

Administrative/Budget Committee: Action Schedule & Next Steps for Tab G

Agenda Item IV: Draft Activities for Proposed Use of Administrative Award Carryover Funds

Timeline Status: Discuss and Provide Feedback via Motion as Appropriate

Council Input and Next Steps: At the August 2023 meeting, the Council directed staff to work with NMFS to develop an outline, estimated schedule, and deliverables for pursuing the recreational initiative. The recreational initiative is being undertaken to engage recreational anglers and associated industry members to review and evaluate past and current management strategies, and explore potential innovative management strategies that could inform future Council recreational management measures. The funding for this initiative will be drawn from the existing five-year Administrative Award carry over. A proposed project plan and budget have been developed and are shown in **(Tab G, No. 4a)**. The Committee should provide feedback and next steps to staff via motions.

As we are approaching the final year of the of the administrative award cycle, staff have prepared a list of Other Activities **(Tab G, No. 4b)** for Council consideration. This list of projects and priorities is not exhaustive nor exclusive, but suggestions for work that may be completed with funds unspent to date and within our existing grant scope. Staff plans to bring a final list and proposed budget back to the Council in January for further discussion and approval. The Committee should provide feedback at this point.

Agenda Item V: Information on Inflation Reduction Act Funding for the Regional Fishery Management Councils

Timeline Status: Discuss and Provide Feedback via Motion as Appropriate

Council Input and Next Steps:

The CCC has been working with NOAA staff to clarify and define the process for funding the Regional Fishery Management Councils with funds earmarked from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). In September, staff were informed that the first notice of funding was in the final review stages and would be set at \$375,000 for each Council. In preparation for the application of these funds, the Committee is asked to review the Proposed Activities Phase I **(Tab G No 5a)**. The Committee should provide feedback and next steps to staff via a motion.

Staff will outline the proposed process for Phase II of the IRA Funding for Councils as recently discussed at the October 2023 CCC meeting **(Tab G, No. 5b)**. The latest information available is that the funds will be divided among the Councils and awarded on a competitive basis. The Councils are tasked with developing proposals for this process that meet the IRA funding priorities within the FY2024-FY2026 time period. Staff will bring a draft proposal of activities to the Council at its January 2024 meeting to review and approve.