

ECOSYSTEM ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
COUNCIL FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN (FEP) DEVELOPMENT

The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) reviewed the Draft Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) (Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 1) and received a report from members of the Ecosystem Plan Development Team. The Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) appreciates the progress on development of the FEP and in particular, the depth of information describing ecosystem level attributes in Chapter 3.

Recommendations:

1. The EAS recommends adopting the FEP objectives as listed in Chapter 2 of the draft FEP (Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 1) with the following modifications.
 2. *Build toward fuller assessment of the greatest long-term benefits from the conservation and management of marine fisheries, of optimum yield, and of the tradeoffs needed to achieve those benefits while maintaining the integrity of the California Current Ecosystem (CCE) through:*
 - 3.b. *Providing a nexus to regional, national, and international ecosystem-based management endeavors, particularly to address the consequences of non-fishing activities on fisheries and fish habitat;*
2. Make the following modifications or additions to the FEP
 - Include a brief summary in Section 3.5 on species listed under the Endangered Species Act to better understand their status and interactions with fisheries.
 - Add a section to Chapter 3 on the relative severity of weather throughout the California Current Ecosystem with respect to safety at-sea.
3. Encourage inclusion of the following in further development of the FEP
 - Create clear linkages between ecosystem science and existing fishery management plans to improve management outcomes. For example, consider illustrations from other marine ecosystem management processes or frameworks such as, the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), European Water Framework Directive, and the Alaska Region.
 - Consider greater use of figures and graphics to illustrate ecological relationships and processes.
 - Provide analyses that highlight key vulnerabilities and opportunities to enhance management.