

ECOSYSTEM WORKGROUP SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) reviewed the proposed ecosystem management and Cross-Fishery Management Plan (FMP) agenda items on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) [Preliminary Year-at-a-Glance](#) (YAG) Summary (Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 1), [April Quick Reference](#) (Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 2), and [June Quick Reference](#) (Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 3).

The Council assigned the EWG and the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) as the guiding advisory bodies for the “special” projects that were funded under the Inflation Reduction Act. The EWG notes that Ecosystem and Cross-FMP items (which include two of the special projects) now span most Council meetings, whereas EWG responsibilities were historically limited to March and September. The EWG finds value in consolidating Ecosystem agenda items into fewer Council meetings, to allow advisory bodies and the Council to better track and attend to issues that pertain across FMPs in a more focused manner. We recognize that there may not be opportunities to revise draft April and June 2026 agendas at this time, but ask that the Council consider consolidating the Cross-FMP special projects into March and September in 2027.

The EWG also notes that the September agenda includes an update and wrap-up for Ecosystem Initiative 4. We remind the Council that the EWG produced [Supplemental Informational Report 8](#) for this meeting, which summarizes work to date on Ecosystem Initiative 4 and provides draft amendment language for the Fishery Ecosystem Plan Appendix. The September discussion would involve a more complete examination of the pilot experience with risk tables and discussion of next steps. The EWG suggests the Council and its advisory bodies wait to finalize Initiative 4 until March 2027, when the EWG and EAS are next scheduled to meet in person.