

Dave Whaley - Background Information

Dave Whaley has served in various capacities as staff to the House of Representatives for over 31 years. He served as the lead House staff member for fisheries and ocean policy for the last 20 years. In 2014, before leaving the employ of Congress, he was the Senior Republican Staff for Fisheries and Ocean Policy. In that capacity, he was the lead staff for the House on the last two successful Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorizations and he drafted the reauthorization legislation in the 113th Congress (for Chairman Hastings) that is the basis of the current House reauthorization bill (H.R. 1335). H.R. 1335 has passed the House and is awaiting action in the Senate.

Dave has interacted extensively with the Councils over the past years and understands the MSFCMA process inside and out. This, coupled with his extensive experience working with Congress, makes him uniquely qualified for analyzing potential impacts of legislation on the Councils and the MSFCMA process. Dave possesses the institutional knowledge needed to advise the eight RFMCs and the Council Coordination Committee on the current reauthorization language and any proposed legislation affecting the MSFCMA process in the future.