



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**

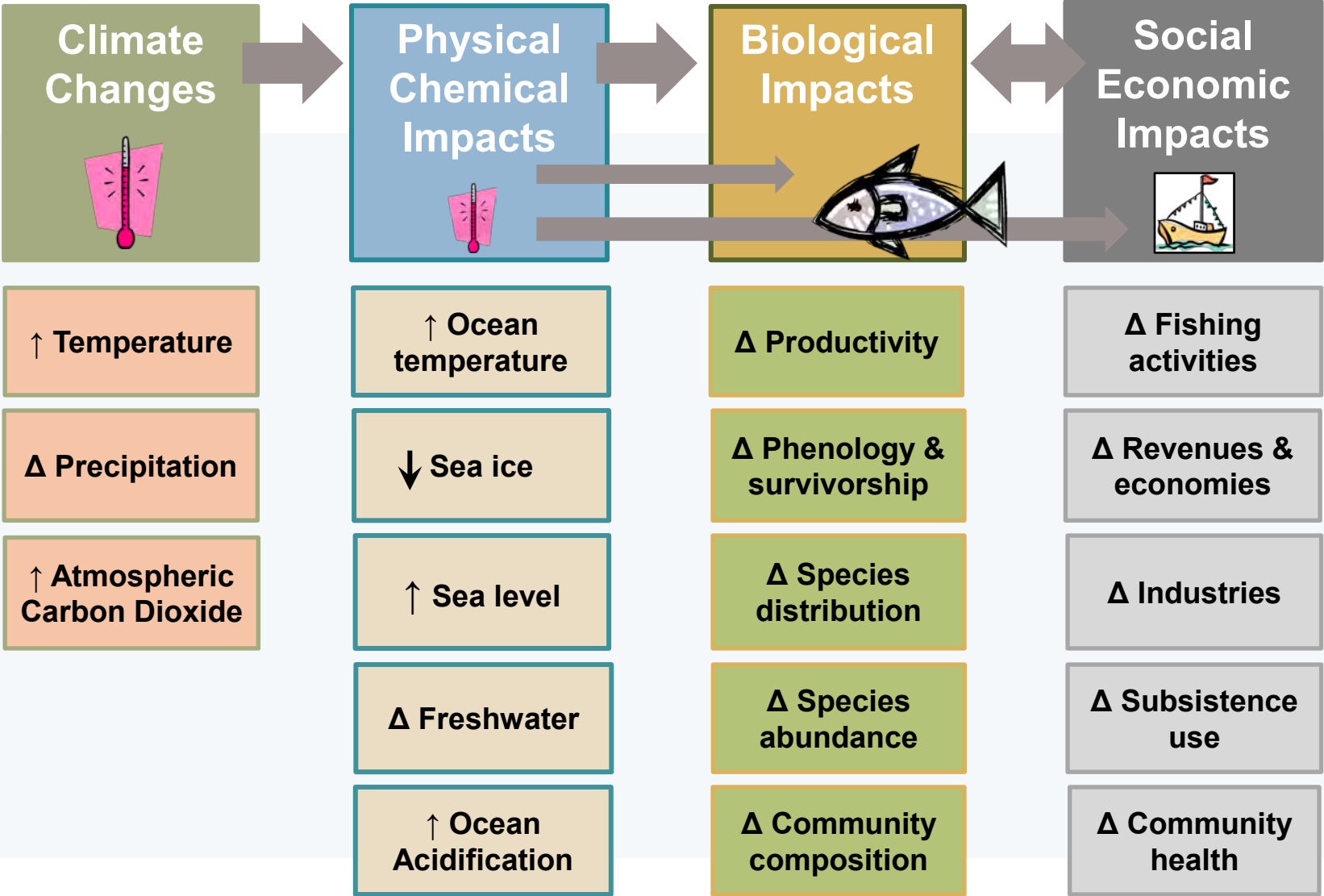
# A Framework for Evaluating Fishery Management Strategies Under Projected Climate Change Scenarios for the Bering Sea

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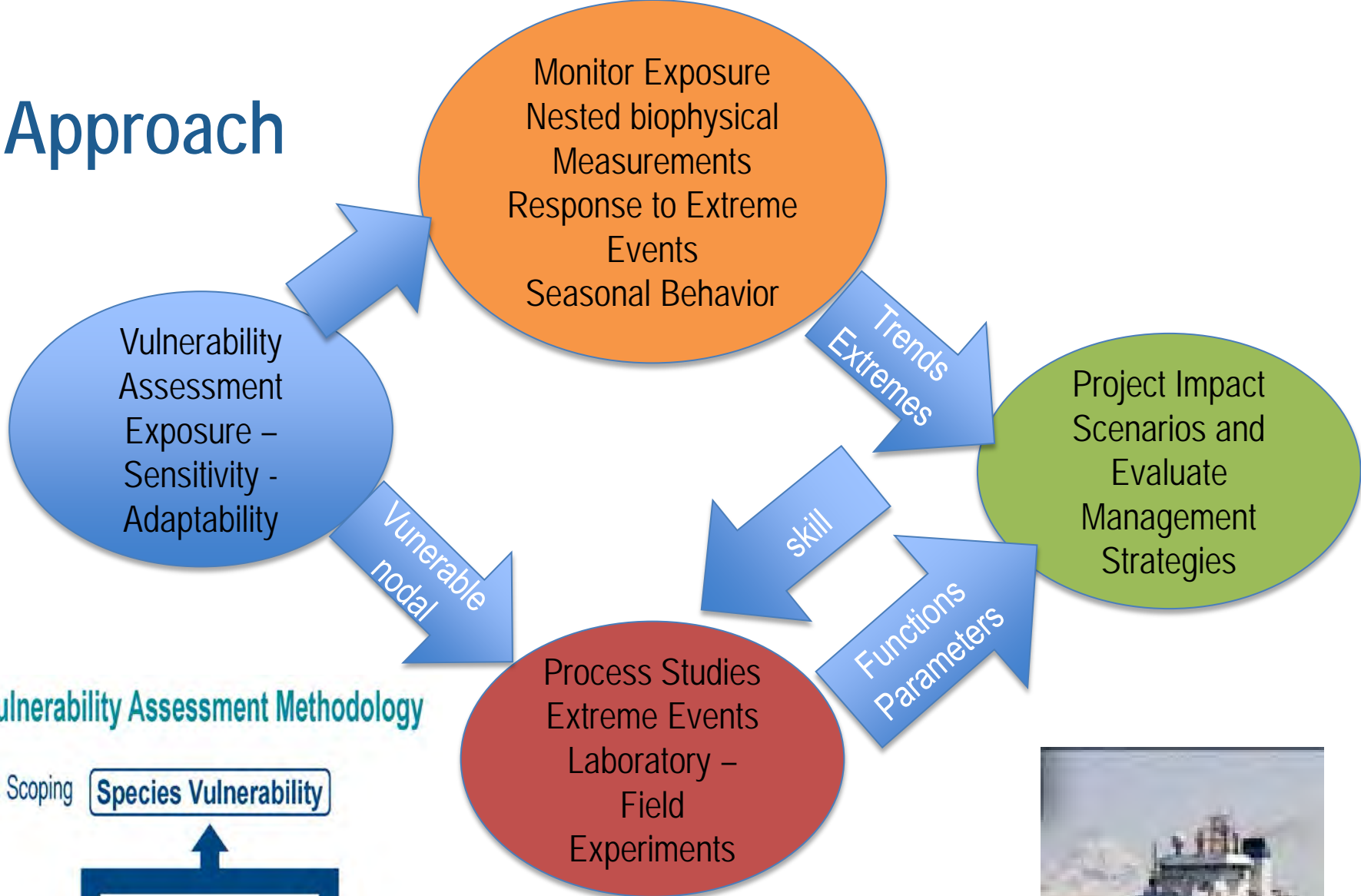
# Possible Impacts of a Changing Climate



# Dilemma of Projecting Fish Recruitment

- Global analysis suggests large percentage of recruitment variability is due to factors other than spawner biomass (Szuwalski et al 2015).
- Retrospective analysis of relationships between past climate and recruitment often explain a high percentage (60-75%) of the variance, but performance into the future is mixed.
- Performance of fully mechanistic spatially explicit models often fail to reconstruct recruitment and predictive skill is mixed.
- Select harvest control that are robust to climate change (Punt et al. 2014, ICES JMS).
- Multi-model inference

# Approach

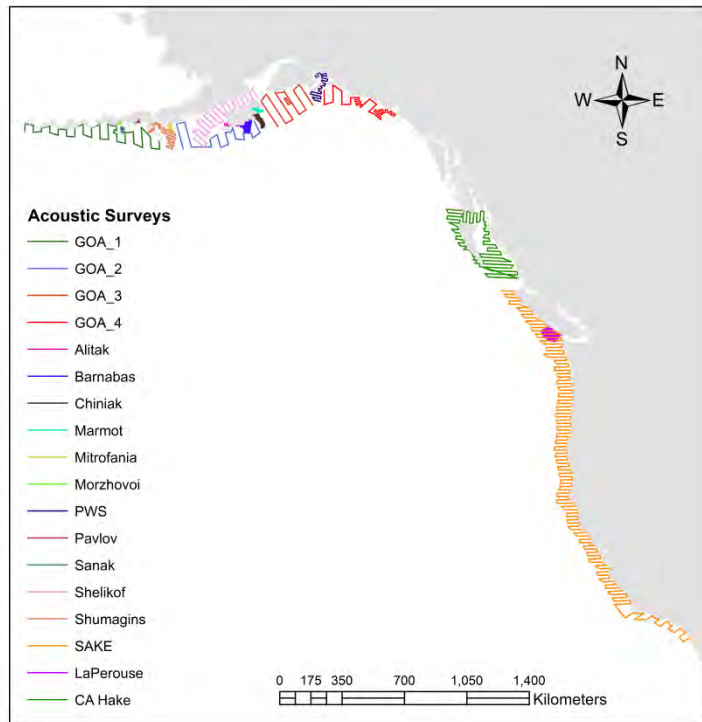


## Vulnerability Assessment Methodology

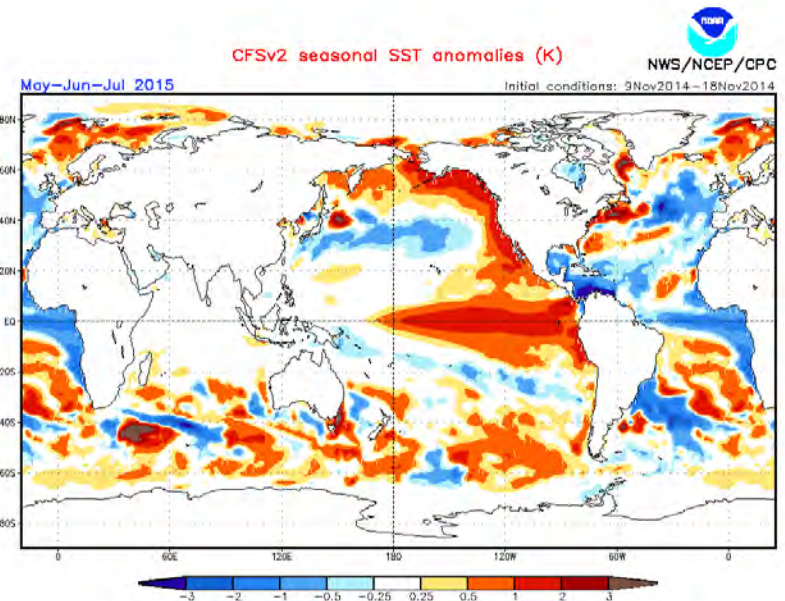


# Learn from Extreme Events

- Persistent warm anomaly in North Pacific 2013-2015
- Opportunity to observe shifts in fish distribution in 2015.
- US and Canada plan to conduct bottom trawl and acoustic surveys from California to the Gulf of Alaska.



Approximate tracklines for the 2015 U.S. and Canadian acoustic mid-water trawl surveys. Note the La Perouse survey (pink) is not confirmed



2015 SST projection from NOAA's coupled forecast system.

## Ecosystem context: Larsen et al. 2014

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- *“The physical, biological, and socioeconomic impacts of climate change in the Arctic have to be seen in the context of often interconnected factors that include not only environmental changes caused by drivers other than climate change but also demography, culture, and economic development.”*



# Future Fisheries

- Demand for protein
- World markets
- Range expansion to north uncertain
- Infra-structure
- Bio-economic considerations (fuel, risk)
- Sustainable fisheries – Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management
- International cooperation



Photo Credit: Sam Zmolek, NOAA Fisheries.  
Photo of Dutch Harbor, Alaska

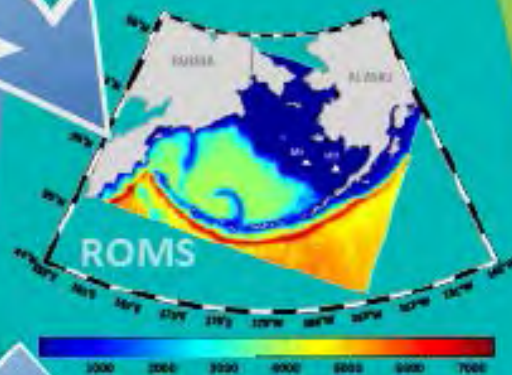
# FUTURE MODELING ENTERPRISE

Earth System Models



Regional Models

Dynamic  
Downscaling



Other Stressors

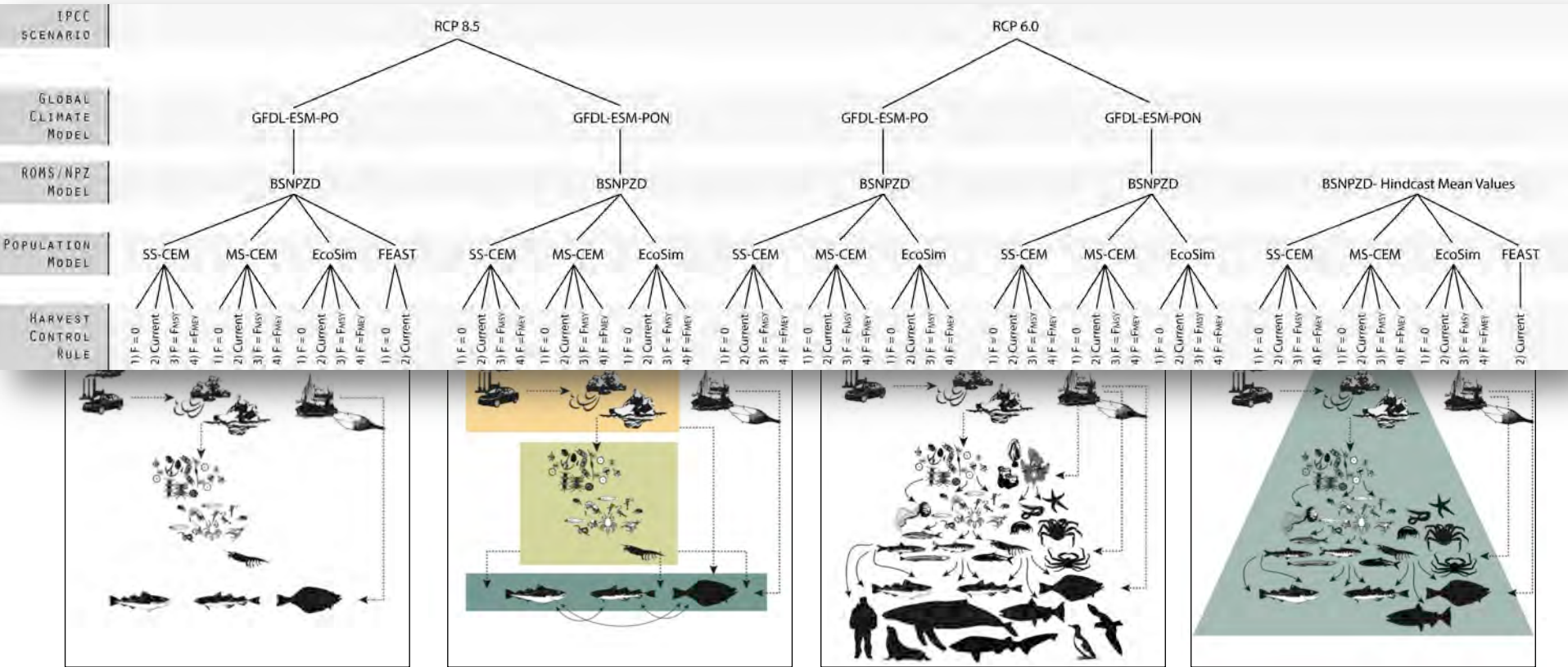


NPZ Model

Stock Projection Ensemble



# (FATE-SAAM)ACLIM: Bering Sea Models



Single Species

CEATTLE

Ecosim

FEAST

Additive Pressures

Multiple Interacting (non-linear) Pressures

Non-linear Species Interactions; Non-linear Cumulative Effects

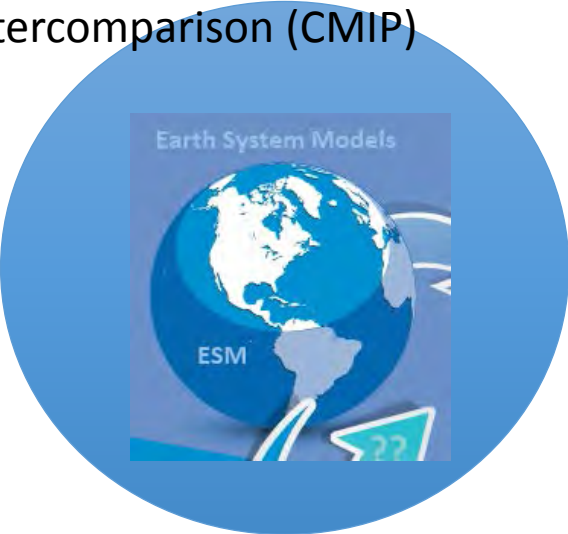
Estimation of Error/ multiple random iterations

## Challenges to Projecting the Future

- Shifting Baselines (growth rates, maturation rates, reproductive success)
- Shifting fishing characteristics (gear modifications, selectivity, locations)
- Shifting distribution (survey catchability & selectivity)
- Tipping Points (ecosystem re-organization)
- Representing uncertainty
  - Process errors
  - Measurement error
  - Model mis-specification

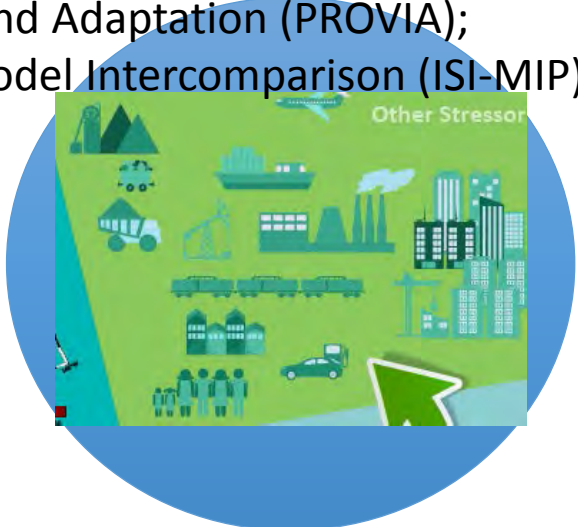


IPCC: Climate Model Intercomparison (CMIP)

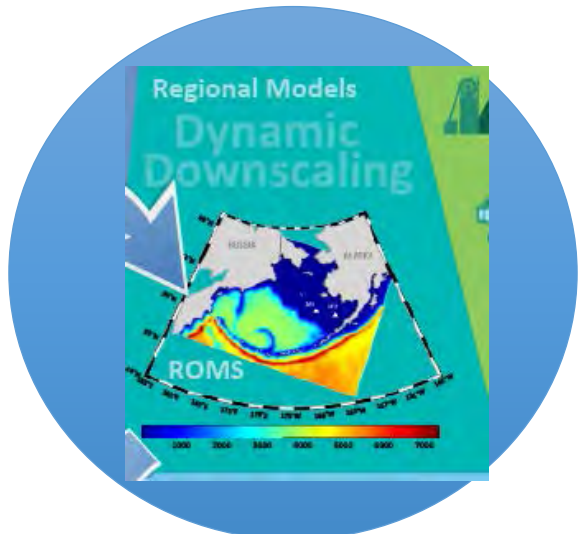


United Nations Environment Program, Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability Impacts and Adaptation (PROVIA); Intersectoral Impact Model Intercomparison (ISI-MIP)

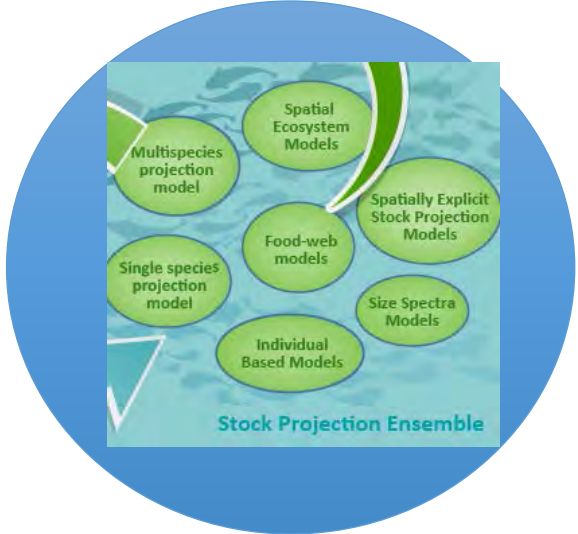
Regional Fisheries Management Councils



Sustainable-Strategies  
Adaptation  
Fisheries Policies  
Allocation  
Food Security  
Aquaculture /ranching



ICES/PICES/IOC/ SICCME



Fish model Inter-comparison (Fish-MIP)/SICCME/ACLIM

PICES: Coordinated Ocean downscaling Experiment Analysis Network (COCEAN)

# Strategic Issues

- Defining management goals
  - Short-term vs long-term trade-offs
  - Stock boundaries
  - Biological reference points
  - Importance of portfolio (genetic or trophic)
  - Preserve trophic structure perhaps by system level aggregate caps
- Catch shares under shifting access to resource
- Projecting fishers responses.





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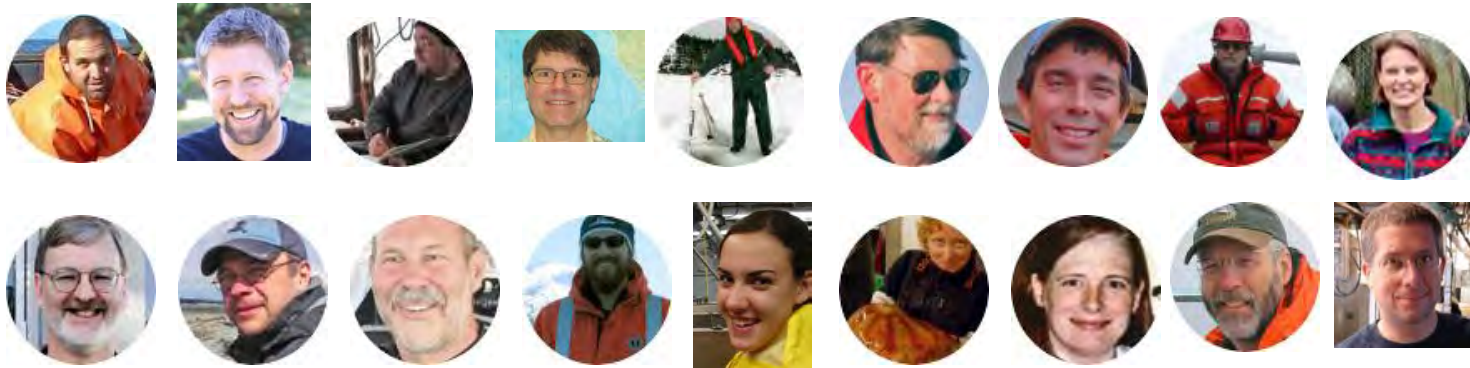
# Summary

- Climate Change will impact marine ecosystems and thus fish and fisheries
- So far, quantitative projections of the magnitude of change have been completed for only a few target species
- National and international modeling teams are striving to produce quantitative scenarios for major stocks by 2019
- Expect that scenarios may differ depending on the climate model, the RCP scenario, and the complexity of ecosystem models.
- Manager/Fisher Inputs:
  - Identifying a reasonable range of management responses (or fisher responses) for projections
  - Selection of performance criteria
  - Identifying (or commenting on) management strategies

# Acknowledgements



## Fish Component Group



Modeling Component Group:  
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Kate Hedstrom, Enrique Curchister



# SICCME Meetings of Interest

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- **July 2015:** Our Common Future Under Climate Change, Paris, France

<http://igbp.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=30a05ea40bc18b7ad922a413e&id=f1cea3b8c3&e=5c8429dd43>

- **August 2015:** ICES/PICES inter-sessional workshop (Seattle or Princeton)
  - Select suite of species/fisheries for assessment of fish and fishers response projections.
  - Select suite of future fishing scenarios (harvest strategies; aquaculture; market forces; capture technologies, technical interactions )
  - Select suites of models for comparative studies
  - Discuss methods for treatment of uncertainty – draw inference from simpler models?
  - Agree on strategies to address boundary issues

