



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

December 15, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chris Oliver  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

FROM: Erika Feller  
Chair, Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee Recommendations for  
Priorities for the next four years [or insert final title of document]

This memo transmits NOAA's Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee's (MAFAC) recommendations for priorities for the next four years and by the incoming Administration officials in the Department of Commerce (DOC) and NOAA. This memo was approved by the Committee at their meeting on December 15, 2020.

We have identified these recommendations to address pressing issues, particularly in light of the challenges posed by climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic, for U.S. fisheries, fisheries science and management, and other marine resources.

The recommendations focus on needs for science, management, and investment to address:

- Integrated ecosystem management and responses to climate change
- Increasing U.S. consumption of U.S. seafood
- Aquaculture: Growing healthy seafood, jobs, and preserving working waterfronts
- Improving recreational fishing opportunities
- Offshore ocean use, including offshore wind development
- Protecting critical endangered resources

By responding to the current challenges and addressing these recommendations, the incoming Administration and NOAA have the opportunity to contribute to a thriving U.S. seafood industry and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, recreational opportunities for all Americans, healthy ocean ecosystems, and efficient and effective resource management.

The purpose of this document is to share with you opportunities for this Administration to MAFAC is ready, willing, and at your service as partners to move these priorities forward. We are available to provide a briefing or participate in a question and answer session with Transition leaders, and welcome new NOAA and DOC leaders to future MAFAC meetings.