

CURRENT HABITAT ISSUES

The Habitat Committee (HC) will meet on Wednesday and Thursday, September 8-9, to discuss California water issues, ecosystem issues, marine planning, and other matters.

In June the Council directed the HC to draft and send a letter to the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration on its Draft Mitigation Policy in time for the July 30th comment deadline. [That letter is online here.](#)

In addition, the Council directed the HC to take the lead on a letter to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) on oil rig decommissioning, including coordinating with other Council advisory bodies. The comment period was set for September 7, and due to workload constraints, the HC was unable to complete the letter in time for Council approval. Therefore, a request for an extension of the comment period will be sent to BOEM.

Finally, the Council directed the HC to take the lead on a letter to BOEM on its expanded “Morro Bay 399” Call Area. Responsibility for that letter was given to the new Ad Hoc Marine Planning Committee, and the letter is part of the Marine Planning agenda item (*E.1.a, Supplemental Marine Planning Committee Report 1*).

Council Action:

Consider comments and recommendations developed by the HC.

Reference Materials:

1. *Agenda Item I.1.a, Supplemental HC Report 1.*
2. If received, public comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

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| I.1 | Current Habitat Issues | Jennifer Gilden |
| a. | Report of the Habitat Committee | Lance Hebdon |
| b. | Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies | |
| c. | Public Comment | |
| d. | Council Action: Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations | |