

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON
ECOSYSTEM BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Habitat Committee (HC) provides the following recommendations to help the Ecosystem Plan Development Team (EPDT) develop a purpose and needs statement, and goals and objectives, as directed by the Council.

- Science should form the basis of the next steps. Therefore, the EPDT should be updated on the present state of ecosystem science, especially science specific to the California Current ecosystem. Also, the EPDT should consider how ongoing advice from ecosystem scientists can be incorporated (for example, an Ecosystem Science Advisory Team?)
- The EPDT should review existing documents developed by this Council's advisory bodies and previously submitted to the Council.
- Learn how other Councils (as well as international bodies) have developed similar fishery management plans (both in terms of process and content), and consider lessons learned in these processes.

The HC will be passing along further comments to the EPDT before the next Council meeting and later in the plan development process.

PFMC
10/31/09