

Summary of Public Comment on Specific Alternatives in the Groundfish EFH DEIS

The following tables summarize public comment received and reproduced under Agenda Item C.3.d. Only comments that are clearly in reference to one of the alternatives are summarized here. Where appropriate, qualified support or opposition to the adoption of a preferred alternative is noted. It should be noted that a lot of the public comment expressed general support or opposition to the intent, general measures, methodology, and analysis in the DEIS, which is not reflected here. The reader should refer to the public comment letters themselves for details on the recommendations summarized here, as well as the broader range of comments and recommendations the public made on the groundfish EFH DEIS.

A. Alternatives to Identify and Describe EFH (Alternatives A.1–A.6)

	A.1	A.2	A.3	A.4	A.5	A.6
Audubon Society of Portland		Choose as preferred				
Coos Bay Trawlers' Association	Choose as preferred	Second choice as preferred				
Craven, Robert				Choose as preferred		
Independent Scientific Review Panel			Received the most support of the panel with additional recommendations	Supported by 2 panel members		
Natural Resources Defense Council/The Ocean Conservancy		Choose as preferred, modified to include seamounts				
Oregon Anglers		Choose as preferred				
Pacific Marine Conservation Council		Choose as preferred*				
Port San Luis Harbor District	Does not support	Does not support	Does not support	May support with qualifications	May support with qualifications	May support with qualifications
Retherford, Michael				Most logical alternative		

*The comment states "PMCC recommends adopting *Alternative A.3, Depths less than 3,500 m* as Essential Fish Habitat." Alternative A.2 identifies EFH as depths less than 3,500 m and it is assumed the commenter intended to identify that alternative.

B. Alternatives to Designate HAPCs (Alternatives B.1–B.9)

	B.1	B.2	B.3	B.4	B.5	B.6	B.7	B.8	B.9
Audubon Society of Portland		Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred		Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred
California Artificial Reef Enhancement Program								Choose as preferred	
Coos Bay Trawlers' Association	Choose as preferred	Second choice as preferred, combine B.2, B.3, B.4, and B.6				Second choice as preferred, combine B.2, B.3, B.4, and B.6			
Heikkila, Paul		Strongly supports	Strongly supports	Strongly supports		Strongly supports			
Independent Scientific Review Panel		Supports combined B.2, B.3, B.4, B.6, & B.7 as preferred			Consider if species-specific relative abundance data available	Supports combined B.2, B.3, B.4, B.6, & B.7 as preferred		Did not support	Support with "delisting" mechanism
Mendonoma Marine Life Conservancy		Include Big River Estuary							
Natural Resources Defense Council/The Ocean Conservancy					Choose as preferred				
Oregon Anglers		Many of these alternatives have enough data to support designation							Modify to include process to remove HAPC designation
Pacific Marine Conservation Council		Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred		Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred		Choose with process to remove HAPC designation included
Port San Luis Harbor District	Does not support	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications	Supports with "un-designation" option
Retherford, Michael		Supports this alternative							

C. Alternatives to Minimize Impacts to EFH (Alternatives C.1–C.7)

	C.1	C.2	C.3	C.4	C.5	C.6	C.7
Audubon Society of Portland				Choose C.4.2 as preferred	Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred	Choose C.7.2 as preferred
Coos Bay Trawlers' Association	Choose as preferred			C.4.1 second choice as preferred			
Craven, Robert			C.3 not acceptable (C.3.1 or C.3.2 more rational approach)				
Fishing Vessel Owners' Association		Opposes options C.2.1 & C.2.2; supports C.2.3 with qualifications		C.4.2 would not affect member longline vessels	Supports this alternative		Does not support
Independent Scientific Review Panel			C.3.4 and C.13 best consider spatial distribution of habitats, impacts, sensitivity				HAPC Areas of Interest should be protected
Port San Luis Harbor District		Supports elements of C.2.1 & C.2.2 representing status quo. Do not support C.2.3	Supports all options with qualifications	Supports	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications	Supports with qualifications
Retherford, Michael	All item C alternatives problematic						

C. Alternatives to Minimize Impacts to EFH (Alternatives C.8–C.14)

	C.8	C.9	C.10	C.11	C.12	C.13	C.14
Audubon Society of Portland		Choose 9.5 & 9.6 as preferred	Choose as preferred		Choose a combination of C.12, C.13, & C.14 as preferred	Choose a combination of C.12, C.13, & C.15 as preferred	Choose a combination of C.12, C.13, & C.16 as preferred
Capozzelli, J.					Choose as preferred		
Coastside Fishing Club					Endorses the findings and proposed actions contained in Alternative 12	Unnecessarily restricts recreational fishing	Unnecessarily restricts recreational fishing
Cobb, Leesa					Supports this alternative		
Craven, Robert							Not acceptable
Diller, Bill			Fully endorses				
Fishermen's Marketing Association					Submitted Trawl Industry Proposal as modification of C.12		

	C.8	C.9	C.10	C.11	C.12	C.13	C.14
Fishing Vessel Owners' Association		C.9.3 may have unintended adverse effects; supports C.9.4		Supports with proposed modifications		Opposes	
Heikkila, Paul		Opposes 9.8				Would eliminate important recreational & hook & line fishing in Bandon-Coos Bay, OR area	Would eliminate important salmon troll, recreational & hook & line fishing in Bandon-Coos Bay, OR area
Independent Scientific Review Panel		Gear modifications should be encouraged with field testing	Supports solutions to reduce economic hardship and encourage partnerships			C.3.4 and C.13 best consider spatial distribution of habitats, impacts, sensitivity	
Moss Landing Harbor District			Supports efforts of NGOs and 23 commercial fisherman trying to agree on designated zones (such as Alternatives C.10 and C.12)		Supports efforts of NGOs and 23 commercial fisherman trying to agree on designated zones (such as Alternatives C.10 and C.12)		
Natural Resources Defense Council/The Ocean Conservancy					Choose as preferred combined with specified features of C.13		
Oceana					Submitted Revised Alternative C.12		
Oregon Anglers	Supports C.8.1 with qualifications						
Pacific Marine Conservation Council		Qualified support for C.9.1, C.9.5, C.9.6			Qualified support if further refined		
Port of Bandon					Does not support (reference to closed area near port)	Does not support (reference to closed area near port)	Does not support (reference to closed area near port)
Port San Luis Harbor District	Supports either option with qualifications	Supports	Support if a majority of limited entry permit holders cooperate with NGOs	Supports	Support if a majority of limited entry permit holders cooperate with NGOs	Opposes	Opposes
Retherford, Michael	All item C alternatives problematic						

	C.8	C.9	C.10	C.11	C.12	C.13	C.14
Rock, Joseph		Opposes 9.2, 9.5, & 9.8					
Southern California Trawlers' Association					Proposes alternative closed areas in Monterey/SCB		

D. Research and Monitoring Alternatives (Alternatives D.1–D.4)

	D.1	D.2	D.3	D.4
Audubon Society of Portland		Choose a combination of D.2.1 & D.4 as preferred		choose a combination of D.2.1 & D.4
Coos Bay Trawlers' Association	Choose as preferred			
Craven, Robert		Opposes D.2.1	Opposes	
Fishing Vessel Owners' Association		Supports D.2.1 with qualification		
Independent Scientific Review Panel		Supports expanded logbook coverage	Supports VMS effort distribution analysis	Supports research reserves
Natural Resources Defense Council/The Ocean Conservancy		Choose D.2.1 as preferred	Choose as preferred	Choose as preferred
Oregon Anglers				Supports with modifications on funding and reauthorization elements
Pacific Marine Conservation Council		Supports D.2.2	Supports	Strongly supports
Retherford, Michael	Appropriate alternative			