

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN
FIVE-YEAR REVIEW – FINAL ACTION

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) reviewed briefing book materials related to this agenda item and discussed the current Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) draft. Members of the GAP also attended the March 9th meeting of the Ecosystem Workgroup.

As highlighted in our [September 2021 report](#), the GAP is impressed by the breadth of information in the current FEP. The FEP is well written, relatively easy to understand, and an important distillation of several factors that influence management of Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) fisheries, including environmental characteristics of the California Current Ecosystem (CCE), CCE marine species and their habitats, and Council-managed fisheries and fishing dependent communities. The FEP is an important document and the GAP compliments the EWG for their high-quality work. The GAP appreciates that the EWG incorporated public and advisory body input into the [Final Draft revised FEP](#) provided for Council action at this meeting. The GAP recommends that the Council adopt the revised draft and make it available for public review.

The GAP notes that the stand-alone document that was formerly a part of the FEP – *Pacific Fishery Management Council Guidance on Agency Activities in the California Current Ecosystem* – will be provided to the Council under the Marine Planning agenda item C.2 (as part of the [EWG C.2 Report](#)). The GAP thanks the EWG for their work in developing this important document. The GAP agrees with EWG that the Council should provide guidance about transitioning responsibility for the standalone guidance document to the MPC and to incorporate information in the document into Council marine planning documents. The GAP will provide additional comments in our Marine Planning (Agenda Item C.2) report.

PFMC
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