H.1 Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan

September 13, 2010
2001 – 2006 Channel Islands Nat. Marine Sanctuary MPAs

- Council reviewed new and existing alternatives for fishing regulations for marine protected areas within the CINMS

- NOAA determination - “insufficient factual and scientific basis” exists for prohibiting fishing in the water column portion of CINMS “no take” MPAs to protect essential groundfish habitat

  Council authority limited to conservation and management of fish stocks in the four FMPs and the habitats they rely on
2001 – 2006 CINMS MPAs - Continued

- CINMS Decision Document amended to allow promulgation of fishing regulations under the NMSA

- Council action – (Nov. 2006) 1) (short term) Pursue MPA regulations via marine research reserves under MSA and CA State authority 2) (long term) initiate a new Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan (EFMP)
June 2006

The Council requested the Habitat Committee (HC) and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) review:

- Past Council actions that address Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) approaches
- EBFM efforts of other Regional Councils
- Current scientific literature on EBFM and the potential science available in support of a potential EBFM plan
November 2006

HC and SSC EBFM Subcommittee held a joint meeting
• Existing EBFM approaches around the nation and the world
• Role of science and economics in EBFM
• EBFM implementation in the Council process
April 2007

Council reviewed a staff white paper that outlined a programmatic approach to implementing an evolving EFMP to identify ecosystem principles and potential new authorities of interest to the Council.

The Council passed a motion regarding the next steps in development of an Ecosystem FMP (contingent upon securing funding):
(1) a description of the purpose and need
(2) a list of goals and objectives of an Ecosystem FMP

National Marine Fisheries Service volunteered to provide support and informational presentations.
2009

Council acquired funds to initiate EFMP development following a broad pursuit of financial support. The Council appointed members of an Ecosystem Plan Development Team and an Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel and assigned initial tasks for these two new advisory groups at its November 2009 meeting.
Requested Council Guidance

At this meeting

• Review and comment on the EPDT report, *Ecosystem-Based Management Planning for U.S. West Coast Fisheries*

• Provide guidance on the draft purpose and need statements and goals and objectives of the EFMP

• Provide guidance on the format and regulatory scope of the initial EFMP

• Adopt a geographic range and scale for the EFMP
Next Steps

• Consider scheduling regular Council updates on the science of EBFM and the status of the ecosystem

• Provide guidance and tasks on the next steps, future work, and schedule on EFMP development