

## ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT REVIEW

At its March 2020 meeting the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) initiated a review of Highly Migratory Species (HMS) essential fish habitat (EFH) provisions. HMS EFH was incorporated into the HMS Fishery Management Plan in 2004 and has not yet been reviewed or revised. Southwest Fisheries Science Center staff conducted a literature review to identify new information that could inform potential revisions to HMS EFH. The results of that literature review are included in the HMSMT's Phase 1 Report (E.4.a HMSMT Report 1). Links to the current HMS FMP, the original Appendix A (containing the complete description of HMS EFH and life history summaries), and maps can be found on the Council's [HMS page](#).

If the Council determines that the new information warrants updating provisions of HMS EFH, the HMSMT would develop a process, schedule, scope, and objectives for Phase 2.

### **Council Action:**

**Consider the HMSMT Phase 1 Report and literature review.  
Determine whether new information warrants modifying HMS EFH provisions.  
Provide guidance as necessary.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item E.4.a, HMSMT Report 1.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

### **Agenda Order:**

- E.4 Essential Fish Habitat Review Kerry Griffin
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Review Phase 1 Report and Determine if Modification of Essential Fish Habitat Provisions are Needed