

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT (EFH)
AMENDMENT – FINAL

In 2020, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) began Phase One of its Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) review. As outlined in Council Operating Procedure (COP) 22, Phase One consists of a literature review, a call for data and information, and culminates with a report which summarizes initial findings. If new information warrants consideration of EFH modifications, Phase Two is initiated. The Council recommended in September 2020 to move forward with Phase Two to consider changes to HMS EFH, and in March 2021 the Council adopted the Phase 2 [Action Plan](#) for HMS EFH (Agenda Item H.2 Attachment 1, March 2021). In September 2023, the Council adopted the proposed EFH modifications for public review, with final action scheduled for November 2023. Proposed modifications include:

- Updated life history summaries and habitat needs
- Minor changes in EFH spatial extent
- Updated maps
- Additional non-fishing activities added
- Updated Research and Information Needs

Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1 summarizes the EFH review process and proposed EFH modifications, which are contained in an updated HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Appendix F (Attachment 2) and in proposed FMP text (Attachment 3).

At this meeting, the Council should consider the proposed HMS EFH modifications contained in Attachments 2 and 3, and adopt the package as final.

Council Action:

- 1. Consider the Proposed EFH Modifications Contained in Attachments 2 and 3.**
- 2. Adopt Final EFH Reviews to the FMP.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1: Summary of HMS EFH proposed modifications.
2. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2: HMS EFH Appendix F (***Electronic Only***).
3. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3: Underline/strikethrough proposed FMP language.
4. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- F.2 Highly Migratory Species Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)
Amendment – Preliminary
 - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final EFH Revisions to the FMP

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PFMC
10/11/23