

NOAA Science Advisory Board
Changes to the SAB 2018-19 Draft Work Plan since April SAB Meeting

NOAA Priority One

Topic 1: Oversee Development and Implementation of the Environmental Information Services Working Group Work (list from WRFIA)

This has been adjusted to reflect that the SAB will have oversight of the EISWG activities. The SAB members who have agreed to lead this effort are Bob Winokur, currently the SAB liaison to the EISWG, and Everette Joseph. They will form a small SAB subgroup to help them with this.

Topic 2: Review the Use of Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs)

The EISWG will consider this topic at its July 2018 meeting. The Climate Working Group also expressed an interest and would be willing to send 1-2 members to any EISWG efforts on this. The SAB member who will be the champion for this is Eugenia Kalnay.

Topic 3: Enhance Strategic Investment and Use of Unmanned and Autonomous Systems (UMS)

The SAB has initiated discussions with NOAA OMAO and OAR on this topic. NOAA is planning a workshop on this topic that will involve all the offices in NOAA that use or sponsor these systems. They have welcomed involvement by the SAB in an advisory capacity to this. The SAB members with interest in this may be Bob Winokur and Susan Avery.

Topic 4: Review Improving Collection, Management, Dissemination and Decision Support Using Machine Learning, AI and Data

Topic 5: Science Social Sciences and Decision Support at NOAA

In general it was agreed these two topics cut across both priorities but no significant language changes were made to these topics since the April SAB meeting.

Priority Two

Topic 1: Sustainable Marine Aquaculture

This topic will be addressed in conjunction with the NOAA Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) and its Aquaculture Task Force (ATF) as well as with the aquaculture programs in NMFS (Office of Aquaculture) and OAR (Sea Grant). MAFAC and NOAA will

give presentations at the July 2018 SAB meeting about where they think the SAB could help in terms providing advice on science and technology for aquaculture.

Topic 2: Science to Support the Blue Economy: Healthy Ecosystems and Future Economic Resilience

This topic replaces one on ecosystem restoration. This work element will explore the scientific foundation of ecosystem - economy connections, specifically the work NOAA has underway that informs these connections. This may include identification of how existing assets, e.g., NEERS, Marine Sanctuaries, etc., influence coastal economies, and how natural coastal features can provide multiple benefits, including flood risk reduction. Important questions might include “how can natural system dependent economic activities be sustained and enhanced as coastal areas change over time?” The SAB Ecosystem Sciences and Management Working Group (ESMWG) has agreed to take up this topic and will be working on it over the next 6-8 months.

Topic 3: Coastal and Marine Transportation and Support Infrastructure

This topic and language are unchanged from the previous version but the SAB has initiated discussion with the NOAA Hydrographic Services Review Panel to consider where there may be synergy and ways for both committees to provide advice to NOAA in the context of the blue economy.

In terms of the methodology and plan for moving forward with these topics, the SAB has refined the language describing the process and has been discussing this with the Ecosystem Sciences and Management Working Group, MAFAC, and HSRP.