NOAA Fisheries' Equity and Environmental Justice

Presentation to Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

May 31, 2023

Sam Rauch

NOAA Fisheries' EEJ Strategy

- National Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy is now available!

- EEJ Strategy

  - Guides us to serve all communities more equitably and effectively

  - Reflects input we received as part of an extensive public outreach and engagement process
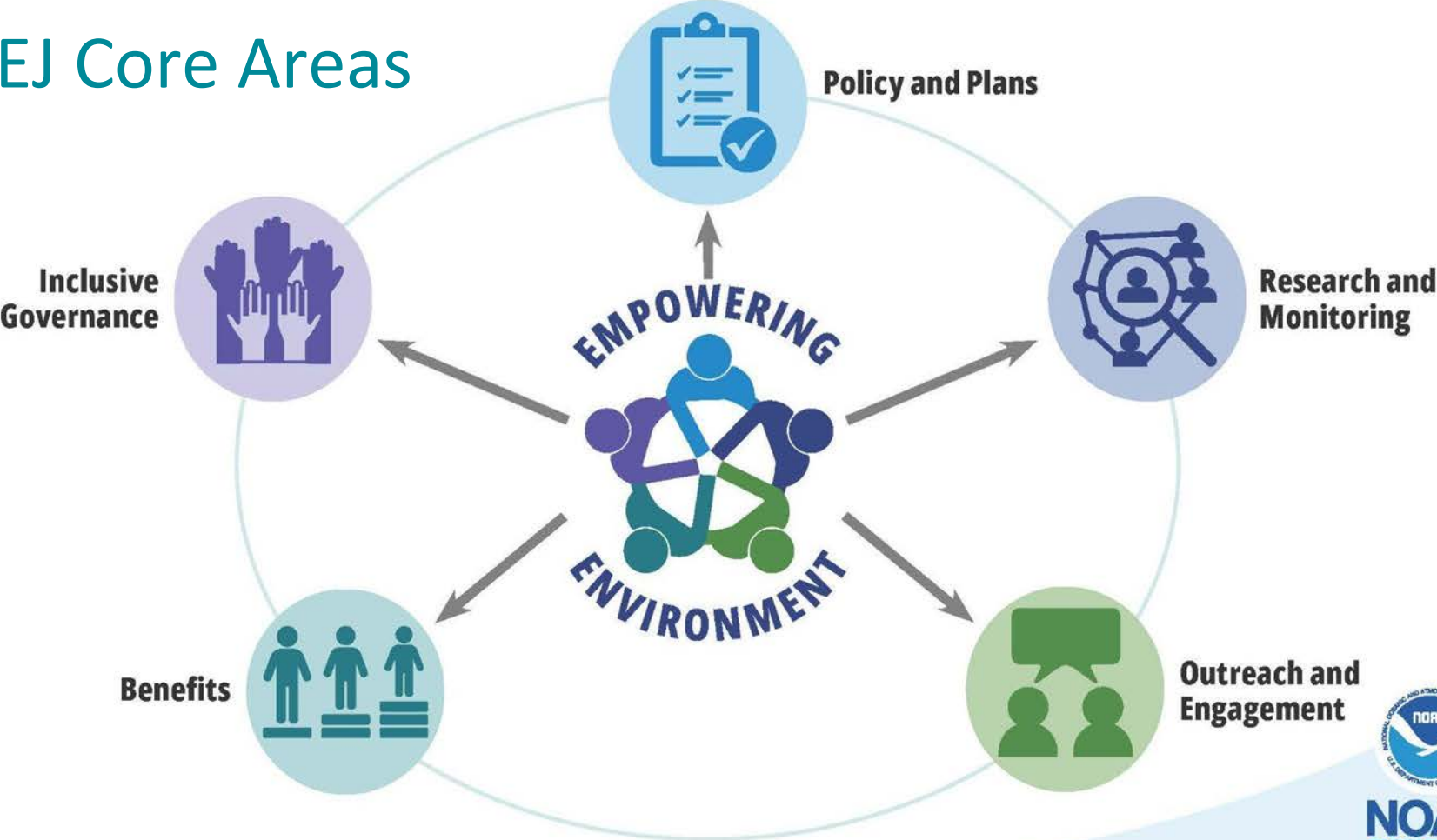
NOAA Fisheries' EEJ Goals

1. **Prioritize identification, equitable treatment, and meaningful involvement of underserved communities**
2. **Provide equitable delivery of services**
3. **Prioritize EEJ in our mission work with demonstrable progress**

U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | National Marine Fisheries Service

EEJ Core Areas

Public Feedback on Draft Strategy

- Align NOAA Fisheries work with local needs

- Support community participation in science and management

- Engage with more diverse groups

- Characterize fishing communities and fishing benefits

- Promote equity in fisheries resource access, aquaculture, and protected resources

- Respect the autonomy of Territorial and Tribal governments

- Diversify NOAA Fisheries workforce and Fisheries Management Councils

- Monitor outcomes, not inputs

Public Feedback on Draft Strategy

EEJ Implementation recommendations

- Communicate early and often with stakeholders

- Coordinate with Fisheries Management Councils, NOAA line offices and other federal agencies

- Support capacity for EEJ work:

  - Hire local, place-based staff

  - Invest in cultural and language expertise

  - Research social impacts of management decisions on people and communities
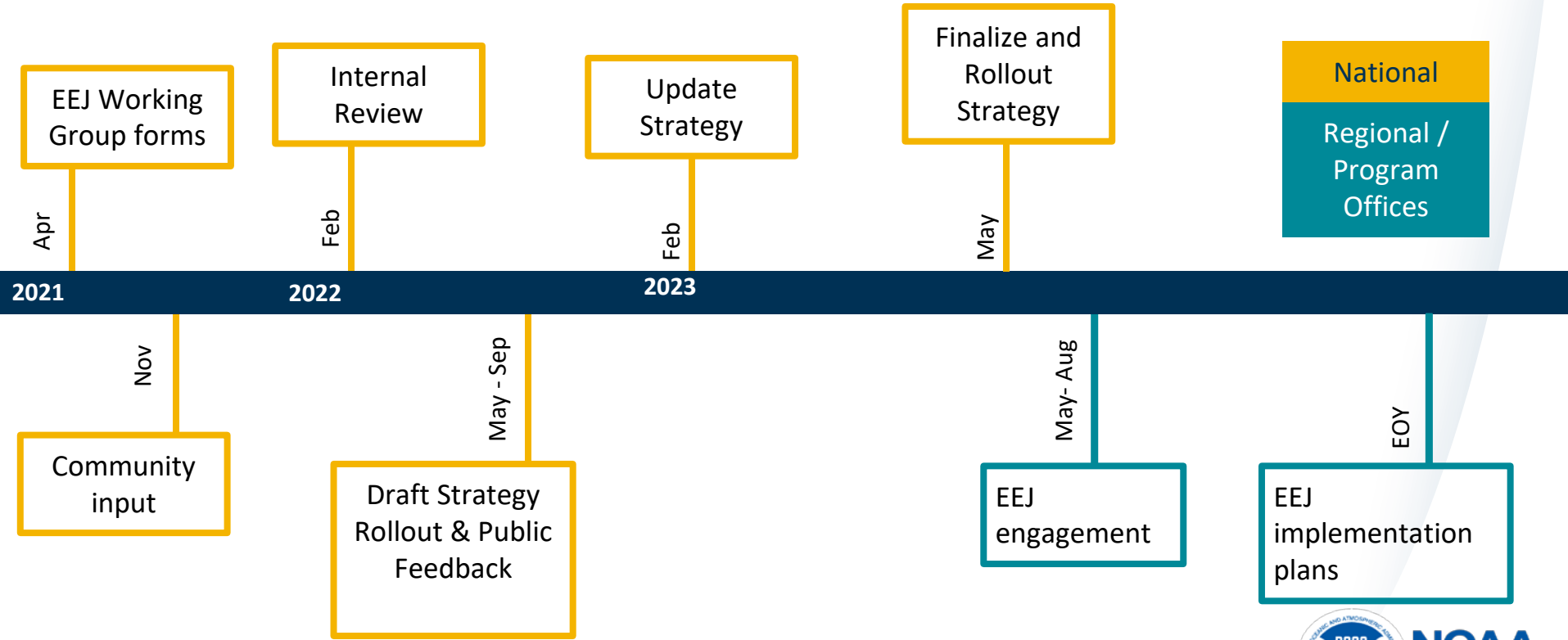
For More [Information](#)

- Final National EEJ Strategy in English and Spanish

- Final EEJ executive summary available in 10+ languages

NEWS

NOAA Fisheries Releases Final Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy

May 22, 2023

Agency to incorporate equity and environmental justice into the vital services we provide to all communities.

Feature Story | National

More Information
> Final Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy (PDF, 41 pages)
> Final Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy—Spanish (PDF, 41 pages)

Recent News

VIDEO
Climate Change and Marine Animals: A Conservation Challenge
National

FEATURE STORY
Celebrating Seaweed by the Seashore
New England/Mid-Atlantic, National

https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/noaa-fisheries-releases-final-equity-and-environmental-justice-strategy

Next Steps

EEJ Working Group forms

Apr

Internal Review

Feb

Update Strategy

Feb

Finalize and Rollout Strategy

May

National

Regional / Program Offices

2021

2022

2023

Nov

Community input

May - Sep

Draft Strategy Rollout & Public Feedback

May- Aug

EEJ engagement

EOY

EEJ implementation plans

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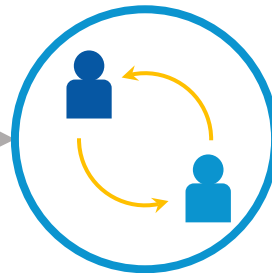
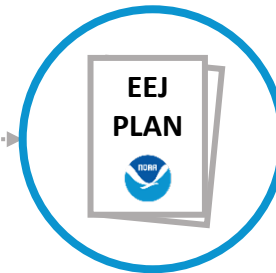# Next Steps - NOAA Fisheries' Office and Regional Implementation Plans

1. Create an Engagement Plan

2. Engage Partners & Communities

3. Create EEJ Implementation Plan

EEJ PLAN