

FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

In September 2018, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) initiated a review of the Council's Pacific Coast Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP). In March 2020, the Council adopted revised Chapters 1 and 2, which include a vision statement, goals and objectives, and other reorganized elements in these chapters from the current FEP. In September 2020, the Council reviewed a revised draft of Chapter 3 and proposed revisions to Chapter 4 and 5. It directed the Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) to provide a revised draft Chapter 3 (description of the California Current Ecosystem [CCE]), draft Chapter 4 (effects of human activities and environmental shifts on the CCE), and Chapter 5 outline (Council policy priorities for ocean resource management) at this meeting. Chapter 5 would be removed from the FEP and turned into a standalone document to make it easier for other agencies to become aware of Council policy priorities.

EWG Report 1 is the revised draft of Chapter 3 and a full first draft of Chapter 4. EWG Report 2 a detailed outline of Chapter 5.

The Council should provide guidance to the EWG on any further revisions to Chapters 3 and 4 and the structure and content of Chapter 5 as a standalone document. According to the current Year-at-a-Glance agenda planner, the Council intends to complete revisions to the FEP at its September 2021 meeting. The current FEP includes Chapter 6, *Bringing Cross-FMP and Ecosystem Science into the Council Process*, and Appendix A, Ecosystem Initiatives. The EWG plans to develop a supplemental report with suggestions for the FEP's ecosystem science chapter and for FEP Appendix A. The Council should also provide drafting guidance to the EWG on these elements of the FEP for consideration at its September 2021 meeting.

Council Action:

Review and Comment on Updates to FEP Chapters 3 and 4, Review and Provide Guidance on former Chapter 5 as a Standalone Guidance Document, and Provide Guidance on Further Development.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.3.a, EWG Report 1: Fishery Ecosystem Plan Chapters 3 & 4.
2. Agenda Item I.3.a, EWG Report 2: Guidance Document on Offshore Non-Fishing Activities.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- I.3 Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Five-Year Review – Final Action Kit Dahl
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Review FEP Updates and Provide Guidance on Further Development

PFMC
02/09/21