

Agenda Item F.3.c

Supplemental Public Presentation 3

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Comments on Final Preferred Alternatives EFH and RCA Amendment 28

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Studies on Fish-Habitat Associations

Locations studied: (1988-present)

- Olympic Coast NMS
- Gray's Canyon
- Astoria Canyon
- Heceta Bank
- Daisy Bank
- Stonewall Bank
- Coquille Bank (Bandon high spot)
- Cordell Bank NMS
- Soquel Canyon
- Portuguese ledge
- Carmel Canyon
- Point Lobos
- Pt. Sur
- Big Creek
- Anacapa Is. "Footprint"
- Cow Cod conservation areas



16 publications
on fish-habitat
Associations

EFH and DSC&S

1. Groundfish associated with structure
2. Physical and biological components equivalent
3. DSC&S have additional key elements
4. Ecologically important in benthic ecosystems

Support *alternative 1b*

EFH and DSC&S

Heceta Bank, Oregon:

1. Complex habitat for juvenile rockfish
2. Needs expanded protections to north & west (*alternative 1b*)

Twenty Years of Fish-Habitat Studies on Heceta Bank, Oregon

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Precautionary Approach to Habitat Protection

1. Largely unstudied
2. Altered ecosystems
3. Manage for *resilience*: intact communities resist change

Precautionary Approach to Habitat protection

Deep-Sea Ecosystem Protection (alternative 3a)

1. Unique, diverse
2. Highly vulnerable
3. Not currently used

