

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON MOVING TRAWL GEAR EFP INTO
REGULATIONS; UPDATING DECLARATION REQUIREMENTS; REMOVING
DUPLICATIVE RECREATIONAL REGULATIONS

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) have reviewed reports associated with agenda item H.2, specifically pertaining to, Action Item 3: Commercial Sale of Recreational Fish Waste, and have the following comments.

The EC has previously provided the following statements regarding this agenda item: [Agenda Item G.4.a, Supplemental EC Report 1 \(March 2019\)](#); [Agenda Item F.8.a, Supplemental EC Report 1 \(March 2023\)](#), [Supplemental EC Report 1 \(March 2025\)](#), [Agenda Item C.5.a Supplemental EC Report 1 \(April 2026\)](#), and [Agenda E.5.a Supplemental EC Report 1 \(June 2026\)](#).

The EC appreciates the continued interest in finding a pathway that allows ports to donate fish waste, i.e. carcasses, to a processor for disposition without being in conflict with the federal prohibition on the sale of recreationally caught fish. The EC agrees with the GAP statement regarding Action 3 and supports moving forward with Alternative 1 to FPA.

This topic was initially introduced to the Council at the March 2019 meeting. At that time the purpose statement was to *allow a port to establish a contract with a company that would collect waste at fish cleaning stations and use that waste to produce commercially sold products including fish meal, fertilizer, fish oil, etc. The intent of the request is to reduce the amount of waste discarded at the port. The discarded waste poses a potential risk to the environment and public health and safety.* Another benefit of this rule change will help manage the sea lion takeover in many ports.

The EC last commented on this agenda item in June 2026 and believes the language below will allow the States to develop rules and regulations. The EC also believes this rule change aligns with the new [Executive Order](#) recently signed by the President of the United States.

The EC offered a draft “fish waste” definition in our June 2026 statement, however after further discussion, the EC believes the definitions of fish waste or fish carcass are appropriately defined in standard reference dictionaries.

The EC recommends the following changes to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) to provide some clarity on what is and what is not allowed to be sold and under what conditions (see red font below).

CFR § 660.352 Recreational fishery - Prohibitions. These prohibitions are specific to the recreational fisheries. General groundfish prohibitions are found at § 660.12, subpart C. In addition to the general groundfish prohibitions specified in § 600.12, subpart C, of this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Sell, offer to sell, or purchase any groundfish taken in the course of recreational groundfish fishing **except under a program or rules approved by the state for the disposal of fish waste.**

PFMC

09/19/26