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NOAA Fisheries Policy Directive System

**Briefing for Council Coordination Committee
Sitka, Alaska
May 23, 2018**

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Director, Office of Policy**

So, what is “policy”?



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“Strategy Implementation Plan”

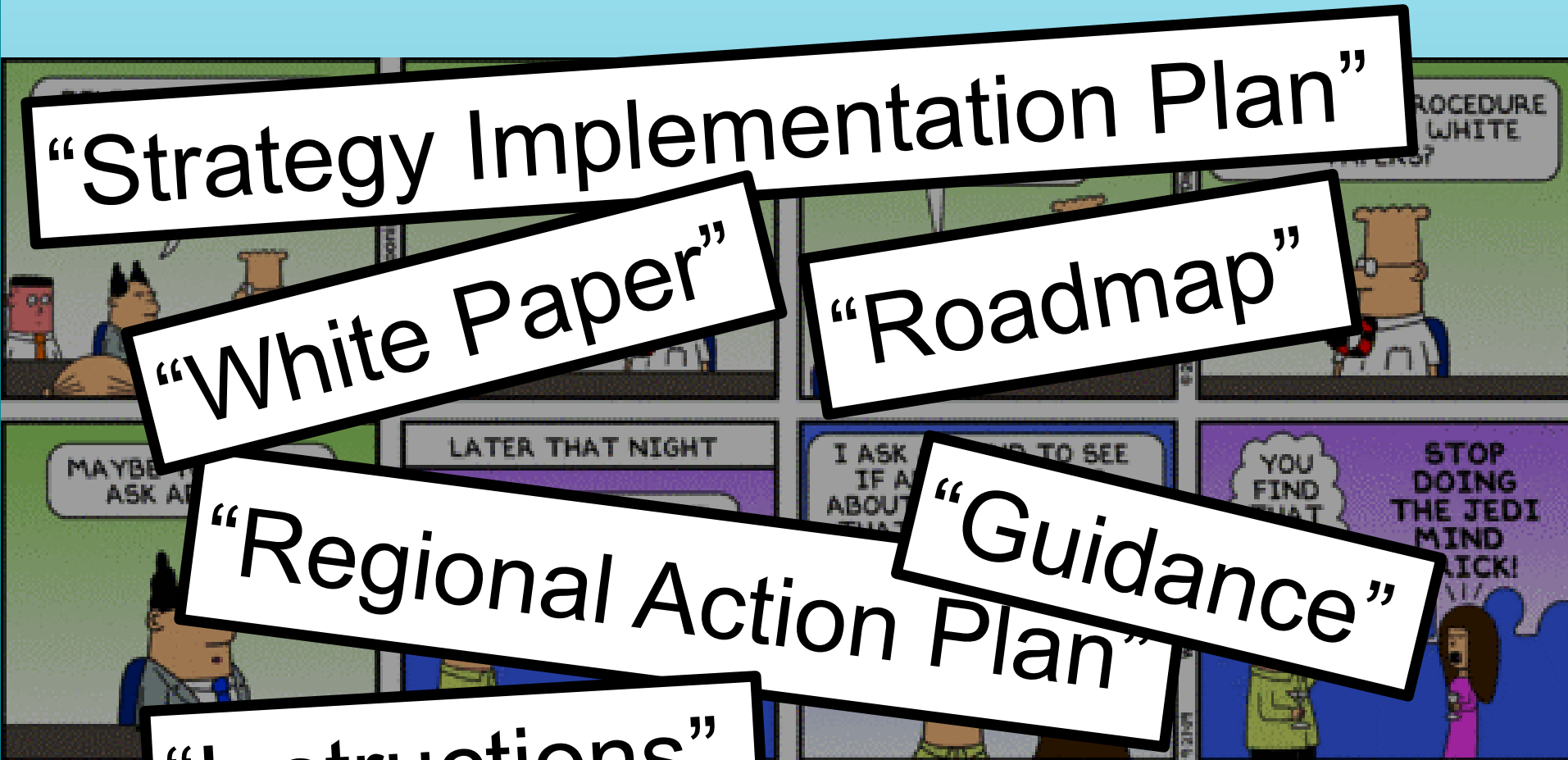
“White Paper”

“Roadmap”

“Regional Action Plan”

“Guidance”

“Instructions”

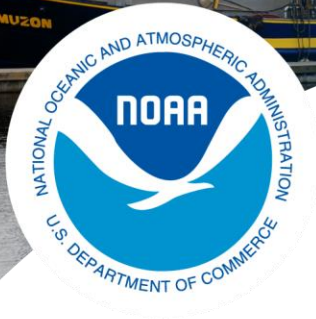




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Purpose of the Policy Directive System (PDS)

- PDS is the repository for NOAA Fisheries policy and supporting guidance documents
- Goals:
 - Transparency on agency positions
 - Accountability and consistency in management across the agency
 - Provide current and up-to-date information



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Structure of the Policy Directive System (PDS)

Policy
Procedure
Supplement





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Cleaning House & Revamping the PDS

- Update and simplify the requirements and clearance process
- Updating the content:
 - Revisions
 - Renewals
- Clean out what doesn't belong
 - Rescissions



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Progress Since Spring 2017

- Rescissions: 72
- Renewals: 2
- Revisions: 1
- New directives: 2 procedures
 - EFH Consultations for USACE Channel Maintenance Dredging
 - NMFS Process for Permit Applications to Retain Releasable Rehabilitated Marine Mammals for Public Display



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Current number of directives in PDS has shrunk from 222 to 149

Numbers per subject area:

- Fisheries Management: 47
- Protected Resources: 44
- Habitat Conservation: 13
- Science and Technology: 40
- Law Enforcement: 2
- NEPA: 3



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Policy Directives Currently Under Development:

- *Revision:* 01-116 Fishery Management Council Financial Disclosures and 01-116-01 procedure
- *Revision:* 30-133 Policy on Electronic Technologies and Fishery-Dependent Data Collection, and 30-133-01 MRIP Electronic Reporting Technologies
- *New:* 30-133-02 EM Cost Allocation procedure