



FLC Update

Engagement Report

Council/AFSC

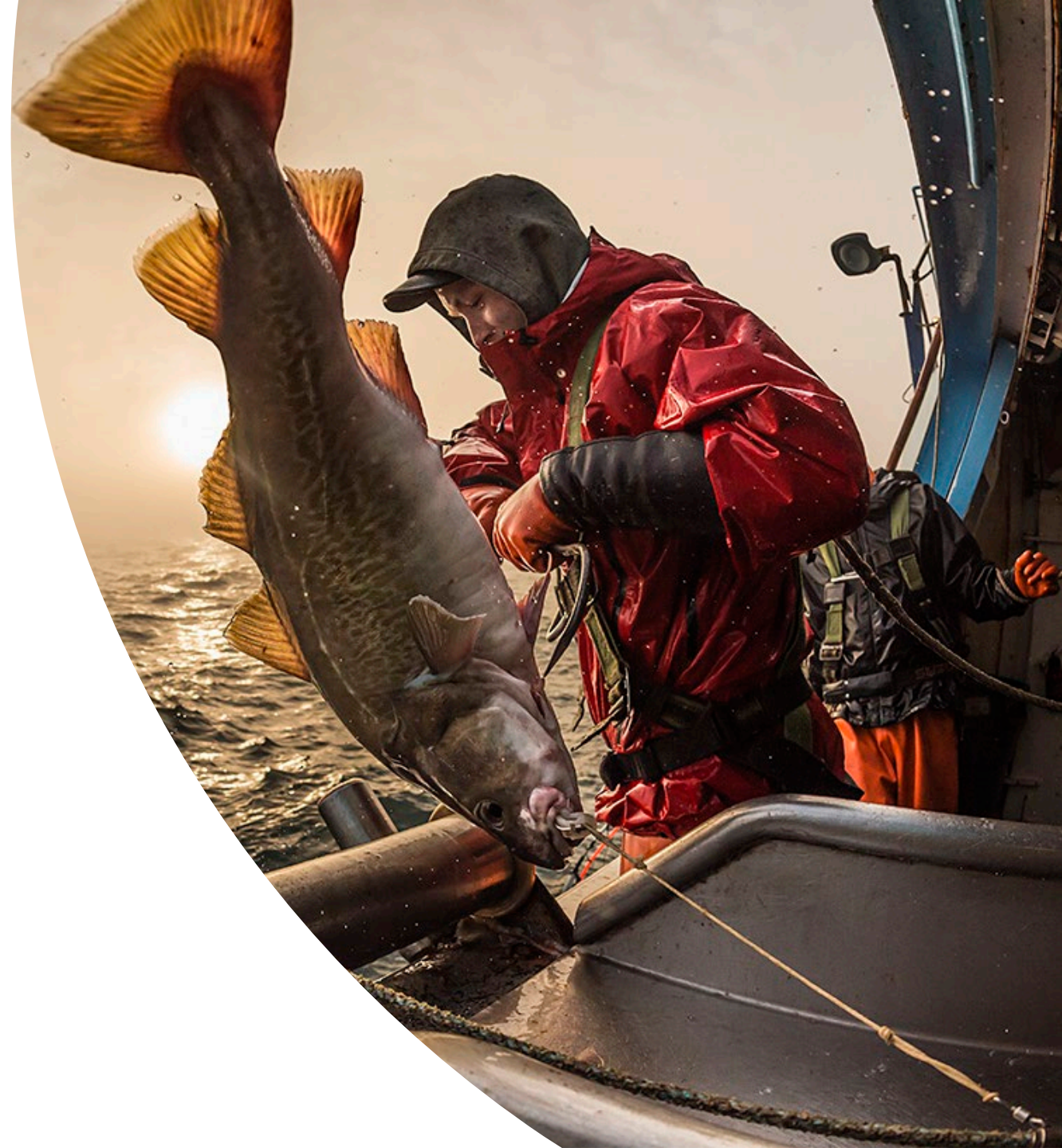
Pacific cod
Other groundfish stocks

State/Local

State of Alaska
NBS Communities
State of Washington
City of Seattle

Federal

Spring DC visit
Seafood Harvesters
2020 GOA cod disaster relief





Council/AFSC

- Pacific Cod
 - Managing the catch
 - Assessment
 - Research
 - BS satellite tagging
 - Cod stomachs
- Other Groundfish
 - Greenland turbot
 - Sablefish

State/Local

- State of Alaska
 - UFA
 - Resource landing tax
- NBS Communities
 - Flyer on freezer longline fleet
 - Research collaborations
- State of Washington
 - Washington Maritime Federation
 - B&O tax exemptions
- City of Seattle
 - Seattle Maritime Lands





Federal

- **FLC Spring DC visit**
 - Highlights from trip
 - Key topics
 - Takeaways
- **Seafood Harvesters of America**
 - Priorities, engagement
- **2020 GOA cod disaster relief**
 - Distribution of relief funds

Senate Commerce Committee Hearing

Nomination of Paul Dabbar to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Sen. Sullivan comments – fisheries survey funding (1:28)





Trump Administration

Changes Impacting Fisheries

- **Changes to date**

- Funding limitations
 - Spending limits, administrative hurdles
 - Continuing Resolution – carryover of FY 2024 funding
- Staff reductions – early retirement, probationary employees
- Tariffs

- **Changes to watch**

- Capacity reduction. Funding and staffing reductions
 - NMFS, AFSC, Council
- Agency reorganization.
 - Transfer of Protected Resources to Interior
 - Elimination of programs, services

President Trump FY 2026 “Skinny” Budget Request

Friday, May 2, 2025

Program Name	\$ Change from 2025 Enacted (in millions)	Brief Description of Program and Recommended Reduction or Increase
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)—Operations, Research, and Grants	-1,311	The Budget terminates a variety of climate-dominated research, data, and grant programs, which are not aligned with Administration policy-ending “Green New Deal” initiatives. For example, NOAA’s educational grant programs have consistently funded efforts to radicalize students against markets and spread environmental alarm. NOAA has funded such organizations as the Ocean Conservancy and One Cool Earth that have pushed agendas harmful to America’s fishing industries. These NOAA grants were funding things such as: George Mason University’s “Policy Experience in Equity Climate and Health” fellowship, a workshop for “transgender women, and those who identify as non-binary,” and NOAA Climate Adaptation Partnerships, which funded webinars that promoted a children’s book “designed to foster conversations about climate anxiety” as therapy.
USFWS Ecological Services	-37	USFWS’ Ecological Services program and NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Protected Resources are jointly responsible for administering the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Budget consolidates these two programs into a single program housed within DOI, consistent with the President’s efforts to improve performance and reduce the Federal bureaucracy, as well as his deregulatory agenda.

Personnel Cuts – NMFS AK Region

April report to Council

Sustainable Fisheries Division:

Bill Donaldson - Bill started his position with NMFS with a wealth of experience in fisheries after many years of work in research and management for ADF&G and as a port sampler for the IPHC. Bill ran our Kodiak field office, and over the past 13 years, Bill represented AKRO in Kodiak and organized monitoring for the Rockfish Program. As part of his rockfish duties, Bill was a common sight in Kodiak processing plants where he worked with plant managers and processing crew to ensure high quality data was collected. In addition to his rockfish duties, Bill was part of the vessel inspection team and inspected scale and video systems on catcher processors. He was well known and vital to supporting our groundfish fisheries off Alaska.

Aaron Lambert - Aaron worked for the Alaska Region for 6 months as a fishery management specialist. Aaron led the quantitative aspects of the 2025 SAFE report for the Cook Inlet EEZ Area salmon fishery, including presenting to the SSC and Council during the February meeting. The Alaska Region very much appreciates Aaron's outstanding contributions.

Operations Management Division:

Debra Cruz - Deb worked for the Alaska Region for 11 months and was the Travel Coordinator for all our employees. In addition to travel support, she served as backup Timekeeper, completed AKR's labor audits, and supported the management of our accountable property.

Carl Greene - Carl worked for the Alaska Region for 9 years, first as our Cost Recovery Fee Coordinator and then as a Budget Analyst. At the beginning of January we lost our Cost Recovery Fee Coordinator, Charmaine Weeks, and Carl stepped in to provide support to keep those programs moving.

Restricted Access Management Division:

Sabrina Donnellan - Sabrina worked for the Alaska Region for 4 months as Branch Chief for the Records and Technical Services team within RAM. She led work in response to the Region's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, records management, and administrative record gathering in response to litigation. Additionally, she performed data analysis to help improve fisheries permitting decisions, data reporting capabilities, data sharing, and privacy and confidentiality practices. Sabrina was a vital part of the RAM and Alaska Region team and made significant contributions.

Information Services Division:

Dave Hanson - Dave Hanson began working for the Alaska Region in 2017 as the lead DevOps in the Information Services Division. His job was supporting, building, maintaining, and planning for the infrastructure needed to support the custom software and databases necessary for the Alaska Region to manage fisheries. Eventually, Dave was promoted to the Supervisor of IRO, where he continued to perform the DevOps work as well as supervise the user support, security, and network infrastructure staff. Dave retired in November. His work was vital to the Alaska Regions IT Infrastructure and all data processing operations.

Stacy Katasse - Stacy Katasse worked for the Alaska Region for 7 years. She started at the region as a software developer leading an effort to modernize our internal applications. Her passion for Project Management, Quality Management, and Continuous Improvement quickly led her to a supervisory role in the Applications Office. As the supervisor, she led a team of 4 developers and several contractors in maintaining operations, including all permitting systems, quota share management tools, and reporting. Stacy was integral in the functioning of permitting and quota

share management for the region, as well as a force in modernizing the region's business process improvement.

Will Davies - Will worked for the Alaska Region for 3 months as a software developer. He was on the Integrated Fisheries Application team and the Operational Support team. Will was building a bridge of knowledge between our legacy systems and our new cloud systems and was making vital contributions to AKR's efforts to fully "operationalize" our cloud services.



⌵ PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

RESTORING AMERICAN SEAFOOD COMPETITIVENESS

Seafood Competitiveness E.O. – Key Excerpts

Sec. 2. Purpose. The United States must address unfair trade practices, eliminate unsafe imports, level the unfair playing field that has benefited foreign fishing companies, promote ethical sourcing, reduce regulatory burdens, and ensure the integrity of the seafood supply chain... It is vital that we now build upon our previous hard work with new, additional measures to promote domestic fishing.

Sec. 4. A New Era of Seafood Policy. (a) The Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and with input from the United States fishing industry, shall immediately consider suspending, revising, or rescinding regulations that overly burden America's commercial fishing, aquaculture, and fish processing industries at the fishery-specific level.

(i) The Secretary of Commerce shall request that each Regional Fishery Management Council, within 180 days of the date of this order, provide the Secretary of Commerce with updates to their recommendations submitted pursuant to Executive Order 13921, to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production.

(ii) The Secretary of Commerce shall solicit direct public comments, including from fishing industry members, technology experts, marine scientists, and other relevant parties, for innovative ideas to improve fisheries management and science within the requirements of the MSA, ESA, the MMPA, and other applicable laws.

(iii) The Secretary of Commerce shall pursue additional direct public engagement to ensure executive departments and agencies (agencies) are focusing core fisheries management and science functions to directly support priority needs that strengthen our Nation's seafood supply chain.

Seafood Competitiveness E.O. – Key Excerpts

(c) The Secretary of Commerce shall direct the National Marine Fisheries Service to incorporate less expensive and more reliable technologies and cooperative research programs into fishery assessments conducted pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1867. As soon as practicable, the Secretary of Commerce shall expand exempted fishing permit programs to promote fishing opportunities nationwide. Further, the Secretary of Commerce shall take all appropriate action to modernize data collection and analytical practices that will improve the responsiveness of fisheries management to real-time ocean conditions.

(f) The United States Trade Representative shall examine the relevant trade practices of major seafood-producing nations, including with regard to IUU fishing and the use of forced labor in the seafood supply chain, and consider appropriate responses, including pursuing solutions through negotiations or trade enforcement authorities, such as under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2411).

(h) Within 180 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall review all existing marine national monuments and provide recommendations to the President of any that should be opened to commercial fishing.

FLC Comments on Seafood Competitiveness E.O.

The FLC supports implementation of measures identified in this E.O to:

- Optimize harvest, production of U.S. seafood, consistent with MSA,
- Develop trade policies favorable to U.S. fisheries, including for seafood sales, operations, and
- Invest in fisheries management and science tools to advance data collection and assessments.

FLC believes strongly that **U.S. fisheries, especially the Alaska region are a global model of fisheries management that is foundational to the success of the U.S. fishing industry and the sustainability of our oceans and seafood.** Investment in federal science and management work supporting our U.S. fisheries, and the federal workforce needed to perform these tasks are essential to U.S. seafood competitiveness. Our hope is this E.O. serves to prioritize this investment and to integrate new tools and actions to further support the competitiveness of our U.S. fisheries.

FLC Comments on Seafood Competitiveness E.O.

FLC Recommendations to the E.O.

Sec. 4(a) Regulatory Reform, Prioritization

- Electronic monitoring (EM) adoption
- North Pacific fisheries surveys

Sec. 4(c) Scientific Efficiencies, Modernization

- Survey modernization.
- Cooperative research

Sec. 4(e) Seafood Trade Strategy

- Maintain Russian seafood ban
- Tariff mitigation

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SUSTAINABLE | LINE-CAUGHT | WILD ALASKA COD

FREEZER LONGLINE COALITION

A fisherman wearing a bright green rain suit and a hat is working on the deck of a fishing vessel. The vessel's blue hull is visible, and the background shows a dark, stormy sea under a cloudy sky.

Visit our website!

www.freezerlonglinecoalition.com