

FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN INITIATIVES: SCOPING AND SELECTION

The Pacific Coast Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) for the U.S. Portion of the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem includes the Initiatives Appendix, which provides examples of how the Council could address issues that affect two or more Council Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) or coordinate major Council policies across the FMPs to fulfill identified FEP needs. According to the FEP, biennially, the Council reviews potential ecosystem initiatives to determine whether any of them should be taken up in the coming year and assess whether there are new ecosystem initiative proposals that could be added to the appendix.

In March 2017, the Council identified a two candidate initiatives, as proposed by the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) and requested the EWG to scope the two initiatives. These are a combined initiative on the socio-economic effects of fisheries management practices on fishing communities (A.2.7) and on human recruitment to the fisheries (A.2.6), and an initiative on the effects of near-term climate shift and long-term climate change on our fish, fisheries, and fishing communities (A.2.8). Scoping should identify specific objectives of the initiatives, inventory available information, and propose a timeline for completing either or both initiatives.

The EWG met by webinar on June 19, 2017, to conduct public scoping of the candidate initiatives. The EWG completed a report, which is attached, addressing the Council's scoping request.

Council Action:

Review Scoping and Select a Final Initiative for Further Development.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.2.a, Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup Report 1.

Agenda Order:

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| I.2 Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiatives: Scoping and Selection | Kit Dahl |
| a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities | |
| b. Public Comment | |
| c. Council Action: Review Scoping and Select a Final Initiative for Further Development | |