

REVIEW OF ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

In 2020, the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region initiated a review of coastal pelagic species (CPS) essential fish habitat (EFH).

CPS EFH was incorporated into the CPS Fishery Management Plan in 1998 and was reviewed in 2010 by the CPSMT, which recommended no changes to CPS EFH provisions. In late 2020 through early 2021, SWFSC staff conducted a literature review to identify new information that could inform potential revisions to CPS EFH. The results of that literature review are included in the CPSMT's Phase 1 Report (E.3.a, CPSMT Report 1). If the Council determines that the new information warrants updating provisions of CPS EFH, the CPSMT would develop a process, schedule, scope, and objectives for Phase 2.

Council Action:

- 1. Consider the CPSMT Phase 1 Report and literature review.**
- 2. Determine whether new information warrants modifying CPS EFH provisions.**
- 3. Provide guidance as necessary.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.3.a, CPSMT Report 1.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- E.3 Review of Essential Fish Habitat 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 Modifications to Essential Fish Habitat Provisions are Warranted