

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN FIVE-YEAR REVIEW - FINAL ACTION

The Habitat Committee (HC) appreciates the work the Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) has done to revise and improve the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP), which is a valuable structure and process for implementing ecosystem-based fishery management for Council-managed species. The HC recommends adopting the Vision and Purpose as provided in the Public Review Draft, and recommends the following changes to the Goals and Objectives:

- In general, the HC suggests that the Objectives can, and should, be more specific and action-oriented.
- The FEP revision would benefit from clearly identifying who is responsible for implementing the Objectives (e.g. advisory bodies, technical teams, etc.) This will provide more clarity on how the Council and its advisory bodies can engage in the FEP. For instance, it is not clear from the goals and objectives if the Ecosystem Workgroup is suggesting the Council conducts the “assessment or monitoring” described in the objective, or is merely promoting or encouraging the described activity (e.g., 2b, 2c, and 3c).
- The goals contain multiple topics, and would benefit from greater specificity, so that objectives can be tracked better to each goal. In addition, the Council may want to consider developing a third tier, in the form of a list of potential activities tied to each objective.

03/04/20