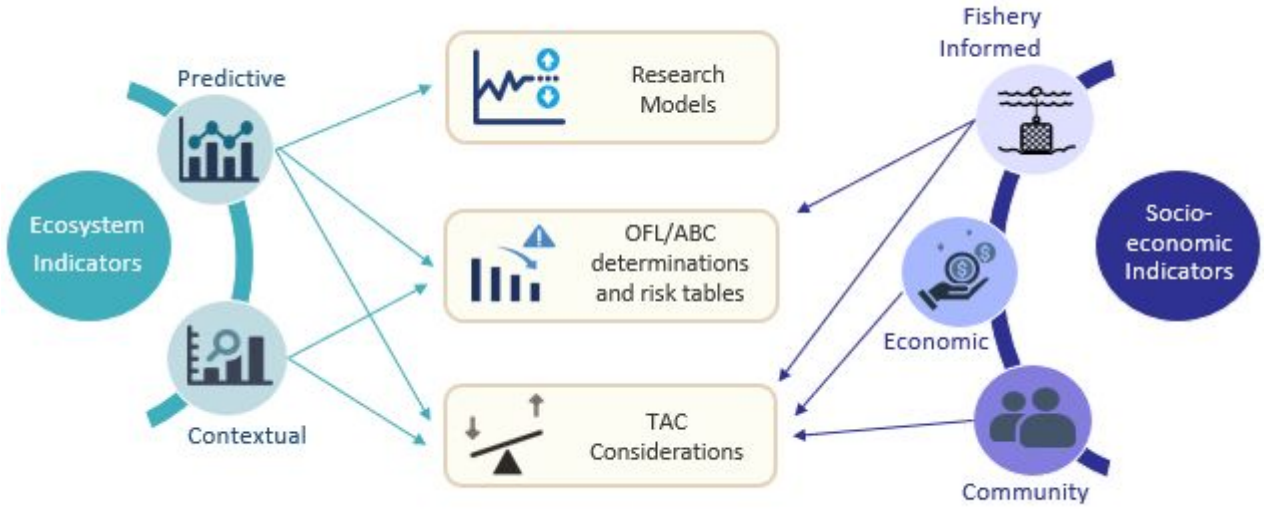
NOAA FISHERIES



Eastern Bering Sea (EBS) Pacific Cod

2026 Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Profile (ESP) Report Card



Ecosystem Considerations

Predictive

- The Pacific Cod **summer bottom temperature from MOM 6 decreased to below average** as bottom temperatures appear to cool faster than the surface throughout the cooling trend since 2020. Hatch success is highly temperature-dependent for Pacific cod.

Contextual

- Ecosystem considerations indicators were **overall average status with mixed directional trends** from 2025 to 2026 conditions.
- Distribution indicators show a **southern and western shift but within neutral status** and an **large spatial expansion** of the EBS Pacific cod stock.
- Environmental indicators of a **high North Pacific Index** (weaker Aleutian Low) and **below average spring surface temperatures** imply good conditions for larval/YOY survival.
- Prey indicators include a very **early spring bloom timing** which could cause a temporal mismatch for larvae or YOY Pacific cod, **below average euphausiids** that imply below average prey availability (although improved from 2024), and **slightly below average body condition for juveniles** but **high body condition for adult** Pacific cod.

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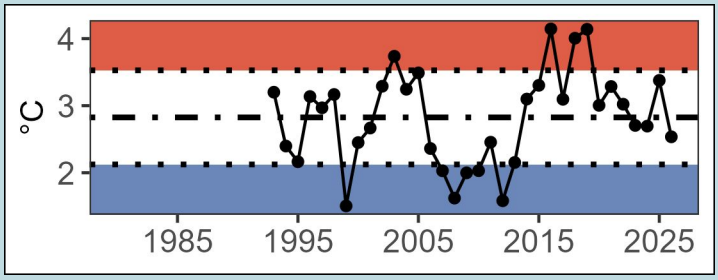
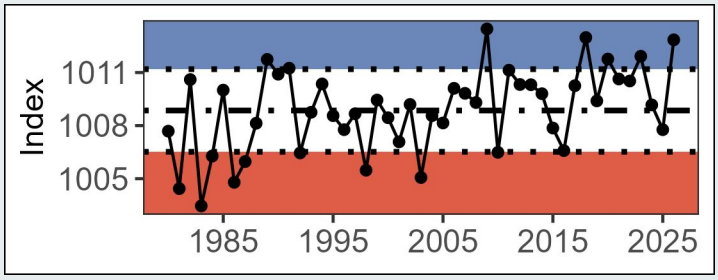
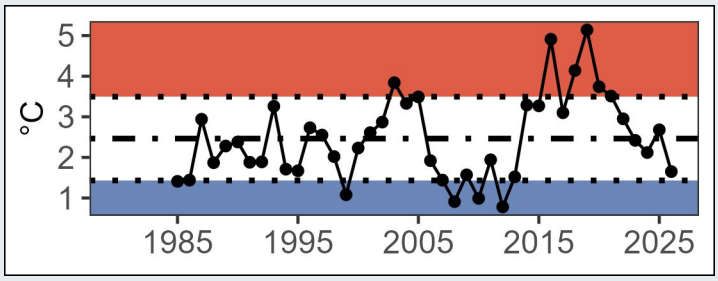
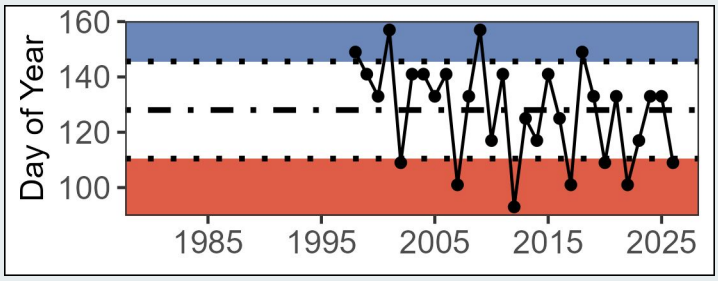
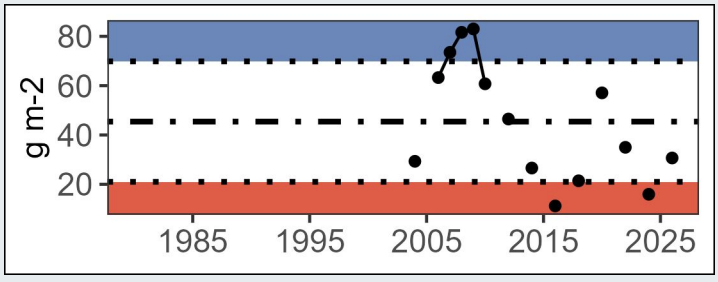
EBS Pacific Cod ESP Report Card

Ecosystem Indicators

	Indicator	Status	Trend
Predictive	**Summer Bottom Temperature MOM6**	Near long-term mean	
	North Pacific Index	Above long-term mean	
Contextual	**Spring Sea Surface Temperature in SEBS**	Near long-term mean	
	Peak Timing of Spring Bloom in SEABS	Below long-term mean	
	Summer Euphausiid Abundance SEBS	Near long-term mean	

Most recent year indicator status indicates good conditions, average conditions, or poor conditions for the stock

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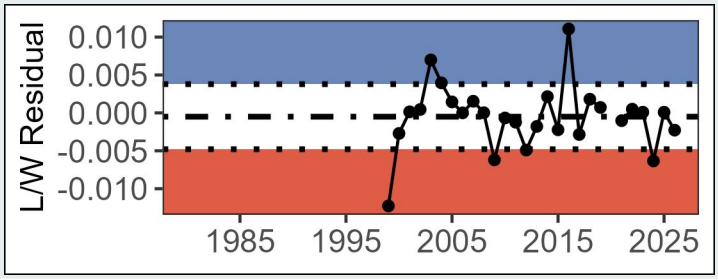
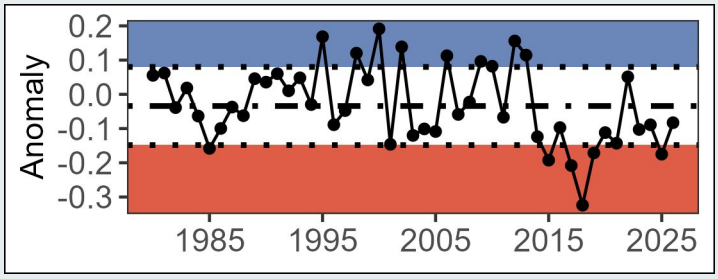
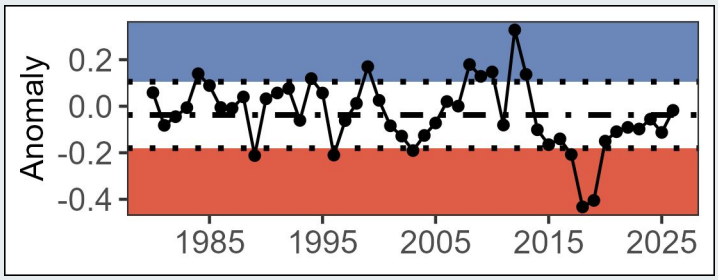
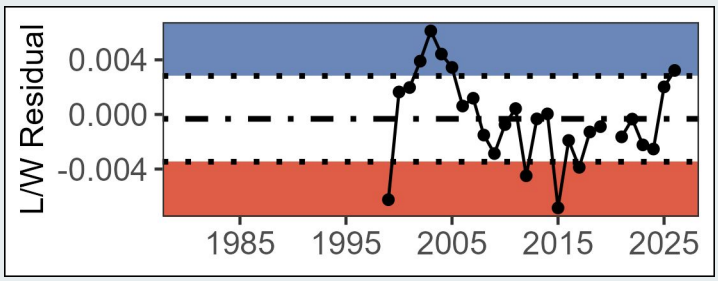
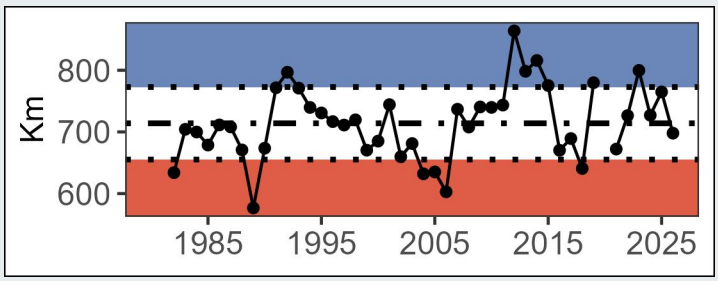
EBS Pacific Cod ESP Report Card

Ecosystem Indicators

Contextual

Indicator	Status	Trend
Juvenile Pacific Cod Condition in EBS	Near long-term mean	
Winter Sea Ice Extent Advance	Near long-term mean	
Spring Sea Ice Extent Retreat	Near long-term mean	
Adult Pacific Cod Condition in GOA	Above long-term mean	
Center of Gravity East	Near long-term mean	

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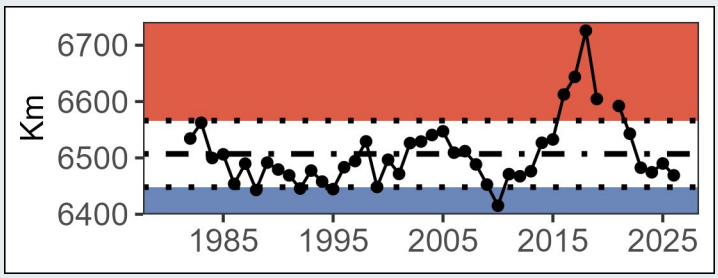
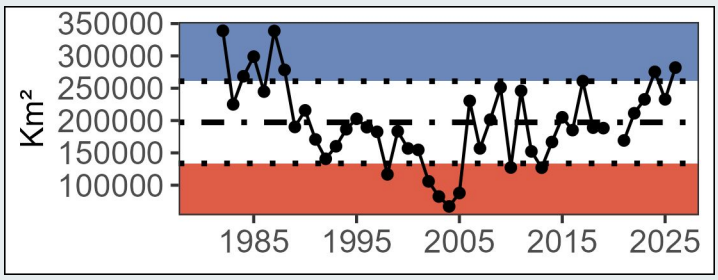
EBS Pacific Cod ESP Report Card

Ecosystem Indicators

Contextual

Indicator	Status	Trend
Center of Gravity North	Near long-term mean	
Area Occupied	Above long-term mean	

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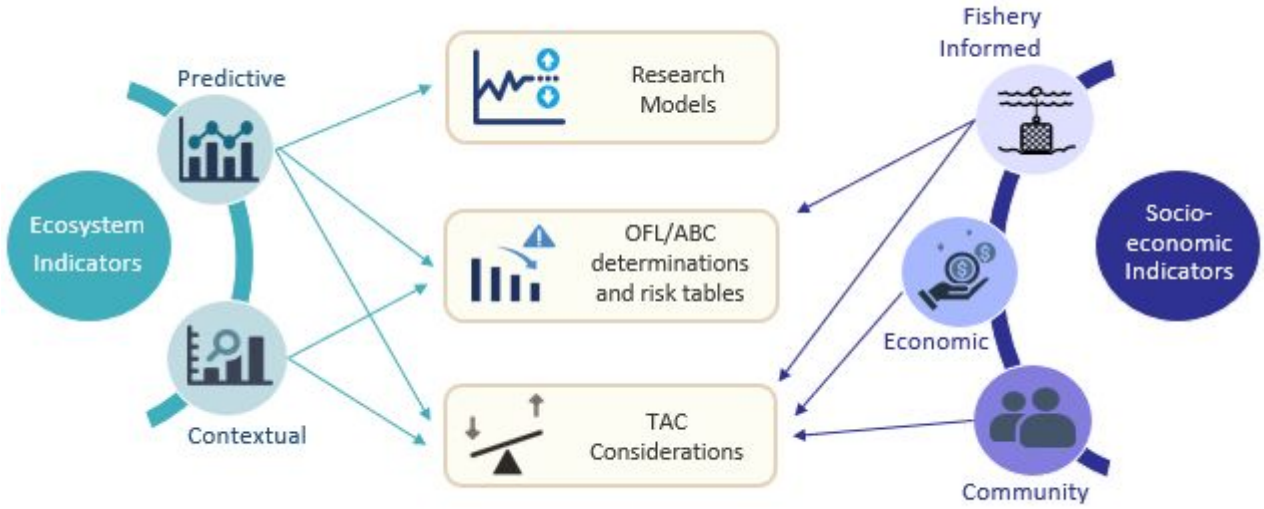

Socioeconomic Considerations

Economic

- Ex-vessel value increased in 2025, however, it remains below the historical average and one-standard deviation of the historical range.
- The average ex-vessel price per pound increased in 2025, but remained below the historical mean and within one-standard deviation of the historical range.
- Revenue-per-unit-effort was increased in 2025, but remained below the historical average and one standard deviation below the historical range for the second consecutive year.

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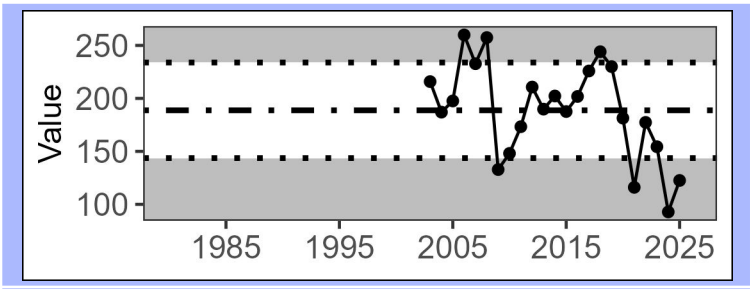
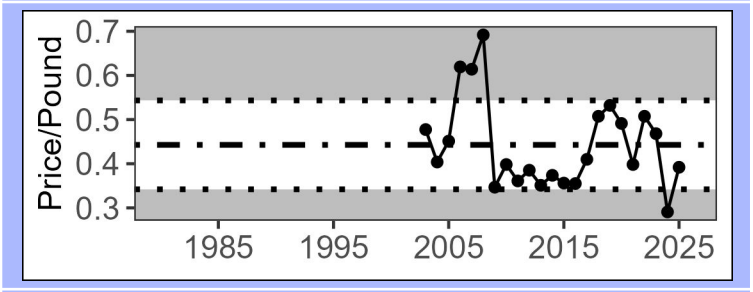
EBS Pacific Cod ESP Report Card

Socioeconomic Indicators

Economic

Indicator	2025 Status	Trend
Pacific Cod Real Ex-vessel Value in EBS	Below long-term mean	
Pacific Cod Real Ex-vessel Price in EBS	Near long-term mean	
Pacific Cod Real Revenue per Unit Effort in EBS	Below long-term mean	