

H.1 Protocol for Reviewing Ecosystem Component Species and Identifying Stocks in Need of Conservation and Management

Council Tasks:

1. Provide guidance on the proposed review process for EC species and related reporting.
2. Recommend a review process to review EC species for incorporation into the COPs.

H.1 WDFW Motion 1 - Protocol for FMP Species Review

I move the Council, direct the GMT to work with the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission to develop an ecosystem component (EC) species mortality report on PacFIN. The report would serve as a regular update on the status of EC species mortality that is available on the public platform.

Schedule an inaugural report to the Council for March 2028 but don't set a recurring agenda item at this time. This does not preclude the GMT from providing more frequent updates to the Council as needed.

The metrics for the inaugural report should be limited to total mortality, total landings, and ex-vessel revenue (adjusted for

inflation) reported for each sector as well as summed across all sectors. Total mortality and total landings should also be provided as a percent change from the previous year, and as a proportion relative to the average value in years before and after the species was declared an EC species as recommended by the GMT. For species formerly requiring conservation and management, mortality should be provided as a percent of the most recent ACL.

Given that the report will be a new product, the GMT has flexibility to update the report as needed between now and March 2028.

In updating COP 9, refer to Attachment 1, Section 3 to incorporate EC species mortality review into the regular review process of the GMT to capture their role of tracking catch and regularly reporting issues to the Council.

To facilitate timely input to the Council, each biennium the GMT should review and discuss the EC species mortality report well in advance of the March meeting to allow sufficient time to request an agenda item to be scheduled if there is something to flag for the Council.

Moved by Heather Hall

Seconded by Lynn Mattes

Motion passes unanimously