

**North Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
**C4 EFH 5-year Review - Council Motion**  
**February 11, 2023**

The Council initiates an analysis to incorporate the advancements in Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) from the 2023 5-year Review in the fishery management plans (FMPs). The Council adopts the following purpose and need statement and alternatives for analysis.

**Purpose and Need:**

The purpose of the proposed action is to comply with the Final Rule implementing the EFH provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) (50 CFR Part 600, Subpart J). The EFH Final Rule states that a review of the EFH components of the Council's FMPs should be completed at least every five years and the EFH provisions should be revised or amended, as warranted, based on the best available science contributing new information. Based on the 2023 EFH 5-year Review, substantial new information is available to revise many of the EFH components of five FMPs (BSAI Groundfish, GOA Groundfish, BSAI King and Tanner Crab, Arctic, and Salmon) to incorporate this new information.

**Alternatives:**

Alternative 1: No action/*status quo*. Do not amend the EFH sections of the FMPs with new EFH information identified in the 2023 5-year Review.

Alternative 2. Amend the Council's FMPs to incorporate the updated EFH information based on the new and best available science information identified in the 2023 EFH 5-year Review.

- **EFH component 1 (descriptions and identification)**, Amend 4 FMPs to update EFH descriptions and maps, including up to EFH Level 3 information on habitat-related vital rates. Add or revise the EFH text description and add or replace the maps for—
  - 41 species or complexes in the BSAI FMP,
  - 46 species or complexes in the GOA FMP,
  - all five species in the Crab FMP, and
  - all three species in the Arctic FMP.

For all five species in the Salmon FMP, amend the Salmon FMP by replacing the distribution maps with the EFH maps.

- **EFH component 2 (fishing effects)**. Update the fishing effects (FE) information in the BSAI, GOA, and Crab FMPs to reflect updates to the FE model, analysis, and evaluation for the 2023 EFH 5-year Review.
- **EFH component 4 (non-fishing effects)**. Revise the EFH appendices in the BSAI, GOA, Crab, Arctic, and Salmon FMPs where conservation recommendations for non-fishing activities are described.
- **EFH component 7 (prey of EFH species)**. Revise text or habitat description table information for two species of BSAI sharks, BSAI pollock, GOA Pacific cod, and BSAI red king crab in the BSAI, GOA, and Crab FMPs.
- **EFH component 9 (research and information needs)**. Revise the EFH appendices with updated research and information needs in the BSAI, GOA, Crab, Arctic, and Salmon FMPs.