



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

July 8, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chris Oliver
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

FROM: Erika Feller 
Chair, Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee Letters and
Recommendations for the Secretary

This memo transmits the work and recommendations from NOAA's Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee's (MAFAC) that resulted from our June 29 – July 1, 2020 meeting. Each of these recommendations were approved by full consensus of the Committee:

- [Report that recommends the re-establishment of an industry-led National Seafood Council](#) to help promote and increase the value of our sustainably managed U.S. fisheries and seafood consumption by Americans, to be funded by Congress for no less than five years.
- [Report that recommends how to improve planning and coordination of offshore wind development](#) to reduce or mitigate impacts to fishing activities, protected species, NOAA Fisheries research and mission-related activities, and identifies funding needs and potential sources for funding.
- [Letter that identifies the vital need for the Seafood Trade Task Force](#) under the new E.O. for Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness, encourages the Secretary and USTA Lighthizer to work with NOAA Fisheries experts as it is organized, and offers MAFAC as a forum to engage the U.S. seafood industry as part of the Task Force's stakeholder outreach.
- [Letter focused on short term fisheries needs](#), particularly reducing or eliminating financial burdens on fishing businesses, as the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts continue.

We respectfully request that each are submitted to Secretary Ross for his consideration and we look forward to receiving his response.

Attachments