



Equity and Environmental Justice in Federal Fisheries Management

Learning Objectives

- Understand what EEJ is, including key terminology
- Become familiar with what NOAA and Councils are currently doing relative to EEJ
- Consider what Councils could be doing
- Locate key EEJ guidance materials from [NOAA](#) and the [Council Coordination Committee](#)



What is environmental justice?

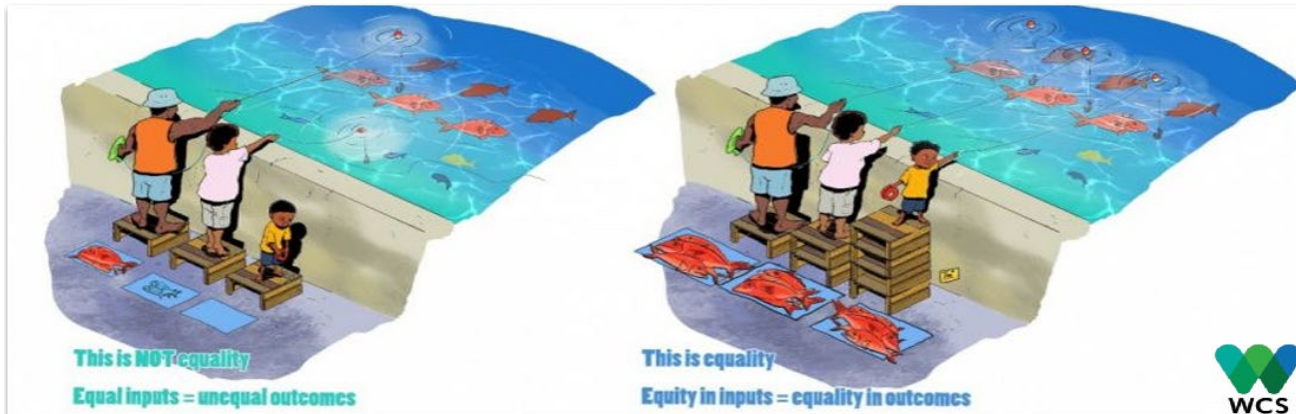
*“**Environmental Justice** is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.”*

- Environmental Protection Agency,
Office of Policy, 2016



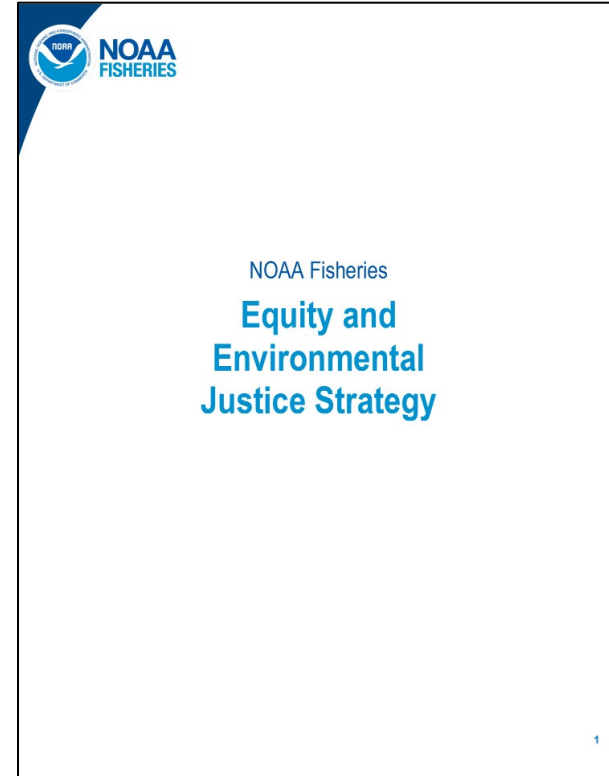
What is equity?

“Equity means the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.” – Executive Order 13985, Sec. 2



NOAA Fisheries | Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy

- NOAA Fisheries released its [Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy](#) guide. This national strategy describes the path they plan to take to incorporate equity and environmental justice into the vital services provided to all communities.
- Each region is developing its own implementation plan led by their NOAA Fisheries Regional Office.



NOAA Fisheries | Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy

“The Federal Government recognizes that barriers to equity have left many communities underserved....”

Three overarching goals to move us closer to EEJ for all:

- Prioritize identification, equitable treatment, and meaningful involvement of underserved communities;
- Provide equitable delivery of services; and
- Prioritize EEJ in mission work with demonstrable progress.

Strategy written over two years, with much public input and engagement with the Councils.

Councils | CCC and NOAA Staff Workgroup

At the same time, this [report](#) was developed to better understand EEJ and consider next steps to address EEJ as Councils

Equity and Environmental Justice in Fisheries Management Brief Overview

A report to the Council Coordination Committee
by an informal CCC and NOAA staff workgroup

May 2022

- What are some things Councils have done to promote EEJ?
- What are challenges to addressing EEJ issues?



What are Councils currently doing relative to EEJ? In a few areas...

- Outreach, Engagement, and Education
- Best Scientific Information Available
- Policy and Planning
- Inclusive Governance
- All have challenges, but the Council has a number of things its doing and improving on



Outreach, Engagement, and Education

- Diverse advisory panel(s) membership
- Council meetings broadcast online; public can comment remotely
- Extensive email/mail distribution lists
- Meeting recordings available
- Honor requests for language translation services
- Engagement with high school and college students

YouTube

Search

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player with a presentation slide. The slide title is "Spotlight: Fishing Industry Spatial Needs Analysis". The content includes a bulleted list: "Fishing Industry Spatial Needs Analysis – Mid-Atlantic Bight", "VIMS + Lynker Corp", "Understand current state of knowledge on fishing fleet behavior" (with sub-bullets for Atlantic surf clam, Ocean quahog, and Atlantic sea scallop), "Work with Fisheries Knowledge Trust", "August 2023 – August 2025", and "Goal: greater understanding of potential and actual changes in relevant fishing activity as result of OSW facilities". The slide also features logos for VIMS (Virginia Institute of Marine Science) and Lynker, and images of clams and scallops. The video player interface shows a progress bar at 2:58:51 / 3:41:15 and various control icons.

MAFMC Meeting: October 4, 2023 (AM)



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Outreach, Engagement, and Education

SCALLOP INDUSTRY IS LEASING NEEDED?
Scoping Meetings @ Whaling Museum
May 11th & 25th - 4 pm
MORE INFO • nefmc.org

New England Fishery Management Council

SCALLOP INDUSTRY IS LEASING NEEDED?
Scoping Meeting @ Manahawkin Holiday Inn
Thursday, May 19th - 5 pm
MORE INFO • nefmc.org

New England Fishery Management Council

- Extensive public scoping on major or controversial actions
 - Wide range of ports, locations, and online hearings
 - Thematic analysis of public comments

Outreach, Engagement, and Education

Promote participation in educational opportunities (e.g. Marine Resource Education Program)



Best Scientific Information Available

- Councils recommend research priorities
- Restructuring of FMPs to better facilitate sharing and incorporation of local, community, and other stakeholder knowledge
- Looking for ways to identify underserved communities
- Developing and using NOAA Fisheries Community Social Vulnerability Indicators

**Development of Social Indicators of
Fishing Community Vulnerability and Resilience
in the U.S. Southeast and Northeast Regions**

Michael Jepson and Lisa L. Colburn

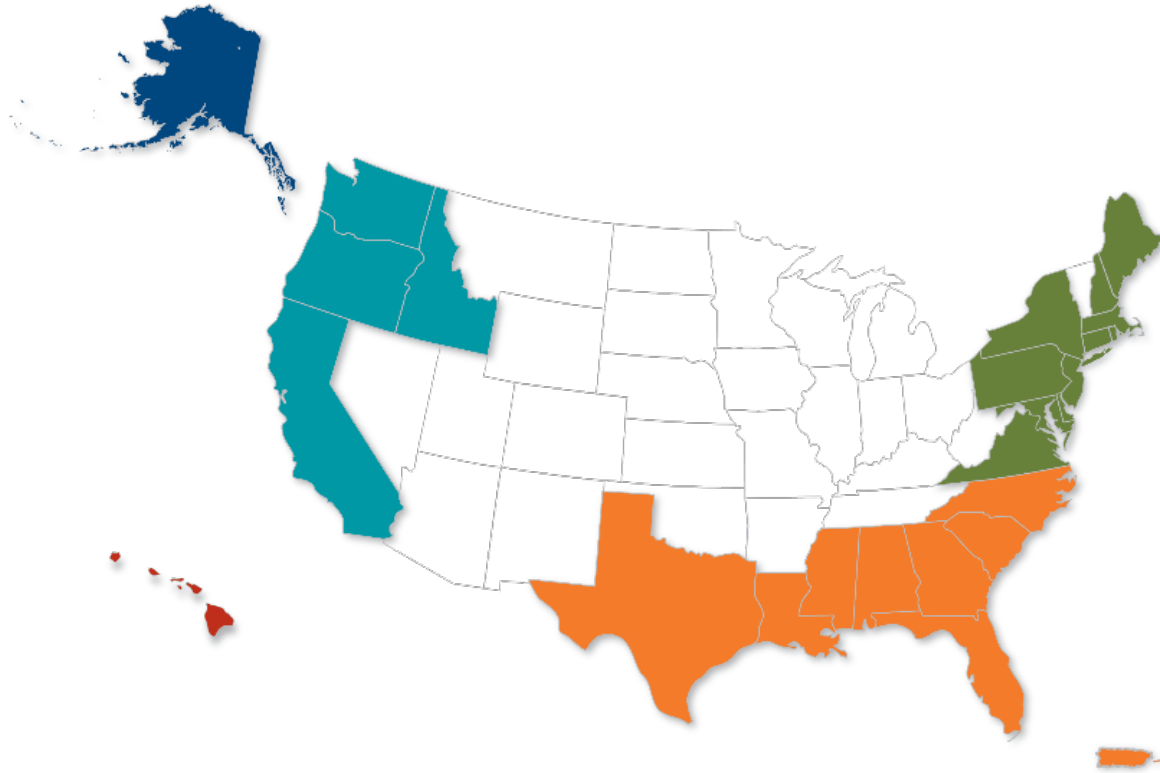


Policy and Planning and Inclusive Governance

- Policies to prevent harassment and discrimination
- Engage through an open, public process
- Build local capacity for engaging in fisheries management



What could Councils consider doing relative to EEJ?



Outreach, Engagement, and Education

- Host listening or engagement sessions to expand/diversify viewpoints heard
- Explore ways to enhance outreach through partnerships (e.g., Sea Grant, etc.)
- Website design
- Recognize technology divide and knowledge limits
- Consider doing both “inreach” and “outreach”

CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Cómo ingresar Zoom

• Todas las reuniones serán grabadas

Para interpretación simultánea de inglés a español marcar:
US/Canada: call +1-888-947-3988, cuando el sistema conteste, entrar: 2*9999996#



CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

How to Join Zoom

• All meetings will be recorded

For simultaneous interpretation from Spanish to English dial:
US/Canada: call +1-888-947-3988, when system answers, enter: 1*9999996#



 Página web No necesita descargar la aplicación, use su navegador	 App para la computadora Altamente recomendado	 App para teléfono	 Webpage No download required, use your browser	 Computer App Strongly recommended	 Mobile App
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Vaya a www.zoom.com2 Haga click en <i>Unirse a Reunión (Join a Meeting)</i> en la parte superior derecha de la página.3 Escriba los 9 dígitos del Access Code y Passcode provistos en la invitación.4 ¡Abrirá la sesión automáticamente!	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Descargue y abra la aplicación de Zoom.2 En la página principal, haga click en <i>Join</i>.3 Escriba los 9 dígitos del Access Code y Passcode provistos en la invitación e ingrese. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Descargue y abra la aplicación de Zoom.2 Busque <i>Join</i> en la parte superior de la página.3 Escriba los 9 dígitos del Access Code y Passcode provistos en la invitación.4 ¡Abrirá la sesión automáticamente!	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Go to www.zoom.com2 Click <i>Join a Meeting</i> in the upper right side of the page.3 Write the 9 digit Access Code and Passcode provided in the invitation.4 You will be automatically launched into session!	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Download and open the Zoom app.2 At the Home Page click the <i>Join</i> icon.3 Write the 9 digit Access Code and Passcode provided in the invitation and join. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Download and open the Zoom app.2 Look for the <i>Join</i> icon at the top of the page.3 Write the 9 digit Access Code and Passcode provided in the invitation.4 You will be automatically launched into session!

Best Scientific Information Available

- Utilize Census Bureau “Community Resilience Estimates” in impact analyses; consider this data for outreach and research efforts
- Engage NOAA and Council social scientists
- Consider research priorities relative to EEJ
- Prioritize the collection of info related to crew and fishing communities



Policy and Planning and Inclusive Governance

- Create materials that support two-way engagement (concise, clear, accessible to public)
- Continue to look for ways to facilitate engagement
- Evaluate process and institutional standards
- Use lessons learned from remote and hybrid meeting formats
- Support professional development in these areas
- Collect better data on who is participating (demographics info)



EEJ and Fisheries Management

- Councils are already doing a number of things well relative to EEJ
- Continue to look for ways to improve
- Consider regional EEJ guidance being developed by regional offices
- Look to Council Coordination Committee for ongoing guidance





Questions!

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With special thanks to Rachel Feeney, Angela Forristall, José Montañez, Christina Wiegand, and Zachary Yamada!