

12 Keith, you're up for a comment.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: I like the second
14 motion, the substitute motion with the
15 changes. I like the fact that fishermen come
16 first in the list, which I think helps make
17 Phil's point, that we are trying to emphasize
18 the fishermen and the duty to the fishermen.
19 I also prefer the second motion to the first
20 because I am a little uncomfortable with the
21 stridency of the language in the first motion.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. I have

1 Randy and then I have Martin.

2 MR. CATES: Thank you. I have a
3 comment and a question. The comment is you
4 know, throughout MAFAC, in my time on here,
5 fishermen and aquaculture is really blended to
6 one thing. I mean we kind of are supporting
7 each other in many ways. An example of that
8 is aquaculture is defined under
9 Magnuson-Stevens Act as fishing. It's been
10 incorporated and that's been evident in Hawaii
11 with a recent offshore permit. So I would
12 have been fine with the original amendment.
13 I'm fine with the second and I'm fine with the
14 third. To me it's all the same thing.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yay, thank you
16 Randy.

17 MR. CATES: The question I have
18 would be for Eric. Since we are asking you to
19 represent our interests, are you comfortable
20 with that, in any of those aspects?

21 I mean I don't like telling
22 somebody to --

1 MR. SCHWAAB: Absolutely. On
2 behalf of NMFS as well as NOAA, I think we
3 will happily take up this cause and this
4 charge.

5 MR. CATES: And I only ask that --
6 you should never ask somebody to stand up for
7 you unless they are willing to, so thank you.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks for asking
9 that question.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: And I hope we have
11 done that so far, but we'll keep at it.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: You've done a
13 great job. Martin.

14 MR. FISHER: I'd like to call the
15 question.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think it's
17 appropriate.

18 MR. CATES: Second on that.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: So all in favor of
20 the substitute motion, which reads: MAFAC
21 recommends that NOAA/NMFS champion the
22 interests of fishermen, aquaculture and living

1 marine resources throughout the implementation
2 of the NOP process.

3 All in favor say aye.

4 (Chorus of ayes)

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: All opposed.

6 (No response)

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: It passes. We're
8 done. Thank you. We're taking a break, and
9 Eric's leaving. He's coming back.

10 (Whereupon the above-
11 entitled matter went off the record at 11:01
12 a.m. and resumed at 11:22 a.m.)

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Let's come back to
14 order and have, I believe, Keith -- oh there
15 you are. I lost you. You are making the
16 report, right?

17 MR. RIZZARDI: What's that?

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: You're making the
19 report?

20 MR. RIZZARDI: I'm making the
21 report, yes. Josh? Josh can you pull up the -
22 - thank you.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: We are now going
2 to have a report from the protected resources
3 subcommittee.

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Do you want to go
5 back on the --

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Pardon?

7 MR. RIZZARDI: Do you want to go
8 back on the webinar item?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: You can bring that
10 up. Keith has brought it to my attention that
11 we did not actually agree on the process going
12 forward as to whether we wanted to do a
13 webinar, and such, and he's correct. We took
14 a break instead and Keith, if you'd like to
15 address that, that would be great.

16 MR. RIZZARDI: I was looking at
17 the grid that NOAA's staff has been working
18 with, and for us it would mean a 10x7, 70-item
19 grid that we would be evaluating.

20 I am a little concerned that this
21 might exceed our capacity as a body. It's a
22 level of detail that's pretty tough for us.

1 That said, we could try to work our way
2 through it, use it to gauge where there's some
3 consensus and where there's some sharp
4 disagreement and then use it to steer our the
5 talking points.

6 Or the other opportunity is we
7 could take this document and try to trim it
8 down a little bit, maybe eliminate some of the
9 questions and figure out how to use it.

10 The bottom line is we need to
11 figure out what tool we are going to use to
12 steer ourselves through a webinar if we are
13 going to do one.

14 And I wanted to open up a little
15 bit of a conversation on that. My suggestion
16 is we try to take this document, trim it back
17 a little bit, maybe knock off a few of the
18 questions and then just give it a shot.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Would that mean
20 you are volunteering?

21 MR. RIZZARDI: I'm willing to work
22 with staff and try to do that, yes.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: So what Keith is
2 saying is he things there's value in having a
3 webinar as we sort of proposed from the
4 subcommittee, but that he believes that this
5 particular makeup has too much complexity and
6 he is volunteering to simplify it in some way
7 and propose that we use a slightly different
8 format, and would work with staff, probably
9 both MAFAC staff and budget staff, to do that.

10 That's the proposal. Is that
11 right?

12 MR. RIZZARDI: I'm volunteering
13 unless somebody else is willing to do it.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: And you may need
15 help too, so let's just discuss that very
16 briefly. And let's do try to keep it brief
17 because frankly I let that other discussion go
18 on pretty long.

19 So I thought it was useful while
20 Eric was here to do that, but -- Bill, do you
21 have a comment?

22 MR. DEWEY: I'd just reiterate

1 what I said before. I am not sure there's
2 value in trying to keep up with a number in
3 each of these categories, even if you reduce
4 the list.

5 You know I think there's more
6 value personally in taking each of those
7 columns and having a discussion you know, and
8 drill down a little bit into the budgets in
9 those and what the programs are within those,
10 and then you know if there's -- each of us has
11 individual opinions or experiences that we are
12 aware of things that are a waste or opinions
13 on what should be focused on, that that just
14 come out in a narrative discussion under each
15 of those, so that they get hopefully some
16 meaningful input from stakeholders, you know,
17 on expenditures in each of those different
18 columns.

19 I'm just concerned that we are not
20 going to come up with a meaningful numeric
21 ranking that's going to have any value, and I
22 think that that - the narrative discussion,

1 like we are fleshing out in more detail the
2 same discussion we had earlier when Eric was
3 here, in my opinion might produce more
4 valuable results.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: On a webinar.

6 MR. DEWEY: Well yes, webinar,
7 however you want to do it, you know, we don't
8 have time in today's meeting to accomplish it,
9 but you know, in the next few weeks if there's
10 a process the committee wants to reconvene,
11 and have that discussion, I think there's some
12 value in it, in some sort of a structured
13 discussion.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Julie.

15 MS. MORRIS: I think it's useful
16 to have sort of the individual nominal ranking
17 on a simplified grid, not as a way to create a
18 MAFAC ranking, but as a way to identify where
19 we have a lot of convergence and resonance
20 about things, and where we have divided
21 loyalties.

22 And then I think that informs the

1 discussion that we have on the webinar. It
2 doesn't dominate the discussion. It doesn't
3 set our priorities. But it helps us figure
4 out what are the areas that we really should
5 be talking about in order to figure -- where
6 should we focus our discussion.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Anyone else?
8 Tony?

9 DR. CHATWIN: I'd like to express
10 support for what Julie just described. It
11 wasn't clear to me that it was going to be
12 done in the format of send this out to all the
13 individuals prior to the call, collect their
14 information prior to the call, synthesize it,
15 and then have a call to discuss the results.
16 That to me is a lot more appealing than having
17 a discussion like -- having a discussion on
18 the table.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: So you're saying
20 then that you see the value in having a
21 webinar, you see the value of having some kind
22 of a forum before it, and having that

1 available at the webinar?

2 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, and just to be
3 clear, I only see value for the webinar if you
4 do some preparatory work ahead of time.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

6 DR. CHATWIN: Otherwise, there are
7 alternative ways to get there. We could use a
8 subcommittee structure, have the discussions
9 within them and each subcommittee come in.
10 But some prep has to happen.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I hear you,
12 and Bill is saying that he thinks rather than
13 -- you can probably do both actually. You
14 could have the prepared pages, page, whatever,
15 and have it done ahead of time, and then come
16 in and discuss and have the sort of free-
17 ranging discussion as well.

18 DR. CHATWIN: Yes, precisely.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. So -- do you
20 want to make a motion Keith?

21 MR. RIZZARDI: What I'd like to do
22 is to create some flexibility. I'd just like

1 to move that MAFAC empower the executive
2 committee to develop webinars to be hosted
3 th
4 before December 8 .

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: The executive
5 committee is the chair and the vice-chair,
6 which we don't have. We don't have a vice-
7 chair right now.

8 MR. RIZZARDI: In that light,
9 being deferential to the output of whatever
10 happens.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. Right.
12 And then we have the committee heads. That's
13 what makes up the executive committee.

14 MR. FISHER: So is that a motion?

15 MR. RIZZARDI: That's my motion,
16 yes.

17 MR. FISHER: I'll second it.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's been moved
19 and seconded. I think we have all heard the
20 motion. Is there general agreement?

21 Is anybody opposed to that?

22 (No response)

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Hearing no
2 opposition then it passes. Thanks Keith. And
3 now let's go into your ecosystem, I mean your
4 protected resources.

5 Thanks for doing that.

6 MR. RIZZARDI: So for our protected
7 resources meeting, we had members of NOAA
8 staff. We had Angie, I forget her last name -
9 -

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: Somma.

11 MR. RIZZARDI: I'm sorry, Mark?

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: Somma.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: From -- the Chief
14 of protected species who came and talked to us
15 and was willing to answer questions. We had a
16 pretty strong discussion of the Hawaiian monk
17 seal and a pretty controversial discussion.

18 Some of our members have voiced
19 their concern about the historic relocation of
20 some Hawaiian monk seals to the main Hawaiian
21 islands.

22 And as laid out here for

1 background, the Hawaiian monk seal is an
2 endangered species. It is listed as
3 endangered.

4 When it was originally listed in
5 '76, it did not at the time identify the
6 species as breeding on the main Hawaiian
7 Islands.

8 But in 1994, there's NOAA
9 documentation that NOAA relocated male
10 Hawaiian monk seals to the main Hawaiian
11 islands, and the population has in recent
12 years been growing in the main Hawaiian
13 islands.

14 Because the species is listed as
15 an endangered species, NOAA also has a duty to
16 designate critical habitat. They are going
17 through that process right now.

18 So they are currently evaluating
19 the scope of their proposed critical habitat,
20 and it is a large amount of critical habitat
21 in the current proposal. It circles the main
22 Hawaiian Islands with an exception for Waikiki

1 Beach and the military.

2 That proposed designation is very
3 controversial, and some of our members are
4 concerned about the tension between the need
5 for Endangered Species Act consultations down
6 the road, and the effect that would have on
7 anything that has human interactions with the
8 Hawaiian monk seal.

9 So if you could scroll down to the
10 conclusion. At this point, we don't -- we are
11 not sitting here with a pile of science in
12 front of us, and it's not my belief that it's
13 our job to second-guess NOAA.

14 But what we are doing through this
15 conclusion is encouraging NOAA to carefully
16 evaluate the science and the economic harms,
17 and consider whether some of the currently
18 proposed areas either do not meet the critical
19 habitat criteria, or could be excluded from
20 the critical habitat designation.

21 In the end, this motion is
22 basically saying NOAA be cautious, and

1 exercise the authority that NOAA has under the
2 Endangered Species Act based on the science
3 and the analysis of the economics.

4 And I know that Randy and Ed both
5 wanted to have some discussion of this item.
6 This is my effort to finesse what was a very
7 controversial discussion.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you Keith.
9 I will say at this point that Cathy Foy is the
10 chairman of this subcommittee, and Keith is
11 acting on her behalf.

12 Cathy Foy sent me an email
13 yesterday saying how sorry she was not to be
14 at the meeting and offering to do any and all
15 kind of work that we might assign to her

16 th
17 before December 8 , as she always does, and
18 she asked me to say hello to everybody for
19 her. So I want to take that opportunity.

20 Thank you Keith. So, discussion?
21 Ed.

22 MR. EBISUI: Thank you. I'd like
to add just a little bit to the background.

1 This is very concise, very well-written, it's
2 a very good report.

3 But I think there's a few details
4 that I would like to mention, and that is that
5 -- that is that in the 1994 relocation, it
6 wasn't -- it began in 1994 and it continued
7 since then and they were not limited to only
8 males. Females were brought.

9 The other point I'd like to add is
10 that in the proposed designation for the main
11 Hawaiian Islands, it encompasses all of the
12 populated islands, all of the shorelines and
13 all of the islands except for military
14 installations and Waikiki Beach.

15 It also expands the designated
16 area from shoreline to 20 fathoms, to
17 shoreline to 273 fathoms. So the size of the
18 designation that is being sought is multiple -
19 - at least 10 times, 15 times larger in terms
20 of depth range than it was -- than it has
21 been.

22 So I thought I'd mention that.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Randy.

2 MR. CATES: I'd like to add for
3 discussion a couple of points. One is that
4 this is a type of issue I think MAFAC is best
5 at. And during our discussion yesterday some
6 comments were made that to me were startling,
7 and I think other members should think about
8 their regions and their areas and that is if
9 you believe in climate change and your area is
10 going to be changing, one example was given
11 yesterday that NOAA may need to pre-designate
12 areas where species might be moving and make
13 those essential habitat, even though they are
14 not there.

15 In the case of Hawaii, we have a
16 situation where these animals were brought to
17 an area, and now that area is going to be --
18 they are proposing to make it into essential
19 habitat, and that is a, in my opinion and in
20 the opinion of our governor and our
21 legislators and our state, as well as a lot of
22 citizens, a very dangerous and aggressive take

1 of a big portion of our state.

2 Every bit of shoreline as Ed said,
3 will now become essential habitat, and that
4 has a lot of implications. It has
5 implications on commercial fishing, tourism,
6 any commerce and I just put it out there for
7 this body to think about, is that really the -
8 - could we give advice on doing it in maybe a
9 better way or a different way?

10 And the answers that we got back
11 yesterday were, well, we are mandated by law
12 to do this. I don't see that. The law can be
13 interpreted differently, and management
14 practices -- NOAA has a variety of options.

15 In the past, the option that they
16 chose was a more precise area of protection
17 where the animal landed on the beach, it was a
18 temporary protected area. To now jump into we
19 are just going to take everything and any
20 commerce has to go through that process, is
21 very scary for us in Hawaii.

22 So I open that up to -- for

1 discussion. Is that appropriate?

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: So you're
3 suggesting that in addition to this advice,
4 that we go further into a more general
5 discussion about how those kinds of
6 designations are made and what the process is?

7 MR. CATES: I think it's a topic
8 that should be thought of, discussed at MAFAC,
9 not only just here today, but also in the
10 future. As things change, what's the
11 implication, what's the economic implication?

12 I mean how far do you go in the
13 name of protection? How far are we willing to
14 compromise and I don't know what others feel.
15 I'd like to hear what others feel. But to
16 start moving a species into an area and then
17 declaring that essential habitat is very
18 alarming to me.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are there other
20 comments on that? And I just want to go back
21 to Ed's comment for a minute. Did you want
22 that male -- to say male and female?

1 MR. EBISUI: I'm sorry?

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you want to
3 correct the actual --

4 MR. EBISUI: No. No. I was just
5 supplementing. I think it's fine.

6 MR. RIZZARDI: And I understand
7 that's the perspective on that. I did do some
8 research and I have not been able to find
9 documentation online showing the relocation of
10 females.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

12 MR. RIZZARDI: So I simply stayed
13 silent on the point rather than make it one
14 way or the other. What is clear is that there
15 were the males that were relocated and I had
16 the documentation to support the point.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, I just
18 wanted to check that because I neglected to do
19 that. You don't -- that's fine.

20 MR. EBISUI: No it's not
21 necessary.

22 MR. CATES: Can I make a third

1 point?

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Sure.

3 MR. CATES: One quick thing on
4 that, that is alarming to me at this meeting
5 was that the head of protection of species
6 didn't even realize that they had moved the
7 animals. And that's alarming that the head of
8 NOAA, of protected species division, didn't
9 realize that their agency was bringing these
10 animals.

11 I can tell you for a fact,
12 personal knowledge, that they were bringing
13 females in, because I was providing food for
14 these animals, for females.

15 So there's a bit of a discussion
16 on what they were bringing, but the facts
17 remain, it's online, that they were bringing
18 these animals in.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Tony.

20 DR. CHATWIN: So, I'd like to
21 agree with Randy and then I think this is a
22 topic that needs to be addressed. It's the

1 type of issue that, I agree, MAFAC should have
2 expressed an opinion on, and it should be that
3 it was -- that opinion should be the result of
4 a concerted effort to review previous such
5 designations and how that has affected
6 fisheries and the economics.

7 And that's going to be -- what we
8 need is more than one day and one meeting
9 because when I see this statement here, I
10 wonder, although it's, I think it's crafted
11 well, I think well, isn't there a mandate
12 already to consider potential economic harms
13 when designating habitat?

14 If there is, there's no harm in us
15 saying that again, but that's already a
16 mandate which I think the agency would be
17 looking at.

18 Criteria that possibly don't meet
19 criteria for habitat critical designation -- I
20 would like us to have a discussion about what
21 are those criteria, and why might it not be
22 meeting it or not.

1 But I think MAFAC should be
2 commenting on whether those are the right
3 criteria or not, as opposed to a specific case
4 where based on information provided by a
5 couple of members, they -- there's a belief
6 that it does or does not meet those criteria.

7 I think it's difficult for me to
8 take a position on that. CHAIR

9 MCCARTY: On this.

10 DR. CHATWIN: Yes.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So for
12 example, if this were a motion, you would vote
13 against it?

14 DR. CHATWIN: Well, I am looking
15 forward to hearing more of the discussion,
16 because I don't think I have much information
17 right now to make a decision on which way I
18 would vote.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, let me just
20 say that there is no motion on the floor. So
21 this is the conclusion from the subcommittee
22 and if it's going to become a MAFAC action, it

1 needs to be made into a motion and moved and
2 seconded.

3 So just to let you know, if that's
4 what you -- if that's the will of the group,
5 that's what -- that's how we do it. So just -
6 - thank you Tony. Paul.

7 MR. CLAMPITT: Well, I was at that
8 meeting and I think the controversial
9 discussion was that they had taken the animals
10 from a place that they were never historically
11 at and moved them to one, and then declared it
12 critical habitat.

13 Now there were some arguments
14 going back and forth on that, but what came
15 out of that that was interesting was the
16 comment that Ms. Somma made, was that in the
17 future, if they feel that climate change is
18 causing a degradation in habitat for a
19 protected species, that they may have to
20 declare a critical habitat in an area where an
21 animal had never normally been before.

22 And that can mean I mean, that has

1 a lot of impacts, a lot of possible impact.
2 So I would add language that would ask for a
3 clarification on that policy. I mean, if it
4 is policy, because if that's going to become
5 the new strategy, then wow, I mean that
6 changes the whole game.

7 It's difficult enough as it is,
8 but now we are going to have people who are
9 just going to start -- I mean the lawsuits
10 will fly.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: So in order to add
12 language to that, it would need to be a MAFAC
13 motion.

14 MR. CLAMPITT: Right, well -- I am
15 working on it.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. I mean I
17 understand what you are saying and I think
18 that would be fine if you want to put it on
19 the floor. Mark, you had a comment.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: Just to Paul's
21 question. About a year -- exactly a year ago,
22 Jim Lecky came to discuss critical habitat

1 designation as a feature of the Endangered
2 Species Act to this committee.

3 The definition of critical habitat
4 that was described -- I wasn't at the meeting
5 but in the notes, critical habitat designation
6 if it's outside of the geographic range is
7 defined in the statute, so it's not a policy
8 that is defined as this is a specific area
9 that is outside of the geographical area
10 occupied by the species, that is determined to
11 be essential for the conservation of the
12 species.

13 So that's the -- that's the --

14 MR. CLAMPITT: Occupied by the
15 species.

16 MR. RIZZARDI: It also allows --
17 the statute also allows --

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: Outside of the
19 geographical area occupied by the species at
20 the time it is listed, on a determination by
21 the Secretary that such areas are essential to
22 the conservation.

1 So you can designate areas outside
2 the geographical area occupied by the species
3 at the time that it's listed.

4 That's specified in the act, so it
5 was a point of clarification that sounded like
6 it might be helpful for your discussion and in
7 answer to your question.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: So it's a
9 statutory requirement.

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: Definition, it's a
11 definition of what critical habitat is.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Keith, and then
13 Julie.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: I want to address
15 two points that have come up in the
16 discussion. The first one is Tony's point
17 about what are the criteria for critical
18 habitat. In the federal regulations, it lays
19 out factors they can consider -- space for
20 population growth, food, water, air light,
21 minerals, cover or shelter, sites for
22 breeding, reproduction, rearing of offspring,

1 and habitats protected from disturbance and
2 ecological protection of the species.

3 So there's a series of regulatory
4 factors, and all this conclusion was designed
5 to do was say carefully evaluate that language
6 in light of the particular facts here, without
7 asking MAFAC to formally decide one way or the
8 other, but just simply say to NOAA, hey be
9 cautious, be judicious in the way you apply
10 this.

11 The other point is there is a
12 process in the Endangered Species Act called
13 the designation of experimental populations.
14 Section 10(j) allows for reintroduced
15 populations to be given a special designation
16 where they get different kinds of treatment.

17 It may not require the designation
18 of critical habitat. It may not have the same
19 take requirements. There are different rules
20 for 10(j) populations.

21 In this particular instance, the
22 Hawaiian monk seal was not named a 10(j). So

1 that flexibility is not available to NOAA in
2 this context and they are applying the rules
3 as they exist.

4 And then the last point I wanted
5 to make is that the Hawaiian monk seal is
6 considered the most critically imperiled
7 species. I mean there is nothing higher on
8 the list right now.

9 It is in tough straits. The
10 numbers have fallen, and especially in the
11 northern Hawaiian islands, and that's why the
12 protection of the main Hawaiian Islands
13 population is being considered important.

14 So there are competing
15 perspectives that are at work here, and again,
16 my goal was to give some flexibility and
17 deference to NOAA to make the decision based
18 on the science and the economics.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you Keith.
20 I've got Julie and Randy.

21 MS. MORRIS: So critical habitat
22 designation is always very controversial

1 because it gets in the -- gets in the face of
2 the way people are using water or land and
3 private uses and recreational uses.

4 And so it's not surprising that it
5 would be controversial in the main islands of
6 Hawaii.

7 And my understanding of critical
8 habitat designation is it primarily restricts
9 federal actions in the designated habitat.

10 And so the way that that usually gets its
11 bite is if you need a permit from the Corps of
12 Engineers to do a dredge and fill or something
13 like that, it becomes a factor in the
14 consideration of whether you get the permit or
15 not.

16 But it doesn't prohibit all
17 activities, and there's all kinds of --
18 there's all kinds of activities that go on in
19 critical habitat that are not interfered at
20 all by the designation of the critical
21 habitat.

22 If there is an interaction with

1 fisheries, then we have a whole biological
2 opinion thing that NOAA does, where they look
3 at the activity and they figure out -- you all
4 are familiar with that.

5 So I think that I don't know -- I
6 really don't know the details about the
7 Hawaiian monk seal, but it's -- it seems like
8 it may not -- that the reaction may be a bit
9 of an over-reaction to the critical habitat
10 designation.

11 And I have had experience in
12 Florida with the experimental population
13 designation. When they reintroduced whooping
14 cranes in Florida, we used that. It's a good
15 technique. I don't know why it wasn't used in
16 this situation. It may be because of the
17 critically endangered nature of the monk seal.

18 But you know, whooping cranes are
19 critically endangered. So that is certainly
20 something that NOAA should consider if it's
21 not too late.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Consider what,

1 exactly Julie? I'm sorry.

2 MS. MORRIS: This idea that if
3 they are introducing monk seals into a new
4 part of their habitat and they call it the
5 10(j) category that Keith was talking about
6 where it's an experimental population, then
7 the critical habitat is not designated, and
8 there's not these restrictions on land use
9 because it is viewed as an experimental
10 population until it becomes established.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: And they didn't do
12 that?

13 MR. RIZZARDI: Correct.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: I see. I see what
15 you mean. Thank you Julie. That was
16 interesting. I've got Randy and then I've got
17 Ed, and you know, ideally we would have a
18 motion that we would be working towards or not
19 if you don't want to, but I'm just saying we
20 are not going to do much more discussion
21 unless there is motion to do something from
22 MAFAC.

1 So it would be good if somebody
2 could formulate something. If they intend to
3 do so, I would like to see it relatively soon.
4 Randy.

5 MR. CATES: Either Ed or I I'm
6 sure will put it up for a motion.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: I can't hear you.

8 MR. CATES: I'm sure, why don't we
9 -- I don't mind putting it up for a motion.

10 MR. EBISUI: Second.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. It's been
12 moved and seconded that MAFAC adopt this as
13 their advice to NOAA.

14 MR. CATES: I'd like to make a
15 couple of comments for discussion. Number one
16 is, for everybody to understand, the area
17 where monk seals normally reside, is a
18 monument.

19 There is no -- there is nothing
20 else in the very large area other than nature.
21 It's the largest monument I think in the U.S.

22 And they are taking these animals

1 and putting it in a very condensed area. You
2 all have been to Hawaii. You know what
3 Waikiki Beach looks like.

4 So it's not in a situation where
5 the animals are interacting with humankind and
6 we are just going to protect them. We are
7 taking them from a pristine area and putting
8 them in another area, instead of fixing, or
9 trying to do protection in the area that they
10 are in.

11 And that's -- I think the
12 controversy is they could probably do better
13 by doing that.

14 Secondly, I heard yesterday and I
15 heard today that well critical habitat only
16 affects federal projects and consultation.

17 Let me give you -- share briefly
18 what that really means to us. When I was
19 trying to build a fish hatchery on land where
20 we would drill a well and draw seawater up,
21 utilize the seawater, and put the seawater
22 back in a well, and that water would never get

1 to reach the ocean.

2 Because I was getting a federal
3 loan, it required a review which delayed me up
4 to two years, because the staffer decided that
5 somehow this may affect dolphins, whales and
6 turtles in the open ocean.

7 It took Dr. Hogarth coming to
8 Hawaii to listen, to explain to him how that
9 might affect dolphins and whales and turtles.
10 So it does affect commerce. It will affect
11 huge amounts of our industry.

12 Bill probably can share -- shed
13 light on what that really means in his area,
14 but it's not a light deal. This is not a
15 minimal thing and it's just a process of you
16 fill out the application and then you go on
17 your way. That's not what this is.

18 This is a big thing and we are
19 talking about the entire shoreline of a state,
20 not a small area.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you Randy.
22 Ed.

1 MR. EBISUI: Thank you. Just,
2 Randy already touched on it, but I think the
3 rub is that these animals reside in the
4 monument, which is uninhabited.

5 Federal scientists declared the
6 monument before it was designed as a monument
7 pristine. Unfortunately the monk seals can't
8 seem to thrive in a pristine environment.

9 So they have relocated them into a
10 heavily-populated, heavily-used part of the
11 ocean and that's really the rub, and there are
12 consequences because if there is a federal
13 nexus to any activity, then you have to go
14 through this consultation process in order to
15 continue that activity.

16 We have not only fishing but all
17 kinds of other uses for the oceans and beach
18 that do have federal nexus. So it's rather
19 alarming.

20 The animals that were -- many of
21 the animals that were removed from the
22 northwestern Hawaiian islands and brought to

1 the main Hawaiian islands were brought because
2 they did things like males would get together
3 and mob and injure females. It's kind of
4 counterproductive to survival of the species.

5 Males would also try to mount
6 pups. So you know, we have kind of -- we, the
7 main Hawaiian Islands, have been colonized by
8 these aggressive deviants, for whatever
9 reason.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: So I hear.

11 MR. EBISUI: And because of -- now
12 because of the human interaction with these
13 seals, the seals have even come down with
14 virus infections that were transmitted through
15 human contact.

16 You know, so there's all kinds of
17 things that are going on. It's just -- I --
18 personally I think what needs to be done, what
19 should be done, is to figure out why the seals
20 are unable to thrive in a pristine
21 environment. That's the key, not relocating,
22 not relocating them to an area that they have

1 never historically lived.

2 Randy pointed out during the
3 meeting that the native people, the Hawaiians,
4 don't even have a word for the monk seal
5 because they were not part of the populated
6 islands.

7 So anyway it's kind of alarming
8 for those of us that live there.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: We'll take one
10 more comment and then we need to move on.

11 MR. DEWEY: So I would also like
12 to share that the critical habitat designation
13 is significant and will have an impact when
14 you have a federal nexus for sure.

15 And certainly for us in Washington
16 State we have been -- we are living proof of
17 that with aquaculture. We have Army Corps
18 permits for our shellfish farms and we have
19 listed species galore throughout the Puget
20 Sound and it has complicated our life to no
21 end.

22 Lots of consultant fees, lawyer

1 fees, we haven't had new farms permitted in
2 Puget Sound for over four years now, and a
3 lot of that is due to the critical habitat
4 that we deal with with our salmon species and
5 so on.

6 So you know, it is a big deal, for
7 some, not for all, you know, but it will
8 definitely have an impact on the economy
9 there.

10 And I just wanted to speak in
11 support of the motion and maybe ask for
12 clarity that this piece is specific to the
13 monk seal. I presume it's specific to the monk
14 seal?

15 (Simultaneous speaking)

16 MR. RIZZARDI: It is. That's
17 because all the background is above it. We
18 are just going to make this the motion and we
19 will insert the language that it's specific to
20 the monk seal.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, so Mark is
22 concerned about a couple -- or something and

1 I'd like him to address his concerns.

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's an
3 observation. We were -- as a body we don't
4 normally at a particular fishery management
5 manager in action that's in front of the
6 public for debate as a proposal.

7 So my concern is the precedent
8 that we are looking at an ESA action that is
9 in front of the public for comment in a
10 particular area, and we are focusing on
11 whether or not it's beneficial and whether or
12 not it is appropriate.

13 That's a public comment process
14 that's -- a consultation process that is going
15 to be open for another 60 days. Is it
16 something that MAFAC wants to take on as a
17 comment on a specific action under the ESA?

18 My sense is in general you are
19 asking about -- if you think that ESA needs
20 reform, or there's a legislative impediment
21 that needs fixing, those are the kinds of
22 things that MAFAC normally would advise the

1 Secretary on.

2 If you are going to take -- if you
3 know are proposing to take an opinion on a
4 specific regulatory action, I think that
5 raises a lot more concern in the future about
6 how MAFAC conducts its business and the
7 responsibilities of the parties involved and
8 the direct impacts on their business or in
9 their community.

10 So I think there's sort of a
11 tension here that you are raising important
12 issues, you want to make sure that these
13 considerations are done, and the motion, I
14 don't have an opinion because my opinion
15 doesn't count. So I'm not offering it pro or
16 against the motion.

17 But I'm just observing that we
18 don't normally talk about amendment seven to
19 the New England groundfish plan has adverse
20 impacts on these communities, and we are for
21 or against it or advising NOAA to do something
22 different.

1 And if we see there is something
2 we don't in principle like the way this
3 legislation is playing out, and we want to
4 comment on that we need to reform in that as
5 opposed to make it a regulatory action, I
6 think there's a difference in how that advice
7 would be utilized.

8 I am looking forward to how we
9 take this information in that public comment
10 process. It's a difficult --

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's a difficult
12 thing. It's a very difficult thing. I
13 understand your comment and I appreciate your
14 bringing it up.

15 I think there's kind of three
16 levels. There's the really big level at the
17 legislative activity, potential reform of the
18 ESA and so on and so forth, and then there's
19 the kind of regulatory layer, where the ESA is
20 interpreted in certain ways by the agencies,
21 not just this agency, but other agencies, and
22 then there's the specific examples of what

1 that does on the ground so to speak.

2 So there's all these different
3 layers and which layer does MAFAC address most
4 effectively, and you know, I hear you. Randy.

5 MR. CATES: I agree with you Mark.

6 I don't think -- at least I'm not proposing
7 that we, MAFAC, comment during a comment
8 period for this particular issue.

9 Our advice should go to the
10 Secretary of Commerce for future things.
11 What's going to ever happen is going to happen
12 during this comment period.

13 It does -- this issue does make me
14 think about how NOAA does things in the
15 future. Back in the '90s when they were
16 moving the animals, they didn't really come to
17 the public and get comments on whether that
18 would be appropriate or not.

19 Looking back in hindsight, I think
20 it was a wrong thing because we wouldn't be
21 having this discussion. If they never brought
22 the animals to the main Hawaiian Islands in

1 the first place, it wouldn't now be looked at
2 as being designated.

3 So you know, hindsight's easy to
4 look back and -- but how NOAA does things is
5 very critical and it's always -- and I think
6 at least in Hawaii, it's really building
7 distrust, this and other issues. It's really
8 building a major amount of distrust of, well,
9 we are just going to do this little thing, it
10 won't impact too much, to today, it's a big
11 deal, and people are getting -- we are getting
12 divided I would say, much more than I have
13 ever experienced.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: So the motion is
15 still on the floor. We are adding more
16 specificity so that people know what we are
17 talking about if they haven't seen the
18 background. So that's all that's happening
19 there and that's not really an amendment.
20 That's just making it clear. So I'm not
21 calling it an amendment. That's just the way
22 it needs to be.

1 Okay, Ed.

2 MR. EBISUI: Thank you. I think
3 there's an implicit policy that's the question
4 here, and that is NOAA was directly
5 responsible for bringing these seals to the
6 Main Hawaiian Islands. It was a NOAA -- I
7 believe it was NMFS Protected Species that did
8 that.

9 So I think in a way this addresses
10 that, you know, it kind of questions whether
11 or not those kinds of translocations as they
12 are termed, are really appropriate in all
13 circumstances.

14 So you know, as long as it's not -
15 - as long as we are not prohibited from
16 bringing this to the Secretary, I would ask
17 that we do bring it to the Secretary.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: You know, my Chair
19 decision would be to allow this to go forward
20 and could be corrected later. Without having
21 NOAA General Counsel here to offer their
22 advice on whether it's appropriate, I would

1 say that we should let it go forward. So
2 that's what I'm going to do. I'm going to let
3 it go to a vote.

4 So it depends on how the vote
5 goes, but that's my judgement at the moment.

6 MR. RIZZARDI: To follow up on
7 Randy's point and Ed's point, one alternative
8 would be to have the protected resources
9 committee take up with NOAA the bigger issue
10 of 10(j) populations, and the use of section
11 10(j) for relocated populations and for
12 dealing with issues of climate change in the
13 long-term, and that way we would be speaking
14 to the larger policy issue, as opposed to the
15 more narrow issue of the Hawaiian monk seal.

16 Because there is recognition as to
17 what happened here, but what NOAA's staff
18 would tell you here is look, it's not a 10(j)
19 population.

20 If it wasn't designated that way,
21 they have a statutory obligation, they have to
22 do critical habitat, they are going down their

1 path and this is what they are doing, based on
2 the science that exists.

3 What you guys are suggesting is
4 well maybe you shouldn't have gotten yourself
5 into that situation, maybe you shouldn't have
6 gotten yourself into that situation. Maybe
7 you should have used 10(j) in the first place.

8 Maybe in the future NOAA should be
9 looking for opportunities to use experimental
10 populations to modify the way the Endangered
11 Species Act gets implemented, and that's where
12 some policy judgment is and that's where
13 there's an opportunity for MAFAC to speak.

14 That's a very different issue from
15 the one that is on the table here, so Mark's
16 point is correct. This is MAFAC definitely
17 making a statement on a particular species and
18 a particular rule, as opposed to the larger
19 context.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think Keith that
21 you are right about the Protected Resources
22 Subcommittee taking up the larger issues. I

1 was going to suggest that anyway, regardless
2 of whether this goes up or down.

3 I think that's an important
4 discussion for them to have, and then to bring
5 it to MAFAC. I don't know how it will fit
6 into your future schedules, but I would
7 suggest that the subcommittee take it up as
8 soon as possible and look at the NOAA/NMFS
9 implementation of the ESA and including
10 specifically section (j) population issues.

11 So I would suggest that we ask
12 that to happen, you know, in future meetings.
13 Maybe between meetings the subcommittee could
14 get together and talk about it. That would
15 probably be a good idea, regardless of whether
16 this goes up or down, so that would be my
17 thought.

18 Bill and then I really want to
19 wrap this up.

20 MR. DEWEY: So, listening to the
21 discussion and particularly Mark's point that
22 this is a bit of a change for us to speak to a

1 specific amendment, I wonder if a more generic
2 recommendation that might be a fit would be
3 something along the lines of MAFAC recommends
4 NOAA protected resources fully explore all
5 management options for restoring species in
6 their native range and habitat before
7 resorting to relocating species outside those
8 areas and designating new critical habitat
9 beyond their historic range.

10 Just quoting an idea.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I see that
12 you are. And I do think that's great. I also
13 think that it would probably be even better to
14 have the subcommittee get into the details of
15 that before we make that sort of
16 recommendation. That would be sort of what I
17 would think.

18 I think I am just going to bring
19 it -- I'd like to bring this to a vote, and we
20 are way past the time that we need to go to
21 lunch because we have to be back here at one.

22 I don't want to rush this. I

1 think we have had a pretty good discussion.
2 Unless you have new information or astounding
3 ideas to offer, I want to bring this to a
4 vote.

5 MR. RIZZARDI: How about rather
6 than voting, we refer it back to the
7 subcommittee for the more full discussion, to
8 include the 10(j) issue and to take this up in
9 further detail at the next meeting?

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, this motion
11 is on the floor, and we are going to bring it
12 to a vote. Unless somebody moves to table it,
13 which I do not encourage.

14 I think we need to vote it up and
15 down. All in favor of this please raise your
16 hand.

17 (Show of hands)

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'd like the staff
19 to count the hands please.

20 (Pause)

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: All opposed to
22 this please raise your hand.

1 (Show of hands)

2 MR. RAFTICAN: I'll abstain.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: All abstaining,
4 yes, sorry, thank you. So what's the vote
5 Mark?

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: Twelve yes.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Twelve yes, two
8 no, one abstaining. It passes. Is there
9 other business in this area to talk about
10 before we break for lunch? I think that all
11 of this has been really good discussion, and I
12 think that we have a lot of material that
13 needs to go to the committee.

14 So I encourage that to happen. I
15 don't know whether you need a motion on that,
16 but I would say that we need to have that as
17 an agenda item at the next meeting, and that
18 in the interim that the subcommittee, if they
19 so decide to perhaps meet and talk about it to
20 present some ideas. I don't know.

21 Terry, you are looking to speak.

22 MR. ALEXANDER: What is the time

1 frame on these guys' issue, I mean, do we have
2 enough time in order to be able to comment
3 through teleconference or whatever? When are
4 they looking at making that critical habitat?

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: I would say that
6 MAFAC, individual members of MAFAC could
7 comment on this, and I think you can probably
8 get that information from Ed or Randy or
9 anyone of our staff, and I would encourage
10 people to do that individually, because I
11 don't think the time frame is going to allow
12 the eventual development of the MAFAC
13 position, nor do I necessarily think it's a
14 good idea. Julie, do you have your hand up?

15 MS. MORRIS: No I do not.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: You're just
17 scratching.

18 MS. MORRIS: I'm just --

19 (Laughter)

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Massage, okay. So
21 with that I would like to adjourn for lunch
22 and I would like people to eat and get back

1 here by one if you can. Otherwise I think we
2 are really pushing it this afternoon.

3 (Whereupon the above-entitled
4 matter went off the record at 12:10 p.m. and
5 resumed at 1:06 p.m.)

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A-F-T-E-R-N-O-O-N S-E-S-S-I-O-N

1:06 p.m.

CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you for getting back here almost on time. We have a lot to do. I don't know how long your presentation is going to be Bill. I understand you are going to give it in Steve Joner's place?

MR. DEWEY: Yes, he asked me if I would do that.

CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So we are going to do the Commerce Subcommittee report and are you anticipating a full hour on that Bill?

MR. DEWEY: No.

CHAIR MCCARTY: And then we're going to do the Recreational Fisheries Subcommittee report and Mr. Franke has told me that he is anticipating half an hour.

So that's wonderful. We need -- perhaps we don't need half an hour for the election of the Chair, depending on what

1 happens, which I hope is smooth.

2 The other thing is that we need to
3 talk a little bit about subcommittees and that
4 process of putting your name in if you want to
5 be the subcommittee chair.

6 So we will do that after we do
7 these next two reports. Okay? So Bill, are
8 you up?

9 MR. DEWEY: I'm up.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, go for it.

11 MR. DEWEY: I would work from the
12 committee report that I sent you. I emailed
13 it just for the MAFAC now so everyone, it
14 should be popping in their emails, if they
15 have their emails opened.

16 And Josh I emailed it to you late
17 last night. I didn't send it out to the
18 committee at the same time I sent it to you, a
19 little after midnight last night.

20 MS. DOERR: Everybody awake?

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Hi Judy. We are
22 just starting up again.

1 MR. DEWEY: So our Chairman Steve
2 Joner had a conference call he had to get on
3 and asked me if I would deliver the Commerce
4 Subcommittee report.

5 So the commerce committee met
6 twice, once on the 25th and then again
7 yesterday, a little bit larger group on the
8 25th.

9 Also, we were joined by a member
10 of the public, Zack Corrigan from Food and
11 Water Watch. And in the discussion yesterday,
12 we decided to meet again, just because we
13 hadn't had the benefit of NOAA and Commerce's
14 updates on their implementation of the
15 aquaculture policies, so we wanted to meet
16 again and discuss whether additional
17 recommendations to consider.

18 Both days we had a good discussion
19 regarding implementation of the aquaculture
20 policies, and we offered the following
21 findings and recommendations.

22 So that the first finding

1 essentially is just that you know, the
2 discussion that NOAA had gone through and
3 extends the public process and adopted these
4 policies back in June, and one of the key
5 points we want to make in this finding is
6 that, you know, during this two-year process,
7 the advancement of marine aquaculture in the
8 country is essentially brought to a halt while
9 the policies were debated.

10 And that forced some unfortunate
11 things you know, and people that were
12 experiencing that uncertainty, were investing
13 in aquaculture outside the country instead of
14 here.

15 And it's important now that those
16 policies are in place, to try to reverse that
17 trend and the recommendations reflect that.
18 So we were pleased that a number of MAFAC's
19 recommendations during the public comment
20 process on those policies were adopted and
21 that's captured there in the finding as well.

22 So first recommendation is to make

1 up for lost time in investment in domestic
2 marine aquaculture, MAFAC recommends that NOAA
3 and Commerce urgently implement the
4 aquaculture policies adopted in June, and in
5 particular the initiatives launched in
6 conjunction with them.

7 These first three recommendations
8 sort of go together and are all along the same
9 topic, so I'd recommend we maybe consider all
10 three of those in a motion if that's
11 appropriate, Madam Chair.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

13 MR. DEWEY: So the second
14 recommendation is that NOAA office of
15 aquaculture and a representative from the
16 Department of Commerce provide regular updates
17 to MAFAC on implementation of the aquaculture
18 policies.

19 And then the third recommendation
20 is that NOAA work with MAFAC to update the 10-
21 year plan for marine aquaculture to serve as a
22 roadmap for implementing their policy, and

1 that updated 10-year plan should incorporate
2 both near- and long-term actions and
3 measurable outcomes of success, which was --
4 that was part of our comment letter -- that
5 latter guidance was part of our comment letter
6 during the policy development.

7 So if appropriate Madam Chair, I
8 would ask for a motion to adopt those three
9 recommendations.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: You can move that.

11 MR. DEWEY: I can move that, I
12 would move that. Is anyone awake?

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: The move's been
14 seconded to accept these three recommendations
15 from the subcommittee as recommendations for
16 MAFAC. Discussion? Speaking to the issues?

17 MR. ALEXANDER: No. No, I was
18 just going to say I don't know if you saw
19 Randy raise his hand.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: I did not. Randy?

21 MR. CATES: I seconded.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: I heard that. Go

1 ahead.

2 MR. CATES: I have comments. I
3 think it's important, and thanks Bill for
4 including that, the language that we have lost
5 ground and companies have gone away and it's
6 been a long delay of stalls and I just don't
7 think we can afford that any longer.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you want to
9 speak to the motion? Bill, do you want to
10 speak to it at all?

11 MR. DEWEY: No.

12 DR. CHATWIN: I am supportive of
13 the motion, but I just wanted to learn more
14 about the lost investment, if there is, is
15 there documentation on it or --

16 MR. DEWEY: George isn't here, but
17 he worked -- George Nardi has been working
18 with companies that are investing overseas
19 instead of here because of the uncertainty.
20 Taylor's our company, in the last actually six
21 or seven years, our company has invested \$15
22 million buying farms in British Columbia

1 because we can't get farms permitted here in
2 the United States. So that needs to turn
3 around.

4 DR. CHATWIN: I agree. It would
5 be helpful to those issue if that sort of loss
6 of investment here got documented in a paper
7 or a white paper, report, something, studied.

8 And again, I am supportive of the
9 motion, I am just saying, it would be good to
10 get that information out.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Detailed as a
12 backup appendix or whatever. That's a good
13 idea.

14 DR. CHATWIN: That's to educate.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right. Randy.

16 MR. CATES: To the point of
17 investment, there's another issue as part of
18 that. I can tell you, in Hawaii I had in the
19 last five years about five serious investors
20 come wanting to either partner up or
21 interested.

22 Of those five, three have gone out

1 of the U.S., and the number one reason was
2 permits, how long it took. There were two
3 reasons -- permit and choice and species.

4 The other part of that is -- and
5 not many people know that our government has
6 invested in aquaculture technologies that were
7 purposely transferred overseas.

8 NOAA has a joint collaboration
9 with the Korean government and they came on my
10 site, and I watched in a matter of years of
11 probably four or five meetings in Hawaii,
12 looking at our technologies, going back to
13 Korea, investing in it, I come to find out
14 that if the U.S. government was part of a
15 project that was funding the whole thing.

16 So we kind of have a situation
17 where we have taken our technology and given
18 it overseas, and we have actually taken
19 through agreements, of funding foreign
20 countries and it just -- always just puzzled
21 me, why we have done that. But we have. And
22 now Korea has got a pretty large, I think the

1 largest offshore fish farming industry in the
2 world. They have over 30 cages I believe, in
3 the water.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Other comments?
5 Are you ready for the vote? All in favor of
6 this motion please say aye.

7 (Chorus of ayes)

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Any opposed?

9 (No response)

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Hearing no
11 opposition, then, it's passed. Thank you,
12 Bill.

13 MR. DEWEY: So our next finding
14 was related to Commerce's update, Kris Sarri
15 from Commerce's -- provided her update on
16 their implementation of the aquaculture policy
17 and it was noted that they include various
18 agencies such as the economic development
19 administration and others that could be
20 instrumental in implementing policy.

21 And it was indicated that there
22 had been a meeting last week of these various

1 agencies to discuss implementation of the
2 policy.

3 And Kris specifically solicited
4 input from MAFAC for specific recommendations
5 on how they could facilitate aquaculture
6 policy implementation and there -- because we
7 don't really fully understand the -- what
8 those agencies are and what their capacities
9 might be, the recommendation speaks to that,
10 that we recommend Commerce convene a meeting
11 via teleconference including NOAA office of
12 aquaculture staff to gain a better
13 understanding of the resources available
14 within the Commerce agencies to facilitate the
15 development of MAFAC recommendations for
16 utilizing these resources.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: I just have a
18 clarification. This is Pete Jones guys, he is
19 from Alaska.

20 MR. JONES: Hello.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Does that include
22 MAFAC? That meeting that you were talking

1 about?

2 MR. DEWEY: Yes. Yes, that would
3 be the intent.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, would it be
5 all of MAFAC or just the Commerce
6 subcommittee? What's the intent there?

7 MR. DEWEY: The intent was the
8 Commerce subcommittee. I think when we
9 discussed it it wasn't to -- certainly I think
10 within the committees interested, that you
11 welcome this that.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. I'm just
13 not entirely sure that's totally clear.
14 That's why I asked. Are you making that as a
15 motion?

16 MR. DEWEY: Yes.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second?

18 MR. FISHER: Second.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's been made and
20 seconded, and with the understanding that it's
21 a MAFAC-inclusive meeting, is there comment on
22 that? Keith?

1 MR. RIZZARDI: Do we need a
2 motion, even a resolution on this? I mean
3 isn't this nothing more than saying we want to
4 have a subcommittee teleconference with NOAA
5 staff? Couldn't we just do that internally
6 without the process?

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: We can.

8 MR. RIZZARDI: Because I think
9 it's a good idea. Don't get me wrong. I am
10 all for having teleconferences. I think we
11 should do things in between the meetings that
12 we have to stay abreast and get educated and
13 have the subcommittees do more.

14 It's just, I'm just questioning,
15 do we need to get this formal?

16 MR. DEWEY: It's up to the Chair
17 how she opts to deal with it. I think it's
18 helpful as we -- as staff develops this list
19 of actions that come from the committee, if
20 the things that they need to do as follow up
21 to the meeting are all succinctly made in
22 recommendations, this may be easier for them

1 to track them, but it's up to the Chair how
2 she chooses.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: I agree.

4 MR. RIZZARDI: Is this intended to
5 go beyond MAFAC or is this just MAFAC? MAFAC
6 and Office of Aquaculture, or is it open to
7 other members of the public?

8 MR. DEWEY: It was intended to be
9 MAFAC Commerce Subcommittee, other MAFAC
10 members that might be interested, Office of
11 Aquaculture and the Commerce agencies,
12 Commerce and the appropriate agencies, to have
13 this discussion so we more fully understand
14 the resources that are available.

15 Kris Sarri asked for
16 recommendations. We don't know what
17 recommendations to make because we don't
18 understand what resources they have available
19 to bring to the table.

20 So in an effort to flesh out or
21 understanding better, we would make -- I
22 would, presumably the subcommittee would then

1 come back to the full committee with
2 recommendations on what we should recommend to
3 Commerce.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: And just in answer
5 to your question, I do find that it's more
6 effective to have a motion if it requires
7 action by staff or anyone else. It just makes
8 it more clear that that is the will of the
9 body, rather than the haziness of just a
10 report.

11 So that would be my
12 recommendation, and it was made as a motion.

13 MR. RIZZARDI: Okay.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: So the motion is
15 on the floor. Patty and Julie.

16 MS. DOERR: It's more of a
17 clarification question. At the end of the
18 findings, we can facilitate policy
19 implementation. Do you intend to include --
20 was it your intent to include the shellfish
21 initiative in there as well, or more of this -
22 - the focus --

1 MR. DEWEY: I see your point.
2 Obviously, it would include the -- not just
3 the shellfish initiative. There's three
4 initiatives associated with policy, so it
5 might be appropriate to add to the end of that
6 finding and associated initiatives, just to
7 capture that.

8 MS. DOERR: Yes, just to manage
9 the shellfish initiative. The restoration
10 portion of the International Shellfish
11 Initiative, I think it makes for a very well
12 rounded document -- initiative, and so I just
13 don't want it to get lost.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, do you want
15 it as a friendly amendment?

16 MR. DEWEY: Well, it's not part of
17 the motion, she's just suggesting an edit to
18 the committee report findings, which I think
19 the committee would say is consistent with our
20 discussion.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, so no change
22 to the actual motion? Okay.

1 MS. DOERR: That's fine. Adding
2 associated initiatives is good.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Thank you.
4 Julie?

5 MS. MORRIS: Bill, could we add
6 comments, could we as a subcommittee address
7 Commerce?

8 MR. DEWEY: So actually the first
9 Commerce is intended to be the Department.

10 MS. MORRIS: Recommends, so you
11 want the Department of Commerce to --

12 MR. DEWEY: To convene.

13 MS. MORRIS: Is that clear to
14 everybody, because I thought -- I was reading
15 it as the other Commerce --

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: I wasn't sure.

17 MS. MORRIS: The subcommittee.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, so let's just
19 say --

20 MR. DEWEY: Well, it was Kris
21 Sarri from the Department of Commerce who
22 suggested the teleconference. So that was the

1 intent, was following up on her
2 recommendation.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think that fixes
4 it right there.

5 MS. MORRIS: That helps to
6 clarify.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Are there
8 other --

9 DR. CHATWIN: The Department of
10 Commerce is just really big and there are lots
11 of people there. We might want to be more
12 specific.

13 MR. DEWEY: Well, we can say Kris
14 Sarri in the next two weeks.

15 (Laughter)

16 MS. MORRIS: Well, that's maybe
17 what we intend.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Do you want to --.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, I think Kris
20 had that meeting with the Department of
21 Commerce bureau so I will make a reference
22 here to the bureaus who she organized and has

1 been working on implementation of the DOC
2 policy so I think that's your intent, to
3 follow up with EEA, there's other bureaus.

4 MR. DEWEY: But do it efficiently
5 in one call if we can, and my recommendation -
6 - this doesn't have to be part of the motion -
7 - but obviously some of us are aware that Kris
8 Sarri is moving on to a new job in the next
9 couple of weeks.

10 So we ought to at least tee this
11 up if possible before she leaves, so she can
12 delegate it to somebody before she moves on.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: So you weren't
14 kidding on the two weeks. I got it.

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: And I think that we
16 can forward the recommendation we have in the
17 next two weeks.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are there other
19 comments, clarifying or otherwise? Okay. Is
20 there an approval of this without voting? Is
21 there anybody who opposes this motion?

22 DR. HOLLIDAY: It is missing

1 something.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: So we should put
3 in there the Commerce Subcommittee and MAFAC.

4 MR. DEWEY: So after staff?

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Sure.

6 MR. DEWEY: Yes, after staff,
7 insert and the MAFAC Commerce Subcommittee.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Now it makes it
9 very clear. Yes. Thank you. So is there any
10 opposition to the motion as it is currently
11 reading?

12 (No response)

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Hearing none, it
14 passes unanimously. How many do you have
15 Bill?

16 MR. DEWEY: Maybe another four or
17 five.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Oh, okay. Well I
19 just wanted to get an idea of --

20 MR. DEWEY: You gave me an hour
21 and I told you it would be less.

22 (Laughter)

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'm just checking,
2 for how long we can spend on each one.

3 MR. DEWEY: So that the next
4 finding was just related to 2020, you know,
5 obviously we have initiated a process to
6 update it, and since we were always meeting
7 when that group was meeting, we wanted to make
8 sure we captured the aquaculture amendments
9 for 2020 that we thought needed to be made.

10 So that's what this motion is
11 specific to, that -- that MAFAC committee
12 staff and the Commerce Subcommittee update the
13 2020 vision document to include implementation
14 of the NOAA and Commerce aquaculture policies,
15 the 10-year plan for marine aquaculture, and
16 updated aquaculture production statistics, and
17 that the aquaculture-related recommendations
18 should also be amended to be consistent with
19 the updated aquaculture policy.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are you making
21 that motion?

22 MR. DEWEY: Yes.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second?

2 Randy seconds. I have a question
3 on this. Are you anticipating that your
4 subcommittee members would be working on these
5 things?

6 MR. DEWEY: With staff yes.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, good.
8 Because you know, the updating is a little
9 easier than the adding to, and so I think it
10 would be really effective, and that was kind
11 of my understanding of that.

12 MR. DEWEY: Yes, we just didn't
13 have a chance, because you guys were meeting
14 when we were meeting, and presumably we will
15 hear your report -- presumably you didn't
16 finish your work in all the updating either,
17 so --

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: No.

19 MR. DEWEY: there will be an
20 opportunity here to bring that portion in.
21 But that was the intent, was the subcommittee
22 would work with staff on those revisions.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Thank you.

2 I did report to the Vision 2020 Subcommittee
3 that that's what you were going to do, so I am
4 glad that you had the same impression.

5 And so we anticipated hearing from
6 you and also hearing from the Recreational
7 Subcommittee, which we are going to do next.

8 But my understanding is the
9 Recreational Subcommittee needs extra time to
10 make their recommendations, that's right on
11 Vision 2020, is that right?

12 MR. FRANKE: I didn't hear
13 anything about that.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: We'll talk about
15 it. And I'll talk about the Vision 2020 at
16 the end of these reports too, very briefly.
17 It's not on the agenda, but we are going to do
18 it anyway.

19 Is there any opposition to this
20 motion?

21 (No response)

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, hearing

1 none, then it passes unanimously. Thank you,
2 Bill.

3 MR. DEWEY: So the next three
4 findings and recommendations are related to
5 research and research direction. So this next
6 finding is specific to the Saltonstall-Kennedy
7 Grant Program.

8 It has included aquaculture as a
9 priority to fund projects that encourage the
10 development of environmentally and
11 economically sound aquaculture, relieve
12 fishing pressure and food market availability.

13 These funds, the committee
14 discussed how instrumental these funds are to
15 implementing several of the recommendations in
16 both the NOAA and Commerce policies, and as
17 such, we offer the following recommendation:
18 That while challenging in the face of budget
19 reductions, MAFAC recommends NOAA minimize the
20 use of SK resources to fund internal NMFS
21 programs and instead direct them as they are
22 intended to fisheries and aquaculture research

1 and development.

2 There's been a tendency in the
3 past, for those who aren't aware, for the
4 agency to use these SK funds to support the
5 administration of the agency, and this is the
6 statement by MAFAC, that it's a priority that
7 they be used the way they are intended.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second?
9 Is that a motion?

10 MR. CLAMPITT: Second.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's been made and
12 seconded as a motion, that recommendation
13 paragraph. It strikes me that this goes beyond
14 aquaculture if I may say, to more of the
15 general statement about the use of funds from
16 that SK program, and I know it's an issue in a
17 number of places.

18 MR. CLAMPITT: In Nation's
19 Fisheries.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'm sorry, Paul?
21 I think Mark wants to clarify something and
22 then we will go to you.

1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Bill, does the
2 recommendation -- are you speaking to the \$30
3 million total in SK funds, part of which have
4 been appropriated by Congress as an offset to
5 the NOAA budget, or the balance of the funds
6 beyond the offset that are then used for grant
7 programs?

8 There's a -- \$30 million is what
9 we received in SK funds from the duties and
10 Commerce then says of that amount, a certain
11 part of that is offsetting in the
12 appropriation so we don't -- it's not NOAA's
13 choice. It's a Congressional choice how those
14 SK funds are used as an offset.

15 And the balance, the remaining
16 balance is then what the SK fund has to use to
17 do the grant programs. So I wasn't sure if
18 your --

19 MR. DEWEY: So does that remaining
20 balance ever get used by NOAA for other than
21 the grant programs? Is it -- who makes the
22 decision? Is it Congress or NOAA that makes

1 the decision to use this money for
2 administration?

3 DR. HOLLIDAY: That's my question,
4 the clarification I was referring to, the
5 remaining balance or you're asking us to go
6 back to Congress and work on the offset
7 question?

8 MR. DEWEY: So, I don't think our
9 intent was to ask you to go back to Congress
10 and work on the offset question. But I am
11 asking you a question in return, just for
12 clarity, is that remaining portion, does NOAA
13 use a portion of that, do they make their own
14 internal decision to use a portion of that for
15 administration?

16 DR. HOLLIDAY: For administration
17 of the program? Not all of that money goes
18 towards the grants. But it's not going to the
19 Weather Service or to other, you know,
20 fisheries activities or programs.

21 MR. DEWEY: So this is an
22 important clarification for me because I have

1 been under the impression that it was NOAA's
2 decision to divert SK monies towards
3 administrative offset and you are saying
4 that's not the case, that it's Congress that
5 tells you to do that?

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'm not sure I want
7 to --

8 MR. DEWEY: Do this on the record?

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: I was just going
10 to ask Pete Jones because he is a budget guy,
11 but he's gone.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's not a --

13 MR. DEWEY: It's not a discussion
14 we want to have here.

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: The majority of the
16 time, the offset is directed by Congress so
17 that is what I was trying to clarify.
18 Occasionally NOAA does direct funds from SK to
19 be used for a non-SK purpose. But the routine
20 use of -- I don't want to universally state
21 that it's never happened or never will happen
22 again, but I was just trying to -- for

1 purposes of understanding the recommendation
2 and carrying that forward, I don't know if I
3 clarified --

4 MR. DEWEY: To be honest, the
5 subcommittee didn't drill down into that level
6 of discussion. So I can't say for sure what
7 the will of the subcommittee was. We did not
8 -- did not have a discussion about asking NOAA
9 to go back to Congress and deal with it there.
10 That wasn't part of our discussion.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: In this issue I
12 think, Mark, that the general understanding,
13 right or wrong, in public, is that quite a big
14 chunk of the SK funds do get diverted away
15 from the SK grant program, and that may be an
16 incorrect assumption, but that is what people
17 think. And so I think they were acting on
18 that assumption, and if it's incorrect, then
19 we certainly need to look further into it, but
20 if indeed that is happening, this is what you
21 are addressing.

22 MR. DEWEY: Well, as I was looking

1 for language to build into the findings and
2 the motion, just a little bit of Googling,
3 there's obviously other people under that same
4 impression out there on the internet because
5 that's a widely-held position on multiple
6 websites --

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, it is.

8 MR. DEWEY: -- that that's what
9 happens.

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: That's why part of
11 the reason I bring it up is because there is,
12 I believe there is a general misunderstanding
13 of how the SK process works and the use of SK
14 funds as an offset. That's another public
15 policy call that people take exception to
16 under the existing -- under the original SK
17 act, they -- Congress had the authority to use
18 that as a --

19 MR. DEWEY: Well, it's a sensitive
20 area. It's controversial. It's a policy-
21 oriented matter. It may be something that
22 MAFAC wants to put on a future agenda for

1 additional briefing on how those SK monies are
2 used.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: In addition to
4 passing this motion, or instead of passing
5 this motion?

6 MR. DEWEY: No, I would maintain -
7 - personally I would maintain the motion, but
8 I would just suggest that MAFAC may want to
9 take this up as an issue in the future.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Duly noted. I
11 think that's a good idea because there is some
12 misunderstanding I think already around this
13 table even.

14 So, Paul, you had a comment. I'm
15 sorry it took so long to get to you. Are
16 there other comments on this? Julie.

17 MS. MORRIS: So what are we doing?
18 Are we going to table this and --

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: No.

20 MS. MORRIS: -- bring it up some
21 other time?

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: No.

1 MS. MORRIS: We're going to --
2 okay, so I was wondering Bill, if we are going
3 to vote on it now, whether you would be
4 sympathetic to what I think the main thrust is
5 which is to maximize the funding for the grant
6 program, and that kind of sidesteps the issue
7 of whether or not NOAA is misdirecting the
8 funds.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Good point. So
10 are you suggesting that as an amendment?

11 MS. MORRIS: I'm asking Bill what
12 he thinks about that.

13 MR. DEWEY: So you are suggesting
14 a different way to word it?

15 MS. MORRIS: Yes.

16 MR. DEWEY: I'm open to
17 suggestions.

18 MS. MORRIS: So it would be MAFAC
19 recommends that NOAA maximize the amount of
20 funds dedicated to grants for fisheries and
21 aquaculture research and development.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: SK.

1 MS. MORRIS: From SK.

2 MR. DEWEY: So I don't think I
3 would consider that a friendly amendment. I
4 think it's important to call out the concern
5 that, you know, at least our perception is
6 these funds are being diverted to
7 administrative purposes which isn't their
8 intent.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's fine. We
10 can also put it on the floor as just a regular
11 amendment, if you'd like to have it voted on,
12 Julie?

13 MS. MORRIS: NOAA maximizes --
14 recommends NOAA maximize the amount of SK
15 funds dedicated to aquaculture and fisheries
16 research grant program. Is that the proper
17 language? Is it a grant program?

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

19 MS. MORRIS: Okay.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: So is that your
21 suggested amendment?

22 MS. MORRIS: That would be a

1 substitute motion.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second?

3 MR. CLAMPITT: I can second.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, it's been
5 made and seconded as a substitute motion to
6 the original motion from Bill. Do we have
7 comment on this substitute motion? Yes,
8 Terry?

9 MR. ALEXANDER: That sounds kind
10 of open-ended to me. What about something
11 like minimize administrative costs on -- does
12 that mean the same thing?

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't think so
14 because it implies that there have been
15 multiple instances or at least some instances
16 of that happening, and I think Julie's point
17 is not to call that out, and so that's why she
18 has suggested a substitute motion. So what
19 you would be arguing for is much closer to the
20 original motion, if wanted to say it like
21 that.

22 So the substitute motion can be

1 voted up or down. If the substitute motion
2 passes, then it carries the original motion,
3 and if it doesn't pass, we go back to the
4 original motion and can have further
5 discussion and then we will vote on the
6 original motion. That's how it would go.

7 Now, Tony, I think you had a
8 question earlier about how substitute motions
9 work and you are used to a different process.
10 So did you want to bring that up now, process-
11 wise? No. Okay.

12 So we are using that process at
13 this point. If you want to change it later
14 down the road you can. So we are going to put
15 the substitute motion up for discussion and a
16 vote. Is there any more discussion on the
17 substitute motion?

18 I think we have clearly
19 distinguished between the two. All in favor
20 of the substitute motion, raise your hand.

21 (Show of hands.)

22 If staff could count that.

1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Seven.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: All not in favor
3 of the substitute motion, raise your hand.

4 (Show of hands.)

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: So the vote was --
6 are there any abstentions? You are
7 abstaining. Two abstentions? Three? Four?
8 You don't -- so three abstentions, is that
9 right? Phil? Tom? Okay. All right.

10 Okay, so the vote then was --

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: Seven for --

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: The substitute
13 motion is seven for and six against. So it
14 passes. The substitute motion passes, and
15 that carries the original motion.

16 MR. DEWEY: So our next finding
17 was in response to requests Mark had put out
18 prior to the meeting relative to NOAA's Sea
19 Grant Aquaculture Program requesting input for
20 their thematic priorities for FY '12 grant
21 programs and, Mark, you indicated the time of
22 deadline for those -- that input was before

1 this meeting, but since you raised it again at
2 this meeting, we are presuming that you got an
3 extension for that input. So --

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: We got an extension
5 because we were meeting so close to the
6 deadline.

7 MR. DEWEY: So based on that the
8 committee comes forward with the following
9 recommendation -- subcommittee comes forward
10 with the following recommendation that MAFAC
11 recommend NOAA advise Sea Grant that
12 implementation of the technology transfer and
13 shellfish initiatives to implement the
14 aquaculture policies should be priorities for
15 their FY '12 grant programs.

16 Some particular priorities that
17 would facilitate implementing these
18 initiatives include continuing research on the
19 environmental effects of aquaculture to inform
20 policy and permit conditions, smart designs
21 for aquaculture technology for extensive and
22 land-based recirculating technology, research

1 to identify areas appropriate for aquaculture
2 siting which minimizes users conflicts and
3 maximizes appropriate biological and physical
4 parameters. Coastal marine spatial planning
5 is one potential tool. Self-sustaining, for-
6 profit demonstration/training projects in
7 various regions can also serve as research
8 centers and economic stimulators.

9 Social science research including
10 but not limited to public perception of
11 aquaculture, the effects of domestic
12 aquaculture on market price, and the impacts
13 of floating structure aquaculture on adjacent
14 upland property values.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is that a motion?

16 MR. DEWEY: Yes.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a second?

18 MR. CLAMPITT: Yes.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's been moved
20 and seconded. I have a couple of questions.
21 Is this list coming from somewhere else, or
22 did you just generate it at your --

1 MR. DEWEY: We generated it at our
2 first day subcommittee meeting, so it wasn't
3 intended to be all-inclusive. These were just
4 some of the ideas brought forward. We felt it
5 was important to capture them because it was
6 part of the subcommittee deliberations.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Nice work. Other
8 comments on this motion?

9 (No response.)

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: No comments? No
11 opposition? Is there any opposition to this
12 motion?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Seeing none, it
15 passes unanimously.

16 MR. DEWEY: So the final finding
17 was relative to stakeholder input for research
18 priorities for NOAA -- different NOAA
19 aquaculture -- or NOAA grant programs.

20 So the finding was that they lack
21 a routine stakeholder process for soliciting
22 research priorities for fisheries and

1 aquaculture, and the recommendation was that
2 MAFAC recommends that NOAA and their
3 appropriate granting entities consult MAFAC as
4 a representative stakeholder advisory
5 committee for research priorities prior to
6 releasing research proposal solicitations.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is that a motion?

8 MR. DEWEY: Yes.

9 MR. RIZZARDI: Second.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's been moved
11 and seconded. Is there a discussion, or do
12 you want to speak to it, Bill?

13 MR. DEWEY: I think it's pretty
14 self-explanatory.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Is there
16 any comment on this? Tony?

17 DR. CHATWIN: I have a question of
18 Bill. When you were thinking of, how do you
19 think the process would work? Is this based
20 basically on our professional understanding of
21 what the research needs in our respective
22 fields, or would we do something more thorough

1 and seek research priorities from councils and
2 broader fields?

3 MR. DEWEY: There wasn't a lot of
4 discussion on how in actuality it would occur.
5 It was a recognition that, you know, we are a
6 broad representation of stakeholders that
7 would be appropriate to offer input on these
8 priorities.

9 Whether we, you know, hopefully it
10 would happen with a process that gave us
11 enough time for that review that we would be
12 able to go back to constituencies and vet
13 those priorities, provide some meaningful
14 input.

15 We didn't discuss the details of
16 what that process might look like, and that
17 may be something MAFAC wants to take up in the
18 future, particularly if NOAA opts to take us
19 up on this recommendation.

20 DR. CHATWIN: So if I just may. I
21 agree. I think this is a body that could have
22 constructive input into the issue of research

1 priorities but I wouldn't want it to rely only
2 on our individual prioritization of research
3 needs.

4 I think there are a lot of bright
5 minds in this country that have put a lot of
6 thought into what research needs are in our
7 fields of interest, and I would like this body
8 to be a way that we could enhance the -- or
9 confirm or reaffirm the importance.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: So if I am
11 understanding you Tony, you are suggesting
12 that the motion, as it reads, where it says as
13 a representative stakeholder, it would be like
14 one of the representative stakeholder advisory
15 committees, so stakeholder groups or however
16 you wanted to put it. Is that kind of what
17 you mean? Not the only one.

18 DR. CHATWIN: I guess the
19 uncertainty I have is how much of a
20 representative stakeholder group we are
21 because I think there are research needs that
22 Sea Grant might be, this is for Sea Grant,

1 right, a number of granting agents have their
2 specific priorities which may or may not match
3 well with the stakeholder groups who were
4 presented here and I just wanted to know what
5 process we were thinking about. I think we
6 need to develop that some more.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: So I'm -- excuse
8 me for questioning you. I'm just trying to
9 determine whether you are saying that you
10 would oppose this as it now reads, or whether
11 you would like to suggest a change that would
12 make it more in line with what you are saying.
13 That's all.

14 DR. CHATWIN: I mean, I don't
15 oppose it, what I'm saying, I support it but I
16 want to make sure that it goes beyond us just
17 saying you know I like this priority, I don't
18 like this priority.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Thank you.
20 George.

21 MR. NARDI: The intent when we
22 were doing this I believe was that as it reads

1 and what Heather I think was getting at was
2 MAFAC as a representative, not the
3 representative, so it was to take advantage of
4 the body that's here to help augment the
5 stakeholder input, you know I'm sure NOAA's
6 not going to rely just on the MAFAC input but
7 just to make sure there is another component
8 and some broad comment on it and make sure we
9 capture the representation that's here. It was
10 just one of the things we could do to make
11 sure this stakeholder input is reaching out to
12 a point.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: That was my point
14 George. Thank you. And I am glad that's how
15 you presented it. So that clarifies that for
16 me. One of the things that I immediately
17 thought when I saw the finding, was that that
18 just isn't true in my neck of the woods, and I
19 don't know how it works in other regions, but
20 in the North Pacific, the regional NOAA, you
21 know, takes great pains to go through an
22 extensive stakeholder process to determine

1 their research priorities.

2 It's done every year through the
3 council process, and several other processes.
4 So I find that not true, that finding is
5 definitely not true in the Alaska region for
6 NOAA.

7 So I don't know what happens in
8 the other regions, whether it's similar, that
9 the council process does that, do you know, or
10 Vince do you know? Randy or Vince?

11 MR. FISHER: The councils get very
12 involved in all research priorities. They
13 basically invent their own priority list
14 through the council process that goes to NOAA.
15 If I were voting on this, I would probably
16 vote no on it and the reason I would is
17 because if somebody gave me that and I was
18 Eric I wouldn't know what to do with it.

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: In terms of the
20 process.

21 MR. FISHER: Yes, the process.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Vince can you let

1 us know, did your councils, did they have a
2 similar process?

3 MR. O'SHEA: Yes, in fact I think
4 I sit on a couple of those committees that
5 help guide those priorities, you know, provide
6 the state input to those. So yes. I'm a
7 little surprised at the finding as well.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

9 MR. DEWEY: So, appreciate that
10 input. That is actually helpful. Keep in
11 mind that the people we had sitting around the
12 table were aquaculture-focused and this is
13 where we have the frustration that there isn't
14 a national process.

15 So Mike Rubino actually raised it
16 with us, you know, USDA has a routine process
17 they go through. It's a national outreach
18 where they sit stakeholders down, bring them
19 to meetings, sit them down and formally go
20 through a process to identify priorities for
21 aquaculture research nationally.

22 NOAA does not have a similar

1 process. So you could potentially amend this
2 finding and recommendation to be specific to
3 aquaculture and add national in front of
4 stakeholder and make it more palatable to the
5 group and more accurately reflect what the
6 subcommittee discussed.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: I think that would
8 be a good idea, because as it stands, I don't
9 think I could support it. Are there any other
10 comments? Is that okay with you guys if we
11 amend it to reflect reality? Okay. Keith.

12 MR. RIZZARDI: I have just an
13 observation and a recommendation, that the
14 language is I think appropriately soft. It's
15 not a mandate. It's not an absolute. It says
16 NOAA should consult with us, and you know,
17 that could include a couple of emails to the
18 people who are involved in aquaculture, hey,
19 what do you think of this proposal.

20 That seems pretty reasonable to me
21 and seems to be a good idea. So I like the
22 wording in that it's not a directive mandate,

1 that allows the flexibility but it makes the
2 point which is there's experts sitting in this
3 room and it would be nice if you consulted
4 this.

5 MR. DEWEY: Well, to be clear we
6 were appreciative that Sea Grant reached out
7 to MAFAC and solicited that input. We just
8 want to encourage it to continue to happen in
9 the future, and if there's other grant
10 programs other than Sea Grant, the Commerce
11 SBIRs or other programs that offer grant
12 funding for aquaculture research that you
13 might reach out to them and say hey, you've
14 got a stakeholder body here that can provide
15 you input.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Right, and I am
17 fine with the amendment as that reflects what
18 I know to be true. Mark.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: So, just following
20 up on Bill's comment, the reason Sea Grant
21 reached out was a result of the
22 recommendations. If you go back to the action

1 table, this was one of the findings that you
2 had, that you want to be more involved in the
3 grants processes, so they heard you and they
4 were reaching to get that kind of
5 solicitation.

6 MR. DEWEY: Well I'm glad we're
7 being consistent and we are being heard.
8 That's great.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

10 MR. DEWEY: Another win for MAFAC.

11 (Laughter)

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: So I think the
13 focus is, with respect to aquaculture, I think
14 we are trying to build on that, SBIR is
15 another example. And it's that aquaculture
16 could be subject to their solicitations.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are there other
18 comments? Julie.

19 MS. MORRIS: Can we stick the word
20 aquaculture in the recommendation maybe before
21 research proposal solicitations?

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

1 MS. MORRIS: Are you going to have
2 a sense of the frequency that NOAA releases
3 aquaculture research proposal solicitations?

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Every year, I
5 think.

6 MS. MORRIS: Is it annual? Is it
7 monthly?

8 MR. DEWEY: It depends on
9 appropriations. For this aquaculture
10 initiative it depends on appropriations,
11 whether it's annual or not.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: It's difficult to
13 say because some of our grant programs are
14 exclusively aquaculture. Other are more
15 general in which aquaculture is one category
16 or several, so general solicitation for all
17 NOAA grant programs and at the beginning of
18 the fiscal -- in the middle of June, so it was
19 a broad agency announcement of all the grant
20 programs.

21 And so maybe -- I take the point --
22 - the point I take away is that the

1 aquaculture, being recognized in announcements
2 for grant programs ought to be front and
3 center and when they are looking at the
4 stepping forth, developing their proposal and
5 solicitation, consulting with MAFAC as an
6 entity is where you are hoping to insert the
7 advice of counsel.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Additional
9 comments?

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: I don't know how you
11 figure out that in the writing but I mean
12 that's how I understand it and how we take the
13 intent of your recommendations.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's what I
15 understand it to be. Is that everybody's
16 understanding? Are we okay with this one?
17 More discussion or anything?

18 So, is there opposition to this as
19 a motion?

20 (No response)

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Seeing none, it
22 passes unanimously.

1 MR. DEWEY: That's it Madam Chair.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. And
3 Ken, you are up next, right?

4 MR. FRANKE: I am.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. I need to
6 take a short break and talk to a couple of
7 people, so if we could do a short stand-down
8 of maybe 10 minutes while you are getting set
9 up and ready for this one, I'd appreciate it.

10 Yes.

11 MR. JONER: Madam Chair. Eric had
12 to take off at the end of the national ocean
13 policy discussion, and if it would be
14 appropriate, I want to ask him a question. It
15 won't be threatening. It won't be like the
16 hearing. But may I ask a question on that?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, of course.

18 MR. JONER: Since we have eight
19 minutes left in our --

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: In your hour?

21 MR. JONER: We did not yield our
22 time yet.

1 (Laughter)

2 To my colleagues in Washington.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Let me just say,
4 he said he was going to here until four.

5 MR. JONER: Okay, well it was
6 really good news for me and probably others on
7 Wednesday when Jessica gave us a report -- was
8 it Jessica who did that? Yesterday? Yes.

9 And said that -- it was the first
10 time I've heard it expressed that way -- that
11 NOAA is -- favors having the councils
12 represented on the regional planning bodies.

13 And then I understand that that
14 statement was made by Dr. Lubchenco in the
15 hearing yesterday. So I wasn't aware of that,
16 you know, that she said it at the hearing.
17 It's -- we have clearly been favoring that for
18 some time. I think there was a period where
19 it appeared that it was a done deal the other
20 way. I think that's less apparent now, so
21 there's still some -- you know, it is still an
22 issue that is in play and I would go a step

1 further than that we favor it and say that we
2 have been actively supporting it.

3 MR. SCHWAAB: Right, I think
4 that's --

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's what she
6 said. And everybody went yay.

7 MR. JONER: And she also said we
8 need to continue to actively push on that, so
9 what recommendations -- where do we push? Who
10 do we talk to?

11 MR. SCHWAAB: So you know, the
12 decision-making on trying to -- you know this
13 is a decision that is going to get made under
14 the auspices of CEQ. They are well engaged in
15 the process now, and ultimately -- I say under
16 the auspices of CEQ, ultimately it's the
17 National Ocean Council and a collection of
18 sort of cabinet-level officials that sit
19 there.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: And other people
21 mentioned, maybe Mark, maybe somebody else,
22 during that discussion, that there was a legal

1 issue and that the legal folks were involved
2 in determining whether it was appropriate or
3 legal or whatever for the councils to be
4 actually having a seat on those regional
5 planning points.

6 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes, so that's been
7 part of the deliberation. I think it's less
8 an issue you know -- that's less a point for
9 engagement than it is just a point of
10 information, that there's a -- if there's a
11 you know, if there's a will there's a way, and
12 we seem to be sort of trying to establish the
13 will so that then there's an impetus to find
14 the way.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Fabulous.

16 MR. JONER: Well I think we've
17 made it clear that we also strongly support
18 that and that's why it was encouraging to hear
19 that word we support having the councils
20 involved.

21 MR. SCHWAAB: Time for a group
22 hug?

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

2 MR. JONER: Well, and then move
3 the hug out of the room and that's why we are
4 wondering --

5 (Laughter)

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you for
7 bringing that up. It was very heartening and
8 we appreciated it, in fact, her, and all of
9 NOAA, while she was here.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: It's probably been
11 not as apparent as it should be, but she has
12 been working really hard for fishermen and she
13 doesn't get the credit for that that she
14 should get, but she has been.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: She gave a good
16 presentation.

17 MR. JONER: Thank you.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Now we are
19 going to take a short break.

20 (Whereupon the above-entitled
21 matter went off the record at 1:57 p.m. and
22 resumed at 2:08 p.m.)

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks folks. Any
2 time you are ready.

3 MR. FRANKE: Got your stop watch
4 out?

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

6 MR. FRANKE: Anyway, first of all
7 they just passed out a draft document. That's
8 a compilation of the regional working plant
9 and I'll get to those in a minute.

10 Very good work that they did
11 preparing those and I'll explain a little bit
12 in more detail.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Talk louder Ken.

14 MR. FRANKE: I'll talk louder. On
15 behalf of our subcommittee we would like to
16 preface our comments, with our appreciation
17 for the work, effort of Russ Dunn and Forbes
18 Darby and their staff in moving the
19 recreational fishing and strategic planning
20 method along.

21 Based on previous recommendations
22 from MAFAC, they have successfully engaged

1 their constituency groups on a national level.

2 They have designated regional recreational
3 fishing coordinators and they have moved
4 forward with developing regional action plans,
5 which are those draft documents that were just
6 passed out to you. They are still a work in
7 progress but getting close to the end.

8 During our subcommittee meeting,
9 Russ Dunn and Forbes Darby provided a high
10 level view of the initiatives they undertook
11 this past year, as well as the work in
12 progress.

13 Present by webinar were the
14 members of the recreational fishing working
15 group who have engaged to help advise the
16 MAFAC Recreational Fishing Subcommittee.

17 So I believe that in total we have
18 17 regional experts from throughout you know,
19 the United States and the Pacific who are in
20 that working group.

21 Noteworthy in their presentation
22 was the summary status of the MRIP program.

1 NOAA has already started using some of the
2 data in the MRIP program. They are rigorously
3 testing the pilot programs by verifying
4 records, determining best sampling mode,
5 angler logbook or diary for quality data,
6 looking at public and private land fisheries.

7 There was also an informational
8 briefing on the regional action plans, which
9 are before you. Each region worked with their
10 constituency groups to develop these draft
11 plans.

12 The plans had a common theme by
13 direction kind of digress, and we had the
14 summit, 177 regional leaders, industry
15 experts. They put together their laundry list
16 of here's what we need to do to move things
17 forward and get a little bit better organized,
18 the very basis of we'll call it critical
19 infrastructure, giving that necessary feedback
20 to Forbes and Russ.

21 From there they ended up engaging
22 the -- and selecting their regional

1 coordinators for the development of these
2 plans.

3 And what's key is these plans,
4 once they put together the initial framework,
5 they didn't stop there, they went back to the
6 constituency groups and the rec fish working
7 group and said okay, what do you think?

8 And that was where some good
9 dialogue occurred. We met in Seattle and more
10 information was exchanged. So they are
11 putting together a good step forward in
12 revolving the impact and imparting the
13 ultimate decisions.

14 And the other thing is, is from
15 MAFAC, and I had talked offline with our
16 committee at the last meeting, we were hoping
17 to see measurable things, what can they
18 legitimately get done in a reasonable amount
19 of time and legitimately know that they are
20 going to have funding and resource in order to
21 accomplish the goals.

22 Looking at that list, I went

1 through it line by line, I think they are
2 doing a pretty good job. Some of those
3 projects were existing projects, but it is
4 clear that we are getting some order to how we
5 are proceeding.

6 So each region worked with their
7 constituency groups to develop the draft
8 plans. The plans had common themes of the
9 following five items: improving recreational
10 fishing opportunities; improve recreational
11 catch, effort and stock status data through
12 the MRIPs; improve recreational socioeconomic
13 data -- we have a number of regions that are
14 going through an economic analysis right now,
15 I know where I come from, my home, the
16 Southwest Center has been working for nine
17 months now coming up with that document and we
18 have political leaders waiting to use it to
19 further some of our efforts and agendas in our
20 region.

21 Final two items, improve
22 communication -- within that item especially,

1 we had asked the rec fish working group in our
2 webinar please go back to your constituency
3 groups, get some volunteers, mobilize them and
4 let's get the NOAA coordinator a resource list
5 of here's everybody in your turf that you need
6 to get connected with, and then also if they
7 want to set up a contact system in order to
8 get some dialogue going, great way to do it.

9 I know in our region we hired an
10 intern for a couple of days. By the time the
11 intern was done we had 400 user groups and we
12 handed it out to the Southwest Center to get
13 them engaged with everybody, so a good way to
14 go it.

15 Ultimately, we would like to see
16 this ultimate network so that the recreational
17 coordinators and Russ and Forbes will have a
18 mechanism to go directly to them.

19 The final item was institution
20 orientation, making sure that there's people
21 involved and engaged who really want to be the
22 coordinators and really want to work

1 furthering the recreational fishing items that
2 are on their work list.

3 Emphasis on the regional action
4 plans is placed on region-specific initiatives
5 that were actionable, measurable and which had
6 a reasonable expectation of success.

7 Examples from the regional plans
8 are as follows, and these are just no
9 priority, just picked out, just to give you a
10 flavor for the items that were in there --
11 Alaska, conducting the Alaska saltwater
12 support fishing economic survey, the Atlantic
13 HMS, improved timeliness of estimated landings
14 from large pelagic survey, going through to
15 the availability of information for fishery
16 management; northeast region, move forward
17 with dam removal and fish passage projects. A
18 number of the regions had restoration projects
19 as being real important.

20 Northwest region, implement
21 hatchery reform the program is funded through
22 the Mitchell Act.

1 Pacific Islands, reduce post-
2 release mortality of recreational caught
3 swordfish.

4 Southeast region, create fishery-
5 dependent survey in the U.S. south Atlantic to
6 index the abundance of red snapper and other
7 lead fishes.

8 Southwest region, research and
9 test sea lion depredation methods.

10 It was noted that in most cases,
11 dates of completion were identified. That was
12 one of the things that you know, we really
13 wanted to see is due dates, how much is this
14 going to cost, and you know, the path that was
15 going to be followed to get the job done.

16 At the conclusion of the briefing
17 there was an open discussion on future
18 actions. It was clear a tremendous amount of
19 effort had been put forth by the regional
20 coordinators in the development of their
21 plans.

22 While the themes were nationally

1 consistent, the actionable items were specific
2 to the region.

3 As an ancillary comment, the
4 subcommittee had reviewed the Vision 2020
5 document prior to this meeting. One of the
6 actionable items for the group was to
7 communicate with the working group and
8 incorporate the aforementioned themes into the
9 future revision of the Vision 2020 document,
10 so that whatever we were envisioning for the
11 future was in fact consistent with what NOAA's
12 staff was working toward.

13 That way at the end of the road,
14 the paths are going to cross.

15 This work will proceed and will
16 result in recommendations at the next MAFAC
17 meeting. What we intended to do was take all
18 the information we obtained in this webinar,
19 plus any written comments. We are going to
20 have another conference call and then at the
21 next MAFAC we should be able to come forward
22 with some recommendations and text for the

1 recreational component of the Vision 2020
2 document.

3 During the course of the open
4 discussion, there were two important factors
5 brought forth, one especially actually several
6 especially from the Alaska region, recognizing
7 the NOAA recreational staff were now
8 implementing strategic process, there was a
9 concern that in order for these initiatives to
10 be successful, they needed fiscal security and
11 management council support.

12 And that was where the impassioned
13 cries came so to speak from a number of the
14 people, where they either had one person on a
15 council or nobody to go to, and there was a
16 concern on their part, is anybody looking out
17 for their interests.

18 One gentleman from Alaska, and
19 keep me honest here gentlemen, because you
20 were on the calls with us, but he was
21 explaining that now that the sport fishing
22 halibut regulations had come out in Alaska,

1 they were limited to one fish and then they
2 would have to go -- one halibut, and what is
3 the limit, 36 inches?

4 MR. DYSKOW: Thirty-seven.

5 MR. FRANKE: Thirty-seven inches
6 and that was it for the day, and they could go
7 and fish some other rockfish species. Very
8 tough to bring tourists from outside Alaska to
9 come up and try and catch one fish.

10 So that was just an example of one
11 of their concerns. It was commented
12 repeatedly from various regional working group
13 representatives that they were concerned at
14 the minimal representation or actual loss of
15 representation at the management council
16 level.

17 This was discussed in a previous
18 MAFAC meeting and resulted in a previous
19 recommendation that there should be equitable
20 representation for all parties at the
21 management councils. We received the same
22 commentary from the southeast representatives

1 as well yesterday.

2 To conclude, the subcommittee
3 reviewed the comments of the meeting, and has
4 two recommendations to bring forward to you
5 all for MAFAC to consider.

6 Number one, that there is a
7 restatement that MAFAC encourages there to be
8 equitable representation, to include sport
9 fishing on the management councils. A number
10 of seats were lost recently which is getting
11 us down to either one or none, depending on
12 what council it is.

13 And then the second item is, MAFAC
14 recommends that NOAA incorporates in the
15 budget process consideration of recreational
16 fishing initiatives. We understand the
17 budgets are tight. We just would like to
18 encourage that there be consideration given to
19 Forbes and Russ, and the meager resources they
20 currently have in the form of a regional
21 coordinator who is a collaterally-assigned
22 person. That person has got a full-time job.

1 They have no budget necessarily dedicated
2 directly for their purposes and a part-time
3 ancillary job is to try to hit the pavement,
4 go down to the docks and engage in dialogue
5 and come up with some solutions.

6 So that was the basis for those
7 two recommendations. At this point, Madam
8 Chairman, I would like to turn it over for
9 discussion.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. I am
11 going to ask Ken, if you want to make those
12 recommendations in the form of motions, and if
13 you do intend to do that, now would be the
14 time, and I think it's best to separate them,
15 and make one motion and then the other, if
16 that -- if you intend to make those as
17 motions.

18 MR. FRANKE: That would be fine.
19 The first motion would be a statement that
20 MAFAC encourages there to be equitable
21 representation, to include recreational
22 fishing, on the management councils.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, stop there.

2 Let's just do that one first. And then I
3 would seek a second for that. Do you second
4 it Tom?

5 MR. RAFTICAN: Second.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: So that's back on
7 the floor then for discussion. Let's just
8 start there. Phil.

9 MR. DYSKOW: I'd like to recommend
10 that we change the word encourage to request,
11 because what we are up against is staff is
12 doing excellent work within NOAA. I get the
13 sense that they have gone about as far as they
14 can without their supporting representation on
15 the councils. That's the key next step for
16 them, is if we want to take this from an
17 information-gathering process within NOAA to a
18 successful field project, we need some
19 champions on the regional councils.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: So, Phil has a
21 friendly amendment. Ken, do you expect that
22 as a friendly amendment?

1 MR. FRANKE: I do.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, so the
3 motion then would request instead of
4 encourages. Thank you. Martin and then Terry
5 and then Paul.

6 MR. FISHER: Thank you Madam
7 Chair. I would really like to support the
8 motion. I am a little confused because I
9 thought that was one of the mandates of the
10 councils to have a balance, unknown to itself,
11 we do have a balancing and there's always the
12 intent to maintain that balance, so could you
13 please share briefly which councils are
14 deficient and perhaps even why?

15 MR. FRANKE: As I understood,
16 specifically the Alaska group. According to
17 them they have one representation, or one
18 person representing their interests, and I
19 think it was the southeast region that was
20 complaining yesterday?

21 MR. FISHER: I don't see how that

22 --

1 MR. FISHER: The Gulf of Mexico
2 was a little concerned about their
3 representation.

4 MR. FRANKE: Okay, I stand
5 corrected. Gulf of Mexico.

6 MR. FISHER: Can I follow up on
7 that, because you know, we lost Pam, she is
8 now a council member, she is a recreational
9 representative. There are more recreational
10 representatives than there are commercial on
11 that particular council.

12 So I'm uncomfortable with this
13 only because those councils that are confined
14 with this already, I don't know, it's almost
15 as if -- it's redundant. Could you, would you
16 consider making this specific? I mean, I
17 challenge the notion that there is an
18 imbalance at the Gulf council. But could you
19 make it more specific to the Atlantic, because
20 it seems like that's really what --

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can everybody hear
22 Martin? Can everybody hear that?

1 MR. DYSKOW: What we might be able
2 to do to address that Martin is to say that
3 there's a statement that MAFAC requests there
4 be equitable representation where not already
5 in place. Martin, specific to the Gulf, there
6 was a comment, true or not, I don't know, but
7 from out of the webinar there was the comment
8 made that the Gulf Coast Fishery represents
9 many recreational anglers, and that they felt
10 that they were under-represented and that many
11 of the decisions that had dramatic impact to
12 recreational fishing were being made by people
13 that were aligned with commercial fishing
14 activities in the Gulf.

15 Whether that's true or not, that
16 was the comment that generated that as it
17 applies to the Gulf. It didn't come from us,
18 it came from people that were participating in
19 the webinar.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: So is that
21 appropriate language then for you Ken?

22 MR. FRANKE: I would think that

1 solves issues, Martin, just sort of revisit it
2 so the restated motion would be that MAFAC
3 requested there be equitable representation
4 where not already in place, to include
5 recreational fishing on the national councils.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's what we've
7 got up there right now, so that's good. And
8 Terry, Paul and Dave, and I'm not counting you
9 but if you want to jump in at any time, do.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: Sure. Let's hear
11 some --

12 MR. ALEXANDER: I was basically
13 going to say the same thing as Martin, that
14 it's clearly all balanced I think. I mean we
15 have four rec guys, four fishermen, and a
16 bunch of NGOs and a bunch of state directors
17 and it's a lot.

18 I think we are fairly down stuff
19 there. I don't think that's a nationwide
20 issue. So --

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: And Ken, by the
22 way, it's true that there is only one on the

1 Alaska -- on the North Pacific Fishery
2 Management Council. So that is true.

3 MR. FRANKE: Well, we heard quite
4 a bit from the Alaskan constituents.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, I imagine.

6 MR. CLAMPITT: Well, I just want
7 to comment that you know, a lot of us don't
8 feel they are represented up there in Alaska.

9 I mean it's said that Alaska is the pride of
10 the lower states and the representatives are
11 supposed to represent all the stakeholders.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: They're nominated
13 by the states.

14 MR. CLAMPITT: And so to put
15 something in here specifically that
16 recreational people need to be at more, or
17 more adequate representation, I think it's a
18 perception, that they feel like they are
19 getting beat up on up there right now, but we
20 feel that way often too, so I don't -- I think
21 you know, it's up to each state's governor to
22 make recommendations and it's up to the

1 Department of Commerce to decide, the
2 Secretary of Commerce to decide which one he's
3 choosing.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Dave.

5 MR. WALLACE: Well, my comments
6 are going to be similar to Paul's, you know,
7 the governors select from volunteers, and it's
8 really interesting, we see a number of people
9 who are put forward that are probably not
10 qualified to serve on a regional fisheries
11 management council because they don't know
12 anything about the issues.

13 And so I suggest to the
14 recreational folks that you recruit highly-
15 competent people, and get the governors to
16 submit their names, and then you have a much
17 better chance of having your representatives
18 appointed.

19 But you know -- and there has been
20 a lot of that. The Gulf of Mexico once was
21 completely dominated by the recreational
22 fishing, and the commercial fishermen had a

1 lot to say about that, and for good reason.

2 That was a long time ago but that existed.

3 And so you know, and there are
4 other groups, consumer advocates and what have
5 you, that complain that they also can be
6 appointed but they can't get appointed and
7 that's because their representatives are not
8 the strong candidates.

9 And so if you put up Alaska there,
10 you know, the rule is very clear, that there
11 must be at least a proportion of recreational
12 and commercial and other interested parties on
13 councils and so you know, actually, I don't
14 like this motion, because the way the law is
15 constructed, that -- and I rest my case.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you Dave.
17 Martin wanted to speak again and Ken.

18 MR. FRANKE: Yes, I'm responding
19 to his comment. There was a clear recognition
20 by the parties that were on the webinar that
21 there is the responsibility for the four as
22 you just stated, and to lobby the governors to

1 do that.

2 The purpose of this was to bring
3 in addition to that work that needs to be
4 done, was to bring it over to the federal side
5 and just bring forward the concept of
6 equitability.

7 And intentionally we use that word
8 so as not to paint anybody in the corner and
9 let there be a fairness factor, and some good
10 judgment involved in making selections.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks Ken.
12 Martin.

13 MR. FISHER: I guess I am still
14 having a little bit of heartburn. I just
15 pulled up the council member directory, and
16 out of 11 voting members and I'm not including
17 state directors, or federal and like Dr.
18 Crabtree, out of 11 voting members there are
19 five that are listed as recreational and that
20 we all know are recreational people.

21 And then you have two other
22 designations of commercial and other and they

1 make up the other six. So I'm wondering what
2 equitable means in your mind, if there's five
3 out of 11 voting members that are in one
4 sector, and no other sector comes close to
5 having that amount of voting members, where's
6 the inequity? I don't understand.

7 Okay, so that okay.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead.

9 MR. DYSKOW: The Alaska issue has
10 nothing to do with recreational interests,
11 putting up qualified candidates. I know some
12 of the candidates they have put up. They are
13 degreed marine biologists. They have spent a
14 lifetime on fishery issues in Alaska, I mean
15 they were extremely qualified candidates that
16 this nomination was submitted to the governor
17 for consideration.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Vince.

19 MR. O'SHEA: Thanks, I'll be quick.
20 You know on the -- I was on the North Pacific
21 Council, there's three state directors and
22 nominally they are charged with looking out

1 for the interests of both their recreational
2 and commercial, as I think all the state
3 directors are throughout the country.

4 So I know there's a frustration on
5 the recreational side, and regardless of what
6 the outcome is here, and what NOAA does, I
7 would just offer that that is another venue
8 for them to work the council process to
9 include the state directors who have the
10 charge to represent all the interest groups
11 within their states, and they get to vote.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thanks Vince.

14 Good point.

15 MR. FISHER: Well, I didn't have
16 them yet. I would really support this, I mean
17 I would vote with both hands if we took out
18 ones that were in and put them in Alaska,
19 because that's really what the problem is.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: And I'd have to
21 turn over the gavel because I couldn't be
22 participating.

1 MR. FISHER: I support the idea of
2 encouraging the councils to do that, but it is
3 a council -- it's a council -- it's within the
4 council to fix it, and maybe that's -- I'll
5 shut up.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'd like to make a
7 quick comment on this if I may. I believe
8 that if there is a feeling out there in the
9 public that there is not equitable
10 representation for whichever sector, then
11 NOAA/NMFS has to deal with that.

12 I think it's an imperative of the
13 organization to deal with that public
14 perception. If it's real, it's real and it
15 needs to be fixed. If it's real we will find
16 out. And so I believe the integrity of the
17 council process has to be protected and in
18 order to protect it, you have to deal with
19 these issues head on and not say it's not
20 true, it's not true in my area.

21 I will readily say that in Alaska
22 there is one sport fish representative, and

1 right or wrong, if there's a perception of
2 that not being equitable then that needs to be
3 addressed.

4 Maybe it is equitable. Maybe by
5 some economic analysis, you can say that
6 that's equitable. Maybe it's not.

7 I just believe in the integrity of
8 the council process and I want that not to be
9 challenged by perceptions that weaken the
10 council's ability to serve the public.

11 So that's my soapbox for the day.

12 MR. FISHER: Madam Chair. Without
13 being able to deal with this, what do you
14 think this accomplishes?

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Pardon?

16 MR. FISHER: Do you think this
17 motion accomplishes what you don't want to
18 accomplish or what you do want to accomplish?

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: I support that
20 motion.

21 MR. FISHER: You do. That's what
22 I wanted to know.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Eric.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: So thank you Madam
3 Chair and thank you all for this discussion.
4 This is an issue that we spend a lot of time
5 on every year when we go through council
6 appointments, and so I was glad to hear Ken
7 your sort of -- the definition of what
8 equitable representation consists of or that
9 it's not sort of just simply a numbers game, I
10 mean obviously that's part of the challenge.

11 And you know, we have worked
12 really hard in the last couple of years at
13 least, and that's all I can really speak to,
14 to ensure sort of good quality candidates in a
15 good -- with good geographic and sort of
16 interest sector based representation.

17 We don't always achieve that. I
18 think the prime example that has been noted
19 here is Alaska. We have had some -- we have
20 had some -- I mean the north Pacific and we
21 have had some frustrations because you know,
22 because we never get a slate of candidates

1 from Alaska that includes a recreational
2 candidate to choose from.

3 And our option then becomes to
4 sort of push back on that. I mean ultimately
5 the Secretary's response can be to reject the
6 list, and request a new list, and we haven't
7 taken that step.

8 And -- but it continues to -- I
9 think the north Pacific is the place where we
10 probably, I can honestly say continue to
11 struggle the most.

12 I mean in the Gulf, you know,
13 there's a -- sometimes there's a seat that
14 moves one way or the other, the same is true
15 in a lot of the other councils.

16 I think we have in this year a
17 Gulf seat that shifted by one from a
18 recreational to another and I'm looking over
19 at Russ because he keeps track of all this
20 stuff very closely.

21 But, and we issue a report and
22 that report is available I think on the web.

1 It talks about you know the council makeup and
2 the like.

3 So this continues to be an
4 important issue for us. You know I don't
5 certainly object at all to -- and it's in fact
6 welcome, you know, MAFAC is sort of reminding
7 us of the importance of this issue.

8 But you know, rest assured, we are
9 you know, we are focused on it, we certainly
10 focused on it in those two or three months in
11 the spring when the process unfolds.

12 But you know, I have also thought
13 a little bit about how we could work with some
14 of the governors to ensure that we get good
15 lists -- continue to get good lists or in the
16 case that maybe that we don't get adequate
17 sort of diversity, try to encourage them to
18 beef that up, and I think that opportunity
19 would also be available to constituents in
20 those states.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: I'd also like to
22 clarify just a little bit more what I was

1 saying. I think that if there's any
2 perception of any inequitable representation,
3 it doesn't matter if it's recreational
4 fishermen. It could be Alaska natives, in the
5 case of the Alaska region, it could be
6 Washington-based, it could be any sort of
7 sector or subsector that feels as though they
8 are not being represented. That's not good
9 for the council process is my point.

10 And we need to just deal with it
11 somehow, and figure it out, region by region
12 what's there, and encourage the governors to
13 do what's fair and everything else. I mean
14 that was my point. So --

15 MR. CLAMPITT: Just one last
16 thing, in the Alaska council by mandate,
17 Alaska gets at least six out of the eleven
18 votes and our organization right now, along
19 with fishing groups from Oregon and
20 California, are trying to change that, so that
21 we are all represented on there and more
22 equitably.

1 We feel like we are getting beat
2 up all the time. They are changing laws that
3 I mean the stated goal of Alaska is to
4 Alaskan-ize all of the fisheries.

5 They want every -- they want us to
6 get lost basically. So I take exception to
7 that motion. I mean if we want to remove
8 recreation, which doesn't make sense because
9 it's a recreational subcommittee, but I think
10 you know, the goal is to have equitable
11 representation everywhere and we are trying to
12 achieve that, like you said.

13 But I can't support that, because
14 a lot of us get beat up.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

16 MS. DOERR: I just want to ask --
17 I just wanted to suggest some potential
18 language to address all this and to have it
19 state MAFAC requests that there be equitable
20 representation of all recreational, commercial
21 and other fishing interests in the management
22 council, or other interests in the management

1 councils.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can you say that
3 one more time please?

4 MS. DOERR: MAFAC requests that
5 there be equitable representation of all
6 recreational, commercial and other fishing
7 interests on the management councils.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are you suggesting
9 that as a friendly amendment to Ken?

10 MR. FRANKE: I would accept that
11 recommendation because our ultimate goal
12 dealing with all the folks, is to do the right
13 thing, be fair, and be reasonable, and I think
14 that friendly motion meets those requirements,
15 but I'd open it up for further discussion. I
16 think that's a good solution. Again, we were
17 dealing with our subcommittee, that's why we
18 had the word recreation. We dealt with this
19 exactly the same way the last time we took out
20 the word recreation and just said fishing, and
21 that was the solution the last time as well.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: So that's been

1 accepted as a friendly amendment. So that
2 becomes the motion language now. Thank you
3 Patty.

4 MR. FRANKE: Good job Patty.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Martin.

6 MR. FISHER: Well now I can vote
7 with both hands.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: Mark was showing me
9 the Magnuson act and you might just read those
10 two lines, just for information.

11 DR. HOLLIDAY: Eric and others are
12 submitting a list of names instead of the
13 governor of the state submitting a list of
14 names, shall include at least one nominee each
15 from the commercial, recreational and charter
16 fishing sectors, and at least one other
17 individual who is knowledgeable regarding the
18 conservation and management of fisheries
19 resources in the jurisdiction of the council.

20 Those are the legal or statutory
21 lists of the range of candidates' labels.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you. Just

1 send that to the governors, right? Julie.

2 MS. MORRIS: So, isn't this a
3 restatement of what the current law and rules
4 are?

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Probably.

6 MR. CLAMPITT: Yes.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: According to what
8 we just heard. Is that a bad thing? Are you
9 saying that's a bad thing? Julie?

10 MS. MORRIS: Well --

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: I didn't catch it.

12 MS. MORRIS: Not necessarily that
13 it's bad but I mean, it's always nice to
14 reinforce what the law is. It seems like this
15 comes to us because there's a sense in
16 specifically Alaska that this has been the
17 case, and we had an explanation that it's
18 because the governor doesn't nominate anybody
19 with recreational interests.

20 And so I support this but it
21 doesn't seem like it addresses the real
22 problem.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Go ahead.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: So you know, of
3 course, the underlying -- the underlying
4 counter-argument coming out of in the north
5 Pacific is that commercial fisheries dominate
6 up there.

7 Therefore, you know, having you
8 know, numbers balance would be inappropriate
9 but there are still remains, I think, a
10 legitimate concern that one is not enough, and
11 partly because of I think reasons that Paul
12 articulated we wouldn't -- it would be hard
13 for the other states to provide us that name
14 without sort of even further, you know,
15 disproportionately affecting the commercial
16 interests from the states outside of Alaska.

17 So we you know, have hoped to and
18 have tried to you know, encourage Alaska to be
19 more -- to provide a more diverse slate of
20 candidates. Ultimately our choice is going to
21 be to reject the list and it may come to that,
22 but it hasn't yet.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Bill and
2 then Paul.

3 MR. DEWEY: I lost my thought.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Paul.

5 MR. CLAMPITT: Another comment
6 about Alaska. It's not like they don't have
7 any representation. I mean, they spent 10
8 years trying to work out an equitable catch
9 share program between the commercial sector
10 and the commercial charter sector. They don't
11 like to call themselves commercial but they
12 are.

13 And we handled this, it took 10
14 years, it finally passed, and then it went to
15 the Federal Register, it went up for review,
16 they asked for an extension. They got it.
17 And then the state of Alaska stepped in and
18 said wait a minute, we don't know enough yet.

19 And they threw the whole thing out
20 and it's all back on the table. So it's not
21 like the charter boats in Alaska don't have
22 representation and nobody is looking out for

1 them.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: That is a whole big
3 issue --

4 MR. CLAMPITT: Yes.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: And one that I
6 hesitate to get into in this forum.

7 MR. CLAMPITT: Well we will.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: We will eventually
9 I'm sure.

10 MR. DEWEY: Thank you Madam Chair.

11 I'm not familiar with how the council
12 succeeded, but I just wanted to make it clear
13 for the motion who MAFAC is making this
14 request of.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Unless it's
16 stated otherwise, I am assuming that that was
17 the advice, is that right? That was right.
18 Steve.

19 MR. JONER: I just want to add for
20 those who may not be totally familiar with
21 Alaska and what is apparently you know, not a
22 balanced representation, what I think Eric

1 said, the vast majority of the fisheries are
2 large, commercial fisheries. The other thing
3 Alaska has that no other state has is
4 subsistence fishing. So if you live in a
5 community, I guess smaller than Juneau, Sitka,
6 you have a subsistence fishery.

7 So I have a daughter in Juneau --
8 in Sitka. They catch all the halibut the way,
9 all the salmon they want, they go put out a
10 long line for it, they can go out and reel,
11 they can set a gill net for sockeye.

12 So it's not like the average state
13 and the recreational fishing is through these
14 charter boats, or the odd guy who goes up
15 there and has his own boat.

16 But it's a different situation,
17 and I know in the Pacific council, there's
18 probably four, five recreational, three, three
19 but things are done through the states.
20 That's kind of the structure. And I know in
21 Washington they are -- the recreational
22 fisheries are very equitably represented

1 within the policies of the state of
2 Washington. So you can't exclude those.

3 But you know, I think if I were a
4 support representative sitting through
5 discussions on Steller sea lions or bycatch
6 rates in the whiting trawl fishery, you know,
7 that's -- if you don't have that much direct
8 interest or involvement, it's probably best
9 not to have somebody with just a narrow focus,
10 and as a sportsman, you know, I think they
11 need to certainly be represented but there are
12 other factors that play into it that I think
13 we need to be aware of.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you Steve.
15 I think you have had the discussion on this.
16 I think we are ready for a vote. All in favor
17 of this motion raise your hand.

18 (Show of hands)

19 CHAIR MCCARTY: All opposed raise
20 your hand.

21 (Show of hands)

22 MR. ALEXANDER: I'm going to

1 abstain.

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: Any other
3 abstentions?

4 MR. RIZZARDI: I did. I missed
5 too much of it. I abstained.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: Keith is
7 abstaining. Keith and Paul are abstaining.
8 It passes. Thank you. Go for it Ken.

9 MR. FRANKE: The second item, this
10 regards specifically the support of
11 recreational staff assigned by NOAA, MAFAC
12 recommends that NOAA incorporates in the
13 budget process consideration of recreational
14 fishing initiatives. In other words, just be
15 able to make comment to the regional
16 coordinators and their administrative staff
17 that they ought to be taking a look at budgets
18 and what do they need in order to succeed
19 depending on what their missions are in their
20 various areas.

21 Right now, as I understand it,
22 it's loose in the area of what is done and

1 they do their best with what they have, but it
2 was just to put it out there that they ought
3 to think long-term now and start solidifying
4 their presence in the world. We really think
5 this idea of regional coordinators. We would
6 like to see it continue.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: So it sounds likes
8 there's more than just a budget issue there.
9 But I could be wrong. I'm hearing you say
10 regional coordinators, regional coordinator.
11 Is that something that has not been put in
12 place because it isn't funded, or what?

13 MR. FRANKE: We looked through the
14 regional coordinators, and will say that the
15 budget -- that the fiscal awareness of them
16 has been an indicator that they were going to
17 be there to stay, versus, if their new staff
18 coming in to take over, and there's no line
19 item there for those coordinators to support
20 their mission, that's basically up for grabs
21 whether or not their functionality will
22 continue. So we would like to see that

1 continue.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: I think the key
3 point is that we went out to each region where
4 we didn't already have a recreational
5 coordinator designated and essentially tasked
6 the regional administrator with identifying
7 somebody to assume that role.

8 And it sounds to me like what you
9 are asking for is that we sort of lend that a
10 greater sense of permanence in the planning
11 and budgeting process.

12 And you know, I think that's a
13 fair -- that's a fair request.

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you Eric. I
15 didn't ask you to make that into a motion, but
16 I am assuming it's a motion.

17 MR. FRANKE: Yes.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: And then second?

19 MR. RAFTICAN: Second.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: And Tom. It's
21 been seconded. So is there discussion or
22 questions on this motion? Martin.

1 MR. FISHER: Thank you Madam
2 Chair. We need more money for data. We need
3 more money for data for recreational and
4 commercial. Every time in my neck of the
5 woods that the recreational angling community
6 goes over their tack by a million pounds, we
7 lose == we all lose, the commercial fishery,
8 the tack gets lowered because we no way to
9 count you guys' fish. You have no way to
10 count your guys' fish.

11 Now if this, if funding the -- I
12 am a little bit off on what recreational
13 fishing initiatives, that's a broad term, and
14 if you want to direct money at creating a
15 better data stream for the recreational
16 community, I'm all for that, I'll vote for
17 that with both hands because that's going to
18 help me too. It's going to help all of us.

19 I don't really understand what
20 recreational fishing industry --

21 MR. FRANKE: I'd love to answer
22 that if I may.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Please.

2 MR. FRANKE: Those action plans
3 that you received, most of those are funded
4 items through existing work that NOAA is
5 doing, but there are unfunded things, like for
6 instance having somebody do staff work to
7 research who all the constituency groups are,
8 to pay for web development so that they can
9 have an informational source with all the
10 regulations on them and have a forum to go and
11 answer questions.

12 Most of it is not high dollar
13 items. It's day to day, conducting business
14 expenses. We just wanted to support all the
15 work that Forbes and Russ have been doing to
16 make sure that everybody recognizes that we
17 really want to acknowledge that they are here
18 to stay, so, and give their folks the tools
19 they need in order to do the job.

20 MR. FISHER: Well, that doesn't
21 necessarily help me formulate my opinion but I
22 understand.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: I understand. Is
2 there other comment or questions? Let's try
3 this. Is there objection to this motion?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Seeing no
6 objection, it passes unanimously. Thank you,
7 Ken.

8 MR. FRANKE: Thank you, Madam
9 Chairman.

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Good job.
11 Excellent. It's actually like five to three.
12 I think I just want to have a couple of
13 minutes to talk about Vision 2020.

14 We didn't have it on the agenda to
15 report out as a subcommittee. It's an ad hoc
16 committee, not a standing committee, and the
17 members of the committee can be anybody.

18 So if anybody wants to jump on and
19 help that would be really great. We had a
20 meeting on the telephone as probably most of
21 you know, because most of you were on it, and
22 then we had another meeting here which had new

1 members involved.

2 And so we kind of went back over
3 everything that we had talked about on the
4 teleconference, and what we ended up doing, I
5 don't have a written report for you and I
6 apologize, but when we get the minutes back
7 from this meeting we will put together sort of
8 a summary of this and send it out to you.

9 Basically what we have ended up
10 doing is deciding on the things that needed to
11 be added to Vision 2020. We decided that it
12 was going to be --

13 MR. SCHWAAB: This is Tom's last
14 meeting --

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Pardon?

16 MR. SCHWAAB: This is Tom's
17 goodbye. He's out the door.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Tom is leaving
19 right now?

20 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: Sorry.

22 MR. SCHWAAB: Madam Chair, I would

1 request for a moment that we break from the
2 agenda.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Absolutely.
4 Absolutely. Go for it.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: To recognize a very
6 longstanding member who is departing literally
7 as well as figuratively. So Tom, I said
8 earlier --

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Pictures.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: that there are a
11 number of people here that I have spent just a
12 huge amount of time with on the committee and
13 outside of the committee, since I joined the
14 committee, and you are one of those people,
15 and it's just been a great pleasure working
16 with you in all those capacities and I expect
17 to continue to work with you in one of those
18 capacities and several others, but we had this
19 plaque made to recognize your service to the
20 Department, to NOAA, to the committee, and we
21 wanted to present that to you at this meeting,
22 your last meeting.

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. RAFTICAN: I'm amazed. The
3 pleasure has been all mine. Working with you
4 folks has really been an experience, a really
5 great experience and, you know, I take away so
6 much more from this than I bring to the table.

7 I'd like to thank you -- Eric,
8 thank you again for the good job that job that
9 you are doing out there, recognizing MAFAC,
10 raising the level, and truly it's been a
11 pleasure and I'll miss you guys, I really
12 will. So I'll catch up with most of you
13 around the corner anyhow.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. SCHWAAB: That's a little
16 preview for a few of you others.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, a little
18 tear in my eyes there. Anyway, we assigned
19 people to jobs basically and some of you don't
20 even know it yet. Tony, for example, you have
21 a job. So I hope you will accept it. I'll
22 tell you what it is later because I can't

1 remember what number it is.

2 It's one of the things that you
3 wanted to add. So -- and also I think you
4 volunteered to help with the climate change
5 discussion, as well. So, anyway --

6 DR. CHATWIN: So it's something
7 else?

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Pardon?

9 DR. CHATWIN: Something else?

10 CHAIR MCCARTY: Water quality?

11 MR. FISHER: I took that one.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: You took water
13 quality. I can't remember. I am a little
14 verklempt. Anyway, I think that is going to
15 be a good effort. It's going to be not
16 anywhere near as complicated as the first
17 effort. It's really not that hard. We are
18 going to identify where it needs to be
19 updated. We are going to add some of the
20 current themes and current trends, and make
21 our recommendations.

22 We are going to go up through

1 2040, is kind of what we -- 2040, yes. Twenty
2 more years. So we are going to expand a
3 little bit and it will come back to you, of
4 course, probably several times, but the first
5 step is doing this assignment work that we
6 assigned ourselves, and that's all due on
th
7 November 14 .

8 So a week after that, what we will
9 have is a red-line version with all of the
10 additions, all the recommended additions, and
11 the changes, updates and so on, and we will
12 send that out to the full group at some point
th

13 quite soon after November 14 . That will be
14 the first step. I imagine there will be other
15 teleconferences of the working group and I'm
16 sure it will culminate in a meeting of the
17 entire group, whether it be by teleconference
18 or at next spring's meeting, I'm not entirely
19 sure yet.

20 But I think we are going to try to
21 get it done relatively quickly because it
22 doesn't need to get dragged out. So I am

1 going to be heading that up as the chair of
2 that subcommittee until my time with you is
3 over, and then it will be up to the next Chair
4 as to whether that person wishes to chair the
5 standing, I mean the ad hoc committee, or pass
6 it off to somebody else that's already working
7 on things. So that'll be a decision that'll
8 be made by the new Chair.

9 So that's it -- oh, we appreciate
10 you getting the aquaculture stuff, and so
11 that's sort of ready to go, essentially. The
12 recreational stuff, Ken -- Ken, I think we
13 need your stuff sooner than the next MAFAC
14 meeting, and if you want to talk about that
15 later we can.

16 But basically the time line that
17 we have sort of envisioned doesn't really
18 anticipate waiting that long to get that
19 material. So we are going to have to ramp
20 that up a little bit.

21 MR. FRANKE: We can do that.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. I just

1 wanted to let you know, I noticed it was part
2 of your report but I didn't mention it when
3 you said it so -- anybody else on the working
4 group want to say anything else about where we
5 are at with that?

6 Okay, so we have pretty much
7 covered it. And Patty volunteered to do all
8 kinds of stuff. So okay, we are going to have
9 the election now, unless we have other things
10 having to do with these reports.

11 MR. ALEXANDER: What about this?
12 Where did we end up with this? Are we taking
13 this home with us or are we --

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: What are you
15 pointing at?

16 MR. ALEXANDER: The paper from --

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: No we are not. We
18 are going to have a webinar at some point in
19 the near future, at which we will be working
20 from material that is going to be developed by
21 staff and volunteers and we are going to be
22 preparing that before the webinar so that we

1 are prepared.

2 So I am going to turn it over to
3 you Mark to do this unless you would like me
4 to run it in some way? Okay.

5 DR. HOLLIDAY: So it's very
6 simple. We are going to hold a paper ballot.

7 We have nominations for Chairperson and Vice-
8 Chair. The nominees for Chairmen in
9 alphabetical order are Tony Chatwin and Keith
10 Rizzardi.

11 The nominations for Vice-Chairman
12 in alphabetical order are Martin Fisher and
13 Dave Wallace. We have exclusive paper
14 ballots.

15 MR. SCHWAAB: You're not going to
16 paint everybody's finger?

17 (Laughter)

18 DR. HOLLIDAY: One for each line
19 here with the left hand side, and then report
20 the results.

21 With this, make your mark, it's
22 anonymous voting. Just fold it in half and

1 then give it back to me and we'll tally the
2 vote.

3 We had pre-voting so Tom already
4 voted before he left, so he didn't lose his
5 opportunity, and actually Paul was on his way
6 out the door and so he voted as well. Tom did
7 vote?

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: And just to be
9 clear, the gavel doesn't get turned over right
10 now.

11 (Laughter)

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: It stays with me
th
13 until I leave which is December 8 I believe.

14 DR. HOLLIDAY: Did you get one?

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: No I didn't.

16 DR. HOLLIDAY: Because we had this
17 one --

18 And if you have voted and want me
19 to pick it up, raise your hand. I'll mark it
20 off that I have received them.

21 CHAIR MCCARTY: You're going to
22 take these and tabulate them right?

1 DR. HOLLIDAY: Well, I was going
2 to suggest that --

3 (Simultaneous speaking)

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: I'll just ask Josh
5 to do that and we will have someone to confirm
6 his work before we finish.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: So I will -- we can
9 do the meeting venue and date, is that next on
10 the agenda?

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, and I'm also
12 going to talk about the --

13 (Simultaneous speaking)

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: So there's one
15 other order of business regarding choosing
16 folks, and that would be the subcommittee
17 chairs, as it turns out I think all the
18 subcommittees -- yes, I think all the
19 subcommittee chairs are leaving.

20 So we need new chairs for the
21 subcommittees. Keep in mind that if you are a
22 subcommittee chair, you are also a member of

1 the executive committee. We have rarely
2 convened though during the course of putting
3 together Vision 2020, we did quite often,
4 because it was easier to get the executive
5 committee together than the whole group.

6 But if you are interested in being
7 the chair of any of the subcommittees, Mark
8 asks that you submit your name to him ASAP and
9 either by email -- I recommend email actually,
10 just so there's a record of it. So that's
11 what I would do if I wanted to be considered
12 and then that person for each of the
13 subcommittees is chosen by the leadership,
14 right?

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, by Eric.

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: By Eric. Phil.

17 MR. DYSKOW: Is it possible that
18 an existing Chairman can have another term?

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: Possible? Sure.

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: An existing
21 chairman of a subcommittee?

22 MR. DYSKOW: Yes.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: The existing
2 chairman doesn't get replaced unless they
3 leave is my understanding.

4 MR. DYSKOW: Okay.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: So yes, if you are
6 not leaving MAFAC, you stay on as the
7 subcommittee chair.

8 MR. CATES: So when you sign up
9 for chair you are there for life?

10 (Laughter)

11 MR. CATES: You serve at the
12 pleasure of --

13 (Laughter)

14 MR. FISHER: No, another way to
15 say that is if there is a sitting chair, that
16 person.

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: I can't hear you
18 Mark.

19 MR. FISHER: I'm sorry.

20 MR. DYSKOW: We were unclear on
21 what you said. If we have a chair, who is not
22 being -- whose term has not expired, why would

1 we choose to replace him?

2 CHAIR MCCARTY: You do not. You
3 do not.

4 MR. DYSKOW: Thank you.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are there other
6 questions? No? Okay Mark. Do you want to do
7 the meeting stuff?

8 DR. HOLLIDAY: So thank you to
9 everybody who took my request this morning
10 about meeting times for the next two meetings.

11 We are scheduled -- we are going to have to
12 schedule two meetings in 2012. And we
13 identified again open dates.

14 We have everybody's votes in and
15 the dates for the spring meeting of all the
16 people who are on the committee who were
17 voting with one exception is the week of May

nd th
18 22 to the 24 . Everybody but one of our
19 commission members can attend that at that
20 point in time.

21 There were five people who could
22 attend on the alternate spring date. So the

1 general way we try to do this is to find a
2 time when the overwhelming majority of people
3 can come but it's pretty rare that we find a
4 date that everybody can come.

nd

5 So I'm targeting May 22 to the
th
6 24 as the date for the spring meeting and
7 then we can entertain -- I'll go through the
8 other date first and then we can entertain
9 suggestions by the committee as to where you
10 would like to go.

11 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: The second, the
13 fall meeting -- we generally have one in the
14 spring and one in the fall -- the fall meeting
15 we also made a special note that if there is a
16 Managing Our Nation's Fisheries III again our
17 plan is to hold that in October, the dates on
rd
18 the 23 /4/5 as a placeholder date. That
19 could change but we have included that in the
20 poll to see if MAFAC members would be
21 available and one of the meets -- sorry?

22 MR. SCHWAAB: Don't they have a

1 hotel contract for that?

2 DR. HOLLIDAY: No.

3 MR. SCHWAAB: Okay. Sorry.

4 DR. HOLLIDAY: They are in the
5 process of trying to negotiate --

6 MR. SCHWAAB: Okay. Sorry.

7 DR. HOLLIDAY: And so we gave that
8 as an option for consideration, and everybody
9 who participated -- all the participants in
10 the poll could make it that week, the week of
th th

11 November 6 through 8 , and two members who
12 couldn't make that but everybody else who
13 submitted on the poll could make it on the

rd th
14 23 through the 25 , so that looks to be a
15 good date for the fall meeting.

16 The September option had to be
17 looked at. There were four members who
18 couldn't make that. So those are what I would
19 recommend for consideration as the dates based
20 on the doodle poll.

nd th
21 CHAIR MCCARTY: May 22 to 24
rd nd th

22 and October 23 to -- May 22 through 24

1 and October 23 through 25 .

2 MR. RIZZARDI: And that is the
3 date that coincides with the rec fisheries
4 three?

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: We don't know yet.

6 DR. HOLLIDAY: The tentative date
7 for that, and so we -- as we discussed
8 earlier, MAFAC would use our funds to bring
9 you to that Managing Our Nation's Fisheries
10 III but we don't have supplemental funds to
11 send you to a third meeting. So we could
12 actually have it the day before or the day
13 after, exclusively for MAFAC business, so that
14 we could continue the momentum that we have
15 generated and keep track of our activities,
16 but also be available to participate fully in
17 the Managing Our Nation's Fisheries III.

18 The fallback is if that date
19 changes, is pushed off into the future or some
20 other time, we would normally have our fall
21 meeting sometime in October anyway so we will
22 still hold that date, and have a full three-

1 day MAFAC if there's a Managing Fisheries III,
2 if that's pushed off until calendar year
3 2013.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: If there's a
5 Managing Fisheries III, is it going to be
6 three full days? Do you know yet?

7 MR. SCHWAAB: I don't think that
8 we know that yet.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: I don't think that
11 it would be three full days.

12 DR. HOLLIDAY: The planning is for
13 two and a half days.

14 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: I was just going
16 to say it's obvious that if you want to have
17 other business then attending the Managing
18 Fisheries conference then you would probably
19 have to schedule, just slightly off set the
20 days that the conference was going to be, a
21 day ahead, a day after so that you could do
22 other business in addition to going to the

1 Managing Fisheries conference. Randy?

2 You made a comment the other day
3 about the timing for the Managing Fisheries
4 conference and I don't think Eric was here and
5 I know this is slightly out of context, but I
6 do want you to say it again.

7 MR. FISHER: Well really I was
8 just was wondering about the logic of having
9 the meeting right before the election. Nobody
10 is going to be around. They are all going to
11 be away and I don't want to bring this up, but
12 it's possible that there will be a change in
13 the administration, so the logic of having it
14 right before the election just seems to escape
15 me.

16 I can see it after the election,
17 in March or something, but since there is no
18 hotel available, you know, maybe it's a good
19 excuse not to do it.

20 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes, so I know there
21 was some discussion of that point in the lead
22 up. I don't honestly remember the detail, how

1 we ended there anyway, so -- but I also was
2 not aware that there was a booking issue so we
3 can certainly take that sort of back under
4 advisement although again, it's -- there was
5 some awareness of that issue when --

6 MR. FISHER: Management of what.

7 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes. Yes.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Is there a need
9 for a motion on this Mark?

10 DR. HOLLIDAY: No, it's not really
11 a motion.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: In terms of the
13 timing. I think it sounds like the timing is
14 pretty well self-regulated here, self-
15 choosing. So -- however there is an issue
16 about the place in May.

17 So Martin?

18 MR. FISHER: We've been on these
19 discussions for the last two meetings, so
20 people have been talking around, you know,
21 breakfast lunch and dinner, either San Diego
22 or Seattle and Seattle seems to be a good

1 pick. It's got two regional seats. It's --
2 this guy over here and all these wonderful
3 things that he wants to share with us and a
4 host of other things. So --

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Are you throwing
6 out Seattle as a potential place?

7 MR. FISHER: Or San Diego.

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Bill.

9 MR. DEWEY: So if you do all come
10 to Seattle, it does open up and we'll try --

11 (Laughter)

12 MR. DEWEY: If you all want to
13 come on up and see some shellfish farms and
14 dig around we can accommodate that.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Can I come?

16 MR. DEWEY: So we had last time
17 MAFAC met out there was actually my first
18 meeting, so six years ago, but we did it, you
19 know, we had a wonderful aquaculture tour, got
20 around some of our shellfish farms. We have
21 got a restaurant, a clam and oyster house,
22 catered a dinner at the guys and people pretty

1 much enjoyed it and if there's someone who
2 remembers that --

3 (Laughter)

4 Larry Simpson would be with the
5 thumbs up too, Larry continues to talk about
6 dinner since so we would certainly offer to
7 provide that again. I would look forward to
8 that interaction with you all again.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Super. Steve did
10 you want to speak to that?

11 MR. JONER: Yes, I can't promise
12 fresh sockeye as we had in July of 2006, is
13 that what it was?

14 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes.

15 MR. JONER: But I'm sure the Makah
16 tribe would be glad to, if there was an
17 opportunity, to cook some fish over the fire
18 again.

19 MR. DEWEY: We would be able to
20 show you all of the exciting new jobs that
21 have been created by the national shellfish
22 initiative.

1 (Laughter)

2 The restoration projects that are
3 going on out there.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Well, you know, do
5 we do it by acclamation? Does anybody have a
6 different point of view than Seattle in May?
7 I have to say that would be a gorgeous time to
8 be in Seattle.

9 So I'm all for it. Shall we just
10 say by acclamation? Seattle in May?

11 MR. CATES: Does NOAA have any
12 view on that issue?

13 MR. SCHWAAB: No, I think that
14 would be fine.

15 DR. HOLLIDAY: This is all subject
16 to appropriations.

17 MR. CATES: We might be all out of
18 a job.

19 DR. HOLLIDAY: My salary comes
20 from your travel.

21 (Laughter)

22 MR. CATES: How true that is.

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Seattle in
2 May.

3 Raise your hand if you think it's
4 a good idea.

5 (Show of hands)

6 MR. JONER: Do I still get to
7 vote?

8 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay, it's
9 unanimous. We did it. And obviously the
10 October one is in D.C. unless the Managing
11 Fisheries doesn't happen and I suppose you can
12 cross that bridge when you get to it. Or fall
13 off that bridge when you get to it. Bill.

14 MR. DEWEY: I mean, I carry
15 forward from staff but keep in mind that MAFAC
16 has recommended a half day workshop for new
17 people coming in. I mean if you are going to
18 do a tour, you are pretty much going to have
19 to dedicate a day, because of the distance to
20 our farms. To get out and see things and do
21 it justice, you need an extra day to do that.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: A whole day.

1 MR. DEWEY: Just keep that in
2 mind.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. So you
4 wouldn't have to -- it wouldn't have to be
5 mandatory, I mean obviously you could tack a
6 day on to have the field trip, but it wasn't
7 mandatory.

8 MR. DEWEY: And the tide is right
9 smack in the middle of the day, so you are
10 looking at two hours either side of the tide
11 if you want to do some low-tide things.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. All right.
13 I think we have decided on that. Anything
14 else having to do with meetings or dates? And
15 the next order of business is to find out who
16 won the election.

17 DR. HOLLIDAY: Yes, by majority
18 vote, for the position of Vice-Chair, Martin
19 Fisher. And by majority vote for the
20 Chairperson, Keith Rizzardi.

21 (Applause)

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Excellent.

1 Congratulations.

2 MR. RIZZARDI: Thank you.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: That was just too
4 darned easy. Okay. I have -- I have one
5 additional thing and then I will call on
6 Randy. I had one additional thing, and we
7 talked about Managing Fisheries III a number
8 of times. We didn't have it really on the
9 agenda. You had mentioned to me I think a
10 year ago that you thought MAFAC should have a
11 role in that.

12 We discussed it kind of amongst
13 ourselves, not really formally, but I think we
14 wanted you to know, at least I think that's
15 the will of the group, that we would
16 definitely like to have a role, and I think we
17 just wanted you to know that.

18 And we have talked about what that
19 role might be. I recommend that an executive
20 committee follows through with this, that
21 maybe the executive committee could be tasked
22 with keeping in touch with everything that is

1 going on in the development of Managing
2 Fisheries III, and Mark can contact that group
3 with any news and any updates, and then once
4 it gets set, that group can either act as the
5 working group, or appoint a working group to
6 work on how we will participate in that.

7 Now, if you have specific ideas, I
8 think you should put them out now for us to be
9 chewing on.

10 MR. SCHWAAB: Thank you. So when
11 we talked a year ago, part of the thought was
12 that we would have a series of smaller
13 workshops that would lead into the bigger
14 event.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, you mentioned
16 that.

17 MR. SCHWAAB: It is -- and my
18 thinking at that time was that you know there
19 might be a topic or two that would fall into
20 one of those smaller workshop categories that
21 MAFAC would be interested enough to take a
22 view on.

1 Since that time, there's been I
2 guess I would say further discussions with the
3 council coordinating committee, and perhaps
4 less you know excitement around that model
5 than we had originally envisioned, which is
6 not to say that model, that concept is dead.

7 But we just haven't really -- we
8 haven't really circled back to that, and I
9 think all in all the substantive planning has
10 been sort of lagging a bit, and we have a
11 group of three, and I'm looking around the
12 room, because we have a group of three staff,
13 and the council coordinating committee had
14 tasked three people to sort of constitute the
15 organizing committee.

16 So it seems to me that one of the
17 things we need to do, I mean, we need to sort
18 of go back and get a check in, I do, on where
19 that is and use that as a launch point to come
20 back to this committee and say here's what we
21 -- I think I would think that I certainly can
22 on behalf of NOAA say that we welcome you

1 know, a strong engagement. I would assume the
2 council coordinating committee members would
3 also welcome that.

4 But we will nail it down with them
5 and maybe come back with some recommendations
6 or options.

7 CHAIR MCCARTY: Thank you.

8 MR. SCHWAAB: If that's fair.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: That's good.
10 Another loose end, that I wanted to bring up,
11 because you missed it during this meeting too,
12 was MAFAC's role working with the outreach
13 folks, and we were very pleased that we had
14 such a presence from the Department and you
15 and I had also talked about how MAFAC can be a
16 tool for outreach for NOAA/NMFS and we talked
17 a little bit more about that, and I really
18 hope that you use MAFAC to do that. It's a
19 two-way street. We can help NMFS look better
20 and help you teach people what they need to
21 hear.

22 So I just wanted to bring that up

1 since you missed that discussion.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh great, thank you.

3 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes. Is there
4 anything else that people feel that Eric
5 missed that he needs to hear very briefly?
6 Okay. I am taking the opportunity. I hope
7 you don't mind.

8 MR. SCHWAAB: No.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Then that I
10 think concludes my points. Randy.

11 MR. CATES: I would just like to
12 make a couple of comments and maybe some
13 thought from MAFAC. Martin said something
14 yesterday in the subcommittee hearing that
15 really caught my attention, and that was he
16 had put a document structure in front of you
17 folks and then he clarified that for MAFAC to
18 basically take ownership of what MAFAC wants
19 to do with recommendations.

20 And I thought about that and I
21 think it's very true especially with some of
22 the measures that are going on and I thought

1 about the time I've had on MAFAC, and how we
2 conduct business, and I think there should be
3 a discussion in the future of when is MAFAC at
4 its best, and to me, MAFAC has been at its
5 best when we have dialogue like we did earlier
6 today, where we take a hard issue and we
7 discuss it, and it seems that as time has gone
8 by we have gotten less of that, and I think we
9 need to structure the meetings a little bit
10 more where we have more dialogue and more back
11 and forth and we draw from each other's
12 expertise.

13 Having said that, I think one
14 valuable tool that I always look at is having
15 Randy Fisher here because he has got so much
16 history on MAFAC, and we can draw from what it
17 used to be like and how it evolved and
18 changed, and with the new members and going
19 forward. We need to find a way for the new
20 group, how can we best advise the Secretary of
21 Commerce, and to me it is more -- more of in-
22 depth on an issue, and less of presentations

1 and short cue answer time.

2 I mean let's get into the hard
3 issues. Let's do the hard work. That's what
4 we are here for and let's not be afraid of
5 opposing opinions.

6 CHAIR MCCARTY: I agree with you
7 completely.

8 MR. CATES: One other quick thing.
9 Maybe I mentioned this too, what you just
10 said, about outreach, but do we need to be
11 careful of that as far as the documents that
12 we sign when we first sign up, remember when
13 we first signed up we got the talk about how
14 we are an advisory group and we are not in
15 lobbying and doing the things -- so there's a
16 fine line there I think.

17 MR. SCHWAAB: Yes, I don't -- Mark
18 probably understands sort of the details of
19 that better than I.

20 DR. HOLLIDAY: I don't think
21 there's any risk of -- I think most people who
22 have been on the committee understand

1 boundaries of the difference between lobbying
2 -- we have made that clear, as we come to
3 town, if you came here to town on MAFAC money
4 and you want to go up and talk to the
5 representatives on the Hill, you are crossing
6 the line between using federal funds for
7 lobbying and that sort of thing.

8 So those are pretty
9 straightforward. I think the only risk you
10 have is when you are outside of MAFAC and you
11 are at a public hearing or you are at a
12 council meeting or someplace else, you need to
13 make sure you are just -- when you identify
14 yourself, who you represent.

15 So you are not representing MAFAC
16 at that point in time, even if you are a MAFAC
17 member. You are representing your
18 organization or your firm or your client.

19 So I think sort of the clarity of
20 transparency when you are making these
21 determinations, are you speaking on behalf of
22 a position that MAFAC has voted on, are you

1 conveying that? Versus you are representing
2 your day job, your paying job or your
3 constituency.

4 So I think most people seem to get
5 it. I don't, you know, have many questions
6 about circumstances where people are
7 uncertain, so I think that's the only time
8 when it would become that -- when I'm out
9 there doing something in a council arena or
10 some other public venue, who am I
11 representing, and just making sure that's
12 clear.

13 And if you do that, and you sort
14 of self-identify, I don't think you'll have
15 any potential problems communicating and
16 staying clear or running afoul of any ethical
17 conflicts.

18 CHAIR MCCARTY: Okay. Any other
19 points to the good of the order?

20 Okay you want to do that now?
21 Let's do that.

22 MR. SCHWAAB: It's time

1 CHAIR MCCARTY: It's time.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: So to the rest of
3 the outgoing members.

4 CHAIR MCCARTY: Except for Cathy.

5 MR. SCHWAAB: So a lot of the same
6 personal sentiments go, but Steve Joner, so I
7 will just say this which is in lots of venues
8 where we ask individuals to represent in some
9 fashion the interests of the tribes and that's
10 particularly challenging and tasking because
11 of the diversity of interests that exist, I
12 will just say, from the get-go and throughout
13 Steve, you have done just a great job of doing
14 that I think with skill, with just the right
15 amount of assertiveness, and just you know
16 perhaps a little more than the right amount of
17 storytelling --

18 (Laughter)

19 And I will never forget, I will
20 never forget for the rest of my life Joner and
21 the whale.

22 MR. JONER: And I appreciate your

1 kids being attentive.

2 MR. SCHWAAB: We still talk in my
3 house about Joner and the Whale.

4 (Applause).

5 MR. JONER: I'm happy with what
6 Tom said and Randy says it a lot and that is
7 it feels like he's the one that's being
8 informed coming to these things.

9 You know I have really learned a
10 lot about the agency, about fisheries about
11 the country, and of course we've had some
12 really good work here, and I'm going to miss
13 it, but I'm glad you're coming to Seattle
14 because it will be a good phase-out for me and
15 hopefully we can have a repeat with the full
16 program this time, the Makahs really wanted to
17 sing and dance and show up there but more
18 importantly teach games to you.

19 So anyway, it's been a very very
20 rewarding experience. I've learned many
21 things.

22 (Laughter)

1 (Simultaneous speaking)

2 (Applause)

3 MR. SCHWAAB: So the next one is
4 Bill Dewey. So Bill I think you know came in
5 at a time when the committee was very focused
6 on advancing the agency's aquaculture agenda,
7 came right in, I think at the perfect time to
8 complement our former Chair, Tom Billy,
9 because what Bill brought was the real world
10 experience that had -- that we have been able
11 to translate into what I think are now only a
12 very effective hot set of policies but also
13 some very effective sets of actions, and I
14 think that really sort of you know,
15 demonstrates the MAFAC expertise feeding right
16 into agency plans and actions, at its very
17 best, and obviously you have done that with a
18 tremendous amount of skill and grace and
19 warmth. So Bill, it's been great, and we'll
20 see you soon.

21 (Applause).

22 MR. DEWEY: Thanks for the kind

1 words and I just want to thank everybody, I
2 have really enjoyed the relationships I've
3 made, all of the education and information.
4 You have broadened my knowledge so much about
5 the country's fisheries and you have extended
6 my knowledge on aquaculture.

7 I'll miss you guys. I'll look
8 forward to seeing you in May. We'll have a
9 good time.

10 (Applause)

11 MR. SCHWAAB: And last but
12 certainly not least, Madam Chair. This is
13 your last meeting right?

14 So you know, for lack of a better
15 characterization I'll refer to you as the jack
16 of all trades, right, I mean you have filled
17 almost every function and every role that we
18 have needed you to fill, up to and including
19 your recent term as the chair, and it has just
20 been a pleasure.

21 And in every one of those roles
22 you have brought energy. You have brought

1 expertise. And you have brought a get-it-done
2 kind of approach and we served over the years
3 on subcommittees together and it was always a
4 pleasure either having you on the subcommittee
5 or running the subcommittee, because we knew
6 we would get to the goal line and it would be
7 the right -- we would be in the right place.

8 And so you know, you have brought
9 that, I think, particularly to a number of the
10 important initiatives that will carry on
11 beyond your tenure here on the committee.

12 And thank you most for stepping up
13 and serving as chair in this last year, and so
14 Heather it's been a pleasure and --

15 (Applause)

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: You guys are
17 fabulous, and you know it's been an honor
18 working with you all, and with the agency. I
19 have a little bit of a soft spot for the
20 agency understandably, and I know way too much
21 about it.

22 But I still like it and I still

1 believe that NMFS in particular does
2 incredible work and the fact that I have been
3 able to be part of that for this long is huge
4 to me.

5 It meant a lot to me personally
6 and professionally and it's already been said
7 a bunch of times, you know, you get more than
8 you give in this group, because of all the
9 incredible back and forth, and Randy, I agree
10 with you, there needs to be always that.

11 And don't be afraid to do the hard
12 stuff because you can, and that's what you are
13 here for, and if I had any advice to give you,
14 it would be don't be afraid of controversy and
15 do it with a smile on your face, and have
16 respect for other people and you'll be okay.

17 It's also been a pleasure to work
18 with the staff and I want to thank everyone
19 for the support that you have given me this
20 last year.

21 (Applause)

22 MR. JONER: Heather, I'd just like

1 to note that our class is very unique and
2 privileged because we came in with Eric and he
3 is the boss now, and in that time, we served
4 with three NMFS administrators so you know, we
5 had a great opportunity to get to know a lot
6 of people and to be working with three
7 different individuals so that was I think a
8 real pleasure for us, for me especially.

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: It was. And I'd
10 like to say a couple of words about Cathy.

11 MR. SCHWAAB: Oh yes, thank you.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: I don't know
13 whether you are intending to do that.

14 MR. SCHWAAB: So yes, I guess
15 you're going to have to go to Kodiak and
16 deliver that, huh?

17 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, Cathy was --
18 she was an inspiration. She was a workhorse.

19 She was a sweetheart. Talk about doing the
20 hard things with a smile on your face.

21 That was Cathy Foy and I hope
22 she's listening somewhere, but it broke her

1 heart not to come to this meeting. So I
2 wanted to thank her.

3 MR. SCHWAAB: Maybe we can get her
4 to Seattle.

5 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes I bet you can.
6 She was wonderful. So I'd like a round of
7 applause for Cathy.

8 (Applause)

9 MR. EBISUI: On behalf of the
10 membership I think that you, Bill, Steve, Tom
11 have been exemplary models for the rest of us.
12 We have learned a lot. Thank you.

13 MR. FISHER: Hear hear.

14 MR. JONER: Hear hear.

15 (Applause)

16 CHAIR MCCARTY: You now have
17 permission to roast any of the outgoing
18 members.

19 (Laughter)

20 MR. FISHER: You mean the ones
21 that aren't in the room.

22 CHAIR MCCARTY: Even the ones that

1 aren't in the room. Even better.

2 So if anybody wants to say a few
3 words about the outgoing members feel free to
4 do so.

5 MR. DEWEY: Let the record reflect
6 that there was a standing ovation for Cathy
7 Foy.

8 (Laughter)

9 CHAIR MCCARTY: Even though I
10 don't think we stood up.

11 MR. DEWEY: Yes we did.

12 CHAIR MCCARTY: All right.
13 Congratulations.

14 MR. RIZZARDI: Thank you.

15 CHAIR MCCARTY: And
16 congratulations Martin. It's in good hands
17 with you guys.

18 MR. RIZZARDI: Well, we still have
19 you for a few more months so --

20 CHAIR MCCARTY: Yes, you do I'm
21 going to be working hard too, I don't know
22 why. Anyway, unless there's other items of

1 business I think we stand adjourned.

2 (Whereupon the above-entitled
3 matter adjourned at 3:35 p.m.)
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In the matter of: Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

Before: NOAA

Date: 10-27-11

Place: Washington, DC

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