

Topics at the nexus of climate change, fisheries, and blue foods

A webinar series highlighting the impact of climate change on fisheries, aquaculture, and the communities who depend on them

April 2026: Integrating Climate Change into Fisheries Management: A Risk-Based Approach

Presentation: Integrating Climate Change into Fisheries Management: A Risk-Based Approach

Climate change is reshaping Australia's marine ecosystems, posing significant challenges for fisheries management. To ensure the long term sustainability of Commonwealth fisheries, AFMA has developed a Climate Risk Framework using a risk based approach to assess climate-related risks and guide decision-making. This presentation will examine the impacts of climate change on Commonwealth fisheries, highlighting the urgent need for adaptive management approaches. It will explore the development and implementation of the Climate Risk Framework, including its design to integrate with existing management processes, as well as key case studies and lessons learned. Finally, the presentation will highlight the importance of scientists, managers, and industry working together to support climate-resilient fisheries into the future.

Webinar Presenter: **Natalie Couchman, Australian Fisheries Management Authority**, is a fisheries manager with more than 15 years of experience in fisheries regulation, policy development, and program implementation. She has worked across a wide range of Commonwealth fisheries, applying her regulatory expertise to complex management challenges. Most recently, she has focused on delivering strategies that enable adaptive fisheries management in a changing climate.



This webinar series is jointly hosted by the UN Ocean Decade Programs [Blue Food Futures](#), [Fisheries Strategies for Changing Oceans and Resilient Ecosystems \(FishSCORE\)](#), [Sustainability, Predictability, and Resilience of Marine Ecosystems \(SUPREME\)](#), [Sustainability of Marine Ecosystems through Global Knowledge Networks \(SmartNet\)](#), and [Fisheries and Marine Ecosystem Model Intercomparison Project \(FishMIP\)](#) and endorsed project [Basin Scale Events to Coastal Impacts \(BECI\)](#). This webinar series highlights current efforts and challenges at the climate-fisheries nexus. Presentations and discussions will range from data-driven efforts to better understand oceanographic and biological changes affecting fisheries, to how the results can be used to inform fisheries management, aquaculture, and sustainable food decisions, to the many ways people and broader communities are being impacted by and adapting to changes in marine ecosystems and marine resource use.