



# Phase II - Regional Management Councils' Climate Resilience Funding (IRA) Opportunity

October 25, 2023



# Phase II - RMC's Funding

- Remaining funds (\$17 million) - **due January 31, 2024**
- Each Council would then provide proposals to be reviewed and approved by NMFS to utilize for climate related management actions and activities
- IRA funds cannot be used to pay for current staff unless time and responsibilities are shifted to IRA projects
- Proposals can be small or large (minimum request is \$300,000)
- FY24-FY26. Actions must be completed or in the final phases by 2026.

# Updated IRA Priorities – NOAA Fisheries

- Operationalizing fish climate vulnerability assessments or other scientific products (e.g., ecosystem status reports, Integrated Ecosystem Assessments, etc.);
- Operationalizing recommendations from climate scenario planning efforts;
- Developing and implementing management changes or processes that address climate vulnerability or improve climate resiliency of fisheries (e.g., potential revisions to harvest control rules to account for changes in ecosystems related to climate change), including those that are important to underserved communities;

# Updated IRA Priorities – NOAA Fisheries

- Developing and implementing measures or processes that increase responsiveness of allocations or other management measures to climate impacts (e.g., “frameworking” or establishing predetermined thresholds when management changes occur);
- Developing and advancing climate-related fisheries management planning (e.g., conducting climate scenario planning) and implementation efforts, including those in support of underserved communities.

# Phase II - RMC's Funding continued

## Some Anticipated Activities for Hired Staff

- Assist with writing the FEP – Would still require other staff biologists, habitat specialist, social scientist, and economists to complete this work
- Gather and synthesize indicators and update them to inform fishery ecosystem indicators (FEIs) and FEIs loops
- Assist and staff stakeholder engagement workshops following the Education and Outreach Engagement Plan
- Work on more flexible management options



# Next Steps and Feedback

- Staff will provide a proposal to the Council during its Jan 2024 Council meeting. Submit right after Council meeting.
- Proposals must demonstrate the link between the project(s) and NOAA Fisheries Climate Ready priorities
- Councils may submit multiple proposals but our aim is to develop one proposal with a multi-year approach.
- Committee agree with approach? Does the committee have other ideas for consideration?