

ECOSYSTEM ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON SPECIAL PROJECTS:  
PROJECT PLANNING, UPDATES, AND CLARIFICATIONS

To summarize the following report, the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS):

- Generally supports the Council hold in-person convenings whenever possible and, at a minimum, including an in-person component for full engagement at multi-day workshops;
- Supports the proposed California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) Fishermen's Roundtable;
- Recommends either Option a. (in-person) or Option b. (hybrid) for the proposed Local Knowledge (LK) workshop;
- Notes that Option f. (targeted in-person conversations) could also be useful for ecosystem or species-specific topics; and
- Recommends the dynamic ocean management (DOM) workshop be held in-person.

The EAS received a briefing from Ms. Gilly Lyons on Agenda Item C.3, Special Projects Updates, at our virtual meeting on September 3, 2026. We appreciate the efforts of Council staff to provide status updates on each of the three special projects and the Gantt chart consolidated timeline in [Attachment 4](#). Having clear, succinct descriptions of the Council feedback provided thus far, the tasks remaining, and anticipated next steps for each project under one agenda item is helpful to understand how they overlap or complement each other in the bigger picture.

The EAS primarily focused its discussion on the remaining work for Special Project 1 and the upcoming opportunities for fishermen engagement, including the proposed Fishermen's Roundtable with the CCIEA Team in November and the tentative LK workshop in February 2027, and the Special Project 3 dynamic ocean management (DOM) workshop in January 2027. The EAS generally encourages the Council to hold in-person convenings whenever possible to facilitate fishermen's input and feedback on science and management tools and proposals, and interactions with each other and those involved in the Council process. While virtual meeting formats can be helpful for informational briefings and can enhance participation for those unable to attend a meeting in person (i.e., a hybrid format with both in-person and virtual), we believe that including an in-person component helps ensure full engagement, particularly for multi-day workshops.

Regarding Special Project 1, the EAS appreciates the launch of the CCIEA team's West Coast email portal to solicit and receive feedback from fishermen about on-the-water conditions and unexpected events observed during the 2026 fishing season and fully supports the proposed Fishermen's Roundtable. These are excellent opportunities for the CCIEA Team to hear directly from fishermen and other stakeholders about conditions that could strengthen ecosystem-based fishery management. For the LK workshop, the EAS recommends either Option a. (in-person) or Option b. (hybrid), rather than a remote-only workshop. Targeted in-person conversations (Option f.) could also be useful to focus input on ecosystem or species-specific topics.

On Special Project 2, the EAS was pleased to hear that it is moving forward as planned. We look forward to reviewing the baseline assessment of West Coast fishing community resilience, draft framework, and case study when those are available.

For Special Project 3, the EAS recommends the Council move forward with the approved DOM in-person workshop in January, which is an excellent example of a targeted conversation for highly migratory species (HMS) fisheries. The goals of the DOM workshop described in [Attachment 3](#) would best be accomplished through an in-person workshop that convenes scientists, managers, fishermen, and stakeholders, which would facilitate the co-development of DOM tools that align with HMS fishing operations.

PFMC  
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