

HABITAT COMMITTEE COMMENTS ON  
GROUNDFISH FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT 16-3:  
REBUILDING PLANS FOR BOCACCIO, COWCOD,  
AND WIDOW AND YELLOWEYE ROCKFISH

The Habitat Committee (HC) notes that Amendment 16-3 should include a discussion of protecting habitat important to the early life history stages of rockfishes because the early life history stages are when most rockfish mortality occurs. Habitat protection at this stage may be an effective tool for rebuilding.

In addition, the rebuilding plans should be flexible enough to include management measures related to habitat areas of particular concern and other information that becomes available through the Essential Fish Habitat Environmental Impact Statement process.

PFMC  
11/06/03