



# Next Steps to Implement new NEPA Regulations: Update for Council Coordination Committee

September, 2020

# Status Update from NOAA NEPA Coordinator

## NOAA/CEQ implementation process:

- Prepared Interim Guidance to address immediate questions of implementation
- Preparing additional guidance on interpretation and implementation of key provisions of new regulations
- Evaluating all NOAA internal policies and procedures for consistency with new regulations to identify necessary changes
- In cooperation with all NOAA line offices and in consultation with CEQ, drafting any proposed revisions
- Within one year of effective date, publish proposed revisions

# Status Update from NMFS NEPA Coordinator: Near Term Compliance

NMFS is working to:

- develop interim NMFS guidance for MSA actions; and
- request interim waivers for MSA actions relative to page and time limits.

# Status Update from NMFS NEPA Coordinator: Long-term Plan

For the longer term, we are proposing to establish a process to develop a proposed rule by Sept 14, 2021 to address required changes to the MSA NEPA process.

- NMFS will form internal working group
- How would the CCC like to engage? Form own sub-group on topic?
- Given potential FACA issues, approaches such as use of a workshop may need to be used

# Proposed Timeline to Sept. 2021

Kick-Off	Planning		Workshop	Concept Development					Writing		Clearance	Submit to CEQ
Sept. 2020	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. 2021	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Draft Timeline with CCC</li> <li>CCC Input on how to engage</li> <li>Identify Working Group(HQ and regional GC, NEPA, and OSF staff)</li> <li>Identify Date for Workshop (December)</li> <li>Hire Facilitator to help plan and deliver workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steering Committee and Facilitator design workshop<sup>1</sup></li> <li>Assign Pre-Work to Working Group<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Working Group Prepare/Pre-work for workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members of Working Group Complete Pre-Work</li> <li>Pre-Workshop Meeting to prepare</li> </ul>	Conduct Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write up Results of workshop.</li> <li>Consult with CEQ on concept for planned procedures</li> <li>Consult with Leadership Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss with CCC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Strawman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Strawman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Strawman with Leadership Council, CCC, and CEQ</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write proposed rule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write proposed rule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NOAA/NMFS Clearance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit proposed rule to CEQ, then publish for public comment</li> </ul>

# Questions and Discussion



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