



Council Member Ongoing Development Program Information

The inaugural Council Member Ongoing Development (CMOD) meeting will be held November 15-16th, 2022 in Denver, Colorado. This document contains information about the CMOD program, regional participation, meeting preparation and logistics. A draft agenda is also enclosed. The May 2021 update to the CCC on the CMOD program is available [here](#).

About the CMOD program

The CMOD program is a new initiative developed by the Council Coordination Committee (CCC) as a professional development opportunity for Regional Fishery Management Council members and staff, with the purpose of fostering cross-regional exchange and building participants' topical expertise and procedural skills. The CMOD meetings are policy neutral and will not result in policy decisions or recommendations. Participants will include Council members and staff from all eight Councils, NMFS staff, and invited speakers. The CMOD program is funded through support by the Regional Fishery Management Councils in partnership with NOAA Fisheries, with oversight by the CCC through a CMOD Steering Committee.

The first CMOD meeting will focus on new approaches to Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) and Ecosystem Approaches to Fisheries Management (EAFM), and include a skills session focused on making effective motions.

Regional participation

The CMOD meeting is designed to provide opportunities to share experiences and discuss shared challenges and questions in an informal setting. Participants will be asked to actively engage in workshop discussions and be prepared to share relevant examples and anecdotes from their Councils' experience.

Based on previous CCC guidance, participation will be limited to approximately 50 people including 4 participants from each of the eight Councils (e.g., 3 Council members and 1 Council staff) and 10 NMFS personnel from the regions and headquarters. The CMOD Steering Committee recommends that each Council send participants who have a baseline understanding of EBFM/EAFM principles, and who have been on or with the Council for at least one year. The Councils may wish to consider sending members who have the knowledge to actively participate in the discussion, and who can leverage this training opportunity to help lead their Council on EBFM/EAFM issues in the future.

The enclosed draft agenda reflects the scoping conducted by meeting facilitators to identify the key topics and discussions of interest across management regions. The specific presentations and regional examples highlighted at the workshop will be identified based on Council and NMFS participation.

Councils are requested identify participants by Friday, July 1.



Meeting preparation and briefing materials

As context for meeting discussions, each Council will be asked to provide a short (2-3 page) summary of their EBFM/EAFM work and designate a participant to give a short, high-level presentation at the meeting. The meeting facilitators will provide additional guidance to Councils to prepare their summaries and presentations.

The final agenda and workshop briefing materials will be provided to participants in advance of the meeting and posted on the U.S. Regional Fishery Management Councils website (<http://www.fisherycouncils.org/cmmod>).

Registration, travel and logistics

The 2022 CMOD meeting will take place November 15-16th, 2022 at the Renaissance Denver Downtown City Center Hotel in Denver, Colorado. The meeting will also include two social events: a welcome reception the evening of Monday, November 14th, and a group dinner on Tuesday, November 15th. A workshop registration form as well as information on travel will be provided to participants by mid-September. A block of rooms at the hotel has been reserved for the group at the prevailing federal rate.

For additional information, please contact Tom Nies (tnies@nefmc.org). Future updates on the CMOD meeting will be shared with Council executive directors by email.

CMOD Steering Committee

Tom Nies, NEFMC Executive Director
Bill Tweit, NPFMC Vice Chair
David Witherell, NPFMC Executive Director
Diana Evans, NPFMC Deputy Director
Kitty Simonds, WPFMC Executive Director
Merrick Burden, PFMC Executive Director
Bob Dooley, PFMC Council member
Emily Muehlstein, GMFMC Council staff
John Carmichael, SAFMC Executive Director
Miguel Rolón, CFMC Executive Director
Mary Clark Sabo, MAFMC Council staff
Stephanie Hunt, NMFS Office of Sustainable Fisheries

Meeting facilitators

Katie Latanich, Katie Latanich Consulting (katie@klatanichconsulting.com)
Kim Gordon, Resource Logic (kim@resourcelogicconsulting.com)