

ECOSYSTEM WORKGROUP REPORT ON FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN (FEP) FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

The Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) has the following supplemental comments beyond the information we already presented in our Report 1 for this agenda item:

- The EWG does not have a preferred Vision Statement among the alternative draft Vision Statements presented in our Report 1, but we note that the Council did not favor Alternative A in March. Therefore, the Council may want to eliminate Alternative A from further consideration.
- We do not believe that the draft Vision Statements we provided in our Report 1 are fundamentally different in the values they capture. The values expressed in each alternative Vision Statement are those we believe the Council has already demonstrated through its actions, and the alternatives are not intended to propose new values. Instead, the alternative draft Vision Statements offer different ways of expressing those values.
- We recommend that the Council forward one or more draft Vision Statements and the July 2019 alternative Goals and Objectives for public review from October 2019 through the February 2020 briefing book deadline for the Council's March 2020 meeting.
- On page 11 of our Report 1, we recommend modifying the second bullet in Section 2.1, under the list of work to be conducted at March Council meetings, to read "review the list of potential ecosystem initiatives provided in Appendix A to the FEP, **assess whether any existing or newly proposed initiatives help implement the FEP's Goals or Objectives**, and determine whether any of those initiatives merit Council attention in the coming year..."

In its March 2019 report on the FEP Update, the EWG reported to the Council on its progress since 2013 in implementing the FEP's Purpose and Need Statement and Objectives. If the Council is interested in more frequent updates on Council-wide efforts to meet the Goals and Objectives of the FEP, the EWG could draft a process for Council review in March 2020 that could help the Council plan for and monitor its progress on meeting those Goals and Objectives.