

## REVIEW OF ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT - SCOPING

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) are required to include detailed descriptions of essential fish habitat (EFH) for each species in the FMP's fishery management unit. These include identification and description of EFH, fishing and non-fishing impacts, recommended conservation measures, habitat areas of particular concern, and other components. EFH for Pacific salmon was first identified and described in [Appendix A](#) of the Pacific Coast Salmon FMP in 1999 and was reviewed by the Council and National Marine Fisheries Service in 2014. These EFH components should be reviewed and updated periodically, and at least every five years, per Federal regulatory guidance and [Council Operating Procedure 22](#). Council Operating Procedure 22 provides guidance on developing the process, scope, and personnel to carry out EFH periodic reviews.

At this meeting, the Council will consider a scoping document (D.5, Attachment 1) to accomplish the first phase of the EFH review for salmon. The scoping document includes the schedule, scope, objectives, and staff who would conduct the review. Should the Council choose to move to the second phase (consider revisions to EFH components), a new scoping document would be presented for Council adoption.

A Call for Information (CFI) is typically issued as part of EFH reviews, to compile new and newly available reports, data, and other information that may inform the review. A proposed CFI is attached for consideration (D.5, Attachment 2).

The Council should adopt the scoping document and proposed CFI and provide additional guidance as appropriate.

### **Council Tasks:**

- 1. Consider the Scoping Document and CFI and provide feedback.**
- 2. Adopt the EFH review scope, objectives, schedule, and CFI.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item D.5, Attachment 1 (Scoping Plan).
2. Agenda Item D.5, Attachment 2 (Call for Information).
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

### **Agenda Order:**

- D.5 Review of Essential Fish Habitat - Scoping Kerry Griffin
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt the Scope, Objectives, and Schedule for the Review