

## FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN INITIATIVE SCOPING

The Pacific Coast Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) for the U.S. Portion of the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem includes the Initiatives Appendix, which provides examples of how the Council could address issues that affect two or more Council Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) or coordinate major Council policies across the FMPs to fulfill identified FEP needs. According to the FEP, biennially, the Council reviews potential ecosystem initiatives to determine whether any of them should be taken up in the coming year and assess whether there are new ecosystem initiative proposals that could be added to the appendix.

In March 2015, the Council identified a new initiative, Coordinated Ecosystem Indicator Review, to pursue. This initiative would refine and improve the ecosystem indicators presented in the Annual State of the California Current Ecosystem Report. The Council directed the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG), the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team, and the Scientific and Statistical Committee Ecosystem Subcommittee members to assess the overall performance of the indicators and how they can be better linked to management decision-making. In addition, the Council directed the EWG to modify Initiative A.2.8, Cross-FMP Effects of Climate Shift Initiative, for consistency with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Draft Climate Science Strategy.

Agenda Item D.1.a, Ecosystem Workgroup Report includes workload assessments and timeline for the Coordinated Ecosystem Indicator Review Initiative, their relationship to the Council's four Fishery Management Plans' goals and objectives, and a description of Council decision points that could be supported by the indicators. The Report also presents revisions to the Climate Shift Initiative addressing the Council's March request.

### **Council Action:**

**Determine Timeline for, and Issues to be Addressed in: 1) an Initiative to Develop and Refine Indicators for Ecosystem, and 2) an Initiative to Monitor Climate Shift**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item D.1.a, Ecosystem Workgroup Report.
2. Agenda Item D.1.b, Public Comment.

### **Agenda Order:**

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| D.1 | Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiative Scoping   | Kit Dahl |
|     | a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities  |          |
|     | b. Public Comment   |          |
|     | c. <b>Council Action:</b> Determine Timeline for, and Issues to be Addressed in: 1) an Initiative to Develop and Refine Indicators for Ecosystem, and 2) an Initiative to Monitor Climate Shift |          |