

Stakeholder Workshops to Explore Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) as a Potential Prioritization Tool to Support Fisheries Management in California

Southern CA: Long Beach

Thursday, June 15, 2017
9:00am - 3:00pm
Veteran's Park Community Center
101 E 28th St, Long Beach, CA 90806

Northern CA: Santa Rosa

Thursday, July 27, 2017
9:00am - 3:00pm
Justice Joseph A. Rattigan Building
50 D St (at First St.), Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Purpose and Objectives

California Ocean Science Trust, in partnership with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), invite those interested to participate in a workshop to explore the role that Ecological Risk Assessments (ERAs) may have in prioritizing and informing the management of California fisheries.

Both workshops will follow a similar program, and fisheries experts from throughout the state will be invited to:

- Review draft ERA scoring for five pilot fisheries as examples for considering target species, along with habitat and bycatch risks, and provide feedback on the tools related to CDFW and stakeholder priorities.
- Explore Productivity Susceptibility Analysis (PSA), another type of risk assessment, which focuses on the risk of fishing activity to fisheries, and its preliminary results.
- Learn about the Marine Life Management Act (MLMA) Master Plan amendment process, including how ERA may support CDFW's broader prioritization goals.

Workshop Program

Registration

8:30am - 9:00am

Welcome and Introductions

Greet fellow participants, meet the management team, and learn about the context and goals of today's workshop.

Overview: What is an ERA and Its Potential Role in Managing CA Fisheries?

Gain a foundational understanding of ERAs, including PSA, and learn how the pilot tools align with the [draft amended Framework for MLMA-Based Management](#) and may help to inform California's fisheries management.

Discussion: Review Draft Scoring and Solicit Participant Feedback

With a deeper understanding of the functionality and value of ERAs, review and provide feedback on draft scoring conducted by CDFW fishery experts on nine units of analyses, covering five fisheries (White Sturgeon, Kelp Bass, California Halibut, Pacific Herring, and Spiny Lobster) with diverse gear and sector types, and three ecosystem components (target fishery, bycatch, and habitat).

Test Out Tool: Hands-on Experience with Draft ERA Tool

Engage in an interactive experience in break-out groups to test out the tool on a regional fishery of interest (based on one of the five pilot fisheries) and gain a deeper understanding of the process of scoring and tool outputs.

Introduction to PSA

Explore PSA and preliminary results from 45 fisheries based on scoring by CDFW fishery experts, and seek feedback from participants.

Looking Ahead: Next Steps for Pilot Project and Informing Broader Prioritization Framework

Learn how draft scoring and feedback during today's workshop will inform the prioritization of fisheries management efforts in the MLMA Master Plan and be shared with a broader stakeholder audience in the amendment process.

Thank You and Adjourn

Some travel reimbursements are available upon request, and lunch will be hosted. To help with logistics planning, participation at the workshops requires an invitation and confirmed RSVP. Fisheries experts interested in attending are welcome to contact Errin Ramanujam for a direct invite and RSVP to Strategic Earth Consulting (rsvp@strategiearth.com). Meeting materials will be posted at <http://www.oceansciencetrust.org/projects/era/> in advance of the workshops.