



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

Tab G, No. 6(a)

# **Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Climate Ready Fisheries Program Overview**

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**Presentation for the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council**

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# Inflation Reduction Act

The Inflation Reduction Act (["IRA", HR 5376, PL 117-169](#)), signed August 16, 2022, provides a total of \$3.3B to NOAA. These funds have been internally divided into three "buckets," as noted below, and allow NOAA to add increased focus to weather and climate resilience, coastal restoration and protection, supercomputing, facilities, and aircraft.



Bucket 1



Coastal Communities & Climate Resilience

Bucket 2



Forecasting, Weather, & Climate

Bucket 3

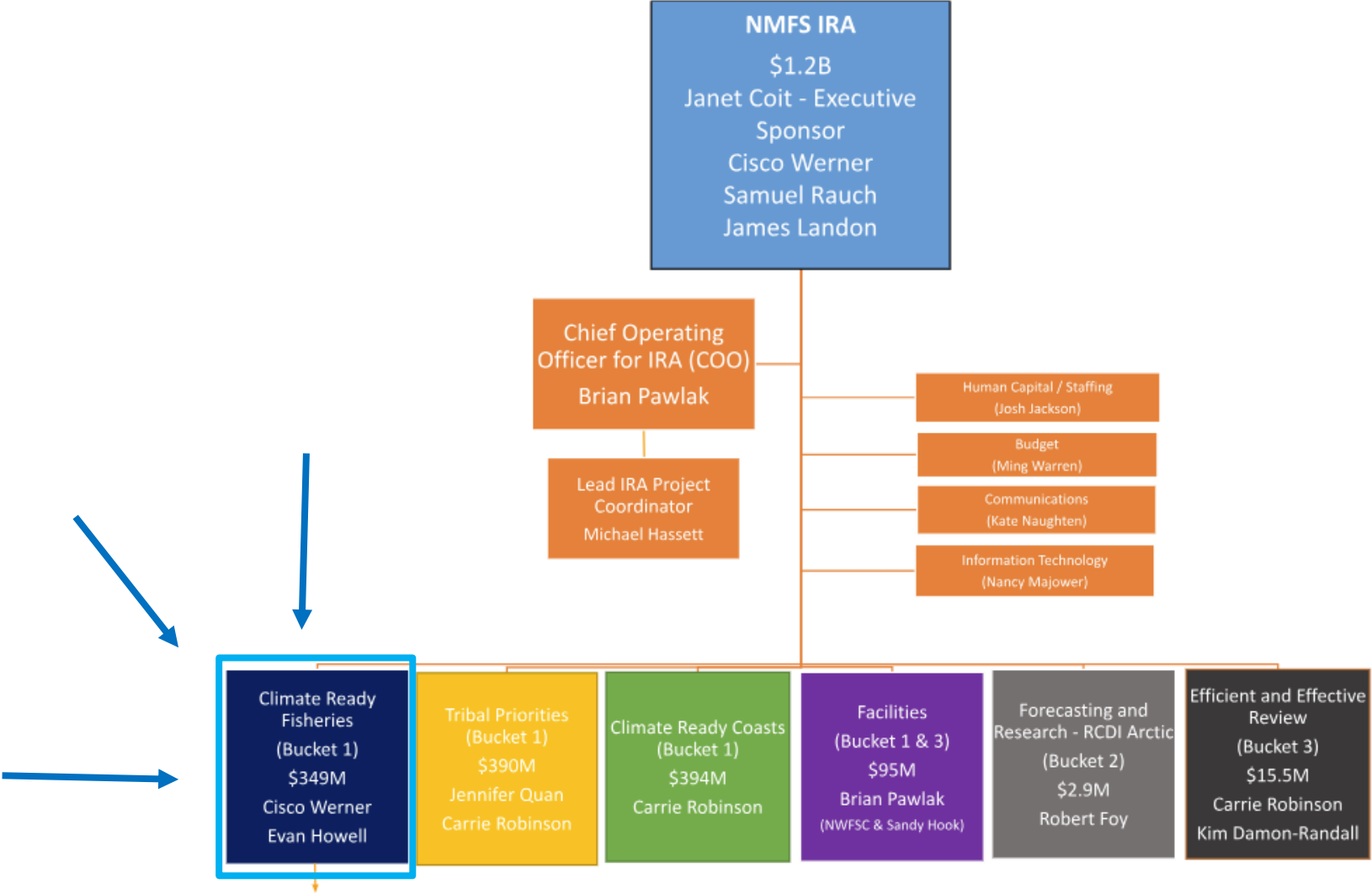


Facilities, Permitting, Aircraft, & More

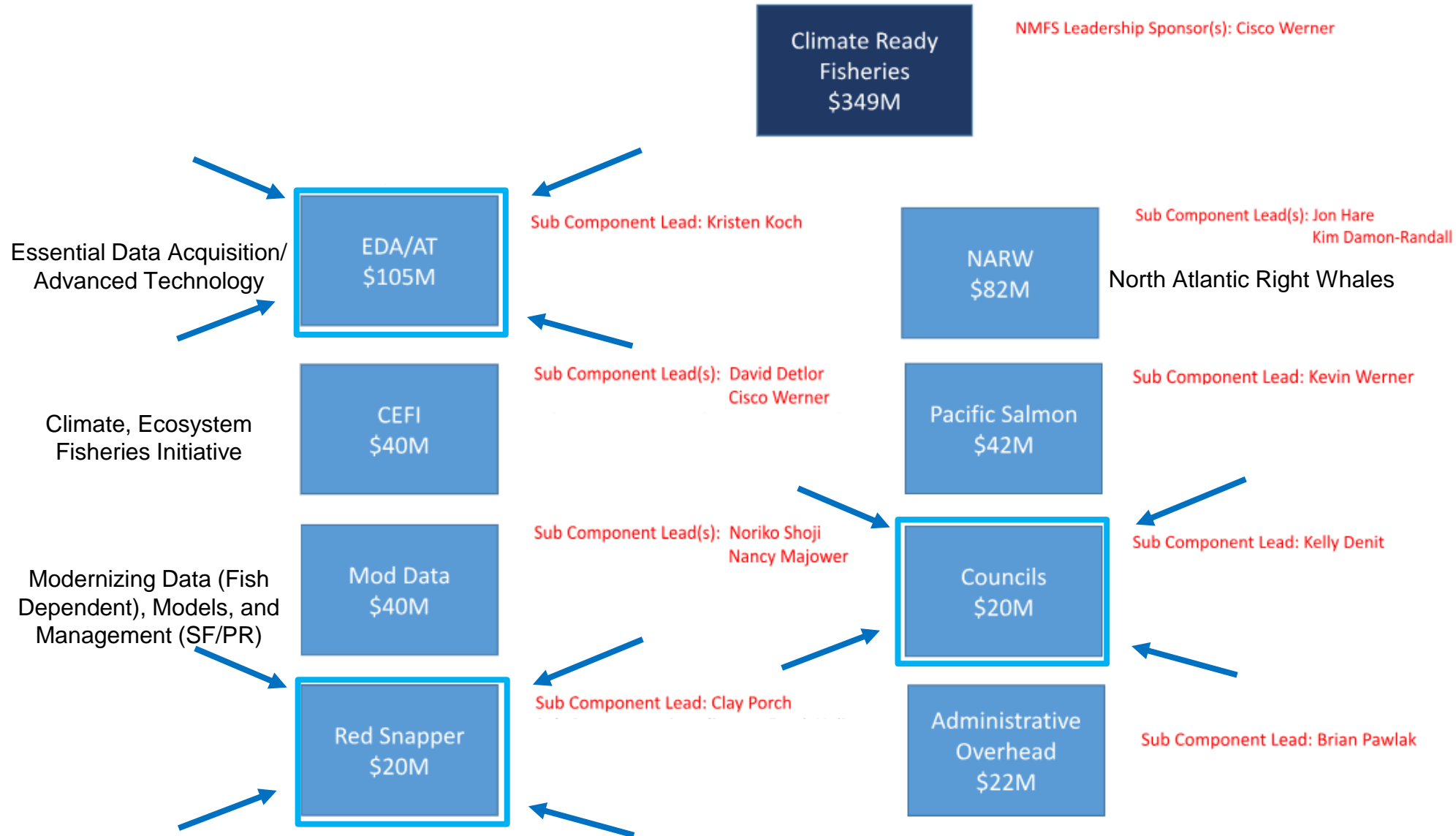


# Organizational Structure

## *Inflation Reduction Act (and Climate Ready Fisheries) Organizational Structure*



## Inflation Reduction Act (and Climate Ready Fisheries) Organizational Structure





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# Red Snapper

## Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Climate Ready Fisheries Program Overview

Sub Component Lead: Clay Porch, Andy Strelcheck

# Red Snapper IRA Funding Overview

- \$20M in total funding from FY2023 to FY2026.
- NMFS' efforts are focused on improving recreational catch, effort, and discard estimates from federal and state surveys, improving state-federal data exchange, and harnessing the power of advance technology and artificial intelligence to provide more timely scientific advice from video and acoustic surveys.
- Emphasis will be placed on partnerships with Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission (GSMFC) and state agencies.



*Photo courtesy of Fish and Wildlife Research Institute*



# Red Snapper IRA Funding Goals

- Work collaboratively with GSMFC and state partners to increase accessibility of state fishery-dependent survey data.
- Develop and implement Gulf of Mexico video and acoustic camera surveys to improve reef fish data timeliness and generation of density estimates.
- Improve and ground truth estimates of recreational fishing effort and discards, which represent two of the greatest sources of uncertainty in managing and assessing Gulf of Mexico reef fish.



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# Essential Data Collection / Advanced Technologies

Inflation Reduction Act Climate Ready  
Fisheries Program Overview

Sub Component Lead: Kristen Koch, Tia Brown



# EDA / AT IRA Funding Overview

- \$1.45B in total funding from FY2023 to FY2026.
- Mitigate the recent loss of at-sea survey capability and increase the efficiency of traditional platform data acquisition.
- Modernize and transform NMFS' advanced technology and social science capabilities through targeted Strategic Initiatives.
- SEFSC received \$1 million to purchase a 90-110 ft research vessel



# EDA / AT IRA Funding Goals

- Operationalize the data tools recommended in the Next-Gen Data Acquisition Plan, leading to a distributed fleet of data acquisition platforms and tools to transform NMFS' data acquisition enterprise.
- Strategic Initiative Working Groups will develop nationally-coordinated regional applications of UxS, 'Omics, Active acoustic systems, Passive acoustic systems, Optical systems, Remote sensing, and Social science.
- Emphasis placed on Advanced Technology development with strategic use of funds for Traditional Platform Data Acquisition, primarily in FY23 and FY24.



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# Regional Fishery Management Councils

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Climate Ready  
Fisheries Program Overview

Sub Component Lead: Kelly Denit

# Councils IRA Funding Overview

- \$20M in total funding from FY2023 to FY2026.
- Proposals **must** be focused on fishery management and governance topics.
- Actions funded under IRA will contribute to the following overarching goals:
  - Implementation of fishery management measures necessary to advance climate ready fisheries by improving climate resiliency and responsiveness to climate impacts; and
  - Development and advancement of climate-related fisheries management planning and implementation efforts in support of underserved communities.



# Councils IRA Funding Priorities

- Operationalize fish climate vulnerability assessments or other scientific products (e.g., ecosystem status reports, Integrated Ecosystem Assessments, etc.);
- Operationalize recommendations from climate scenario planning efforts;
- Implement management changes to address climate vulnerability or improve climate resiliency of fisheries, including those that are important to underserved communities;
- Implement measures that increase responsiveness of allocations or other management measures to climate impacts;
- Develop and advance climate-related fisheries management planning and implementation efforts in support of underserved communities.

# Criteria

- Requirements considered in evaluating proposals:
  - Each proposal must be a minimum of \$300K per proposal.
    - Rather than funding single activities (e.g., a workshop), it is preferable to bundle related activities under one comprehensive proposal.
  - Actions must be completely implemented or in the final phases of approval by 2027.
  - Actions using IRA funds must be able to be sustained with no additional post-IRA funds.
- High priority consideration will be given to:
  - Actions that leverage existing tools.
  - Actions that will be completed within 3 years.
  - Cross-council projects and initiatives (where relevant).

# Councils IRA Funding Process

## **FY23:**

- Finalize priorities for projects based on feedback
- Initiate IRA specific grants to each Council

## **Outyears (FY24 to FY26):**

- Release request for proposals and execute technical review process to determine funding amounts to each Council
- Execute adding funds to IRA specific grants to each Council
- Monitor progress and communicate outcomes of funded projects
- Actions must be completely implemented or in the final phases of approval by 2027



# Next Steps

- Refine priorities & criteria based on feedback
- Implement IRA specific grants to each Council
- FY24 Request for Proposals opens
- Discuss Request for Proposals at the October CCC meeting
- Technical review of FY24 proposals and selection of funded projects
- Support completion of identified projects and implementation of management measures





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# Questions...