

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT REVIEW

The Habitat Committee (HC) heard a report on the literature review undertaken to determine if the essential fish habitat (EFH) descriptions for highly migratory species should be updated. Since new information focusing on diet, movement, and habitat utilization of highly migratory species is available, the HC supports moving to Phase II and updating the existing EFH provisions in the fishery management plan.

The HC looks forward to reviewing the supplemental report in the interest of evaluating whether this information can be used to identify habitat areas of particular concern and describe the dynamic nature of highly migratory species habitats. Based on the information presented thus far, the HC supports the continuation of the EFH review process.

PFMC
9/11/20