

CALIFORNIA CURRENT ECOSYSTEM REPORT INCLUDING INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT

The Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) calls for an annual report to the Council on status and trends in the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME). The Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) Team, comprised of staff from the Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers, has produced its third State of the California Current Ecosystem Report. In addition to the report, a cover letter from the Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers Directors and Supplementary Materials for the Report are included in the briefing materials. The Supplementary Materials are reproduced in electronic form only.

The purpose of the Report is to present ecosystem information for the CCLME to the Council in a succinct, straightforward format so that the Council may take into account ecosystem variability in its decisions. The Report synthesizes data to present 22 key environmental, biological, and socioeconomic indicators. Trends in physical, biological, and socioeconomic components of the ecosystem – taking into account the effects of fisheries and other human activities – are thus highlighted.

The IEA Team met with the Council Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Ecosystem Subcommittee on December 15-16, 2014, to facilitate SSC review of indicators presented in the report. This meeting also helped the IEA Team in refining the indicators that will be presented in future reports. The SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee produced a draft report to support development of recommendations by the full SSC (attached as Agenda Item E.1.c, SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee Report). This report will be finalized after review by the full SSC.

Drs. Chris Harvey and Toby Garfield will present an overview of the Report on behalf of the IEA Team.

Council Action:

Discussion.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.1.b, NMFS Report: Letter from Drs. John Stein and Cisco Werner, Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers, to Dr. Donald McIsaac, Council Executive Director.
2. Agenda Item E.1.b, NMFS Report 2: California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team, California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) State of the California Current Report, 2015.
3. Agenda Item E.1.b, NMFS Report 3: CCIEA Supplementary Materials (*Electronic Only*).
4. Agenda Item E.1.c, SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee Report, Review of the CCIEA State of the California Current Annual Report by the Scientific and Statistical Committee Ecosystem Subcommittee.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview Kit Dahl
- b. Report of the California Current Integrated Ecosystem
Assessment Team Chris Harvey, Toby Garfield
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Council Discussion

PFMC
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