

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON INTEGRATED
ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT (IEA) REPORT

The Habitat Committee (HC) heard a briefing on the integrated ecosystem assessment (IEA) by Brian Wells of NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center. The HC believes the IEA will improve management with new information based on the status of the ecosystem, interactions between ecosystem components, and fishing and non-fishing effects on selected species (hake, sablefish, canary rockfish, bocaccio, and Sacramento River Chinook).

The HC suggests that the IEA Team expand its focus to Klamath River Fall Chinook and other salmon stocks limiting Council salmon fisheries.

It is important that the IEA remain flexible in order to incorporate new information, such as new groundfish habitat information, seabird distribution modeling efforts, kelp surveys, etc. In addition, it would be helpful to model the effects of habitat protection on recruitment and dispersal.

PFMC
11/06/11