

D1 EFH Review

Council motion

April 2016

The Council recognizes that the report received satisfies the Council's requirement to review Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The Council acknowledges and commends the work done by staff. The Council believes that the Species Distribution Modeling Approach provides a solid scientific basis for decisions as to whether and how the current descriptions of EFH in the following FMPs should be amended.

- BSAI Groundfish
- GOA Groundfish
- BSAI Crab
- Salmon
- Arctic

The Council asks the stock assessment authors to review the maps of EFH for all FMP species based on new modeling approaches available since the last EFH 5-year review and select a representative EFH map for each life stage of their respective FMP species. The plan teams and SSC should review the stock assessment authors' choices. Following these review, the Council will have adequate information to make decisions about amending the description of EFH in its FMPs.