

February 11, 2023
Council Motion
D2 Programmatic EIS

The Council initiates the process of considering a Programmatic EIS with the purpose of providing a comprehensive analysis of the cumulative impacts of Federal groundfish fisheries on the human environment given both ecosystem and management changes that have occurred since the last review. Adoption of a final alternative would include updating the Council's current suite of 45 management policy objectives. As guidance:

- The Ecosystem Committee is tasked with reviewing the guidance above and developing recommendations to the Council on a purpose and need statement and alternatives.
- Ongoing Council efforts specifically tasked to create more climate-resilient federal fisheries (e.g., ACLIM 2.0, Climate Change Task Force, pending SSC workgroup on groundfish harvest control rules accounting for ecosystem change) should be incorporated as applicable.
- The process should include opportunity for meaningful engagement of Alaska Native Tribes and stakeholders, through informal scoping, formal scoping as part of the NEPA process, and Tribal consultations conducted by NMFS.