

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN
FIVE-YEAR REVIEW - SCOPING

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) reviewed the briefing book materials on the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) review and members of the GMT participated in the Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) webinar on August 21, 2018. The GMT discussed this issue during our webinar on August 23, 2018 and provide our input below.

If the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) chooses to move forward with a review of the FEP, the GMT suggests that a focused update would be sufficient at this time. Specifically, the GMT supports the EWG's suggestions to update the descriptive information to reflect new research and conditions of the ecosystem and updating Appendix A to include new progress on the initiatives process. The GMT also suggests that adding executive summaries to chapters three through six of the FEP would make it easier for readers to process the most important points. The GMT is concerned with the workload associated with a broad update which would include significant input from all of the advisory bodies, and may require additional support from the Northwest and Southwest Fisheries Science Centers ([Agenda Item G.2.a, EWG Report 1, September 2018](#)). At this time, the GMT sees more benefit to both the Council and stakeholders in continuing to make progress on the Climate and Communities Initiative, and postponing major changes to the FEP review.

PFMC
09/06/18