

ECOSYSTEM ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON MANAGING OUR NATION'S
FISHERIES 3 CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UPS AND
UNRELATED LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) reviewed the Preliminary Staff Compilation of Possible Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) Reauthorization Priorities (Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 2). The EAS restricted its discussion to items and issues that have been previously discussed by the EAS. Additionally, the EAS took into consideration the Pacific Fishery Management Council's guidance on various ecosystem-based policies developed through its fishery ecosystem plan (FEP) and Initiative 1. The EAS recommends that the following items be included as Council priorities for MSA reauthorization:

- Link ecosystem - based management scales to fisheries management and governance (e.g., Revise National Standard 3 (Management Unit).
- Establish a new national standard to ensure adequate forage base.
- Require explicit consideration of the impact of forage fish to the ecosystem and fishing communities to inform optimum yield and annual catch limit decisions.
- Prohibit new forage fisheries until scientific and management evaluations are conducted.
- Expand cooperative research between fishing community and scientists.

The establishment of these national priorities would help provide guidance and support for this Council's implementation of ecosystem-based management.

PFMC
09/14/13