HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT ON ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT – PHASE 2 ACTION PLAN

Kym Jacobson (Northwest Fisheries Science Center) presented an update on the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Phase 2 Action Plan to the Habitat Committee (HC). In April 2021, the HC provided recommendations on the Phase 2 scope and objectives (HC Supplemental Report on Agenda Item E.3.a).

The HC supports the items included in the scope for the CPS EFH Phase 2 Action Plan. In addition to those items, the HC is particularly interested in 1) ensuring the inclusion of conservation recommendations in conjunction with updating descriptions of the adverse impacts from non-fishing activities, and 2) consideration of information that accounts for the dynamic nature of EFH. The HC is willing to assist with the review process and recommends the CPS Management Team coordinate with the HC, possibly as early as November 2022, in developing the preliminary preferred alternatives for proposed CPS EFH modifications.

PFMC 06/09/22