

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN (FEP) FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) received a briefing from Dr. Kit Dahl on the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) five-year review, detailing proposed revisions to Chapters 1 and 2 and the proposed process for future changes to the FEP ([Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1, September 2019](#)). The SSC does not have any specific changes to suggest to the revisions to Chapters 1 and 2 of the FEP.

Section 1.2 states that the FEP is an informational document and not prescriptive. However, achieving many of the objectives in Section 1.3 of the FEP would require actions that fall under the authority of other FMPs to implement, or research, education or policy actions that may be beyond the authority or resources of the Council. Revision of later chapters should detail how the FEP can promote achievement of these objectives, including ensuring that the research and data collections needed to support associated management decisions are undertaken. The 2018 Research and Data Needs document already identifies research and data collection gaps that may limit the ability to achieve some FEP objectives. The next research and data needs evaluation and the research and data needs database soon to be under development should specifically consider the objectives of the FEP when identifying and ranking research and data collection priorities.

The material in Chapter 3 is dated and is in need of revision. If the Council chooses to update this or other chapters of the FEP, the SSC recommends additional scientific resources be allocated to support the revision process. The scientific expertise needs will likely be similar to those allocated to the development of the 2013 FEP.

PFMC  
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