

CURRENT HABITAT ISSUES

The Habitat Committee (HC) will meet September 17 – 18, 2026, in conjunction with the September Council meeting, to discuss current habitat-related issues and develop supplemental reports for Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) consideration as necessary.

The HC is trying something new for the September meeting. The HC developed a report for the September Briefing Book, which will be available in advance of the September meeting. The report is designed to be informational, providing updates on relevant issues and activities, as well as a preview of some topics the HC will discuss more in depth at its September meeting. Additional topics may be included in the HC's second report.

Providing a summary of the issues in advance will give Council members time to prepare for follow up discussion. In addition, other Advisory Bodies (AB) and the public will have the opportunity to consider issues identified by the HC and submit supplemental AB reports as appropriate. HC Report 1 will be included in the supplemental BB materials, available at least a week before the Council meeting begins. Developing an advanced HC report may be especially useful for Council meetings when the HC convenes in person (typically twice per year). In those situations, the HC report is typically not posted until the night before the Habitat agenda item is scheduled, leaving little time for the Council members, ABs, and the public to read the report. The HC would appreciate feedback on this approach.

Topics considered by the HC will include updates on plans for redeployment of the Ocean Observatories Initiative Coastal Endurance Array, Klamath River water rights issues, the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Annual Report, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's updated Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife program, the California State Water Resources Control Board San Francisco Bay-Delta Plan, as well as other topics.

The Council should consider the topics covered in this agenda item as well as any recommendations put forward by the HC and provide guidance as appropriate.

Council Tasks:

Consider comments and recommendations developed by the HC.

Reference Materials:

1. *Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental HC Report 1.*
2. *Agenda Item E.1.a, Supplemental HC Report 2.*
3. If received, public comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- E.1 Current Habitat Issues
 - a. Report of the Habitat Committee
 - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

Kerry Griffin
Scott Heppell

- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Consider Habitat Committee Report and Recommendations

PFMC
08/27/26