

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON SABLEFISH ECOSYSTEM INDICATORS

The Habitat Committee (HC) heard a presentation from Drs. Melissa Haltuch and Nicholas Tolimieri on the oceanographic drivers of California Current on sablefish recruitment.

This research effort appears to be a useful way to incorporate multiple ecosystem indicators into stock assessments. The HC supports this multi-indicator approach, which is closely tied to hypotheses of different life stages. Modeling approaches that incorporate multiple dynamic habitat parameters, especially in the context of multi-model ensembles, are likely to yield more robust predictions than single-parameter predictor models (e.g., the original sablefish model focused on sea surface height), which are likely to be more sensitive to failure of that correlation.

PFMC
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