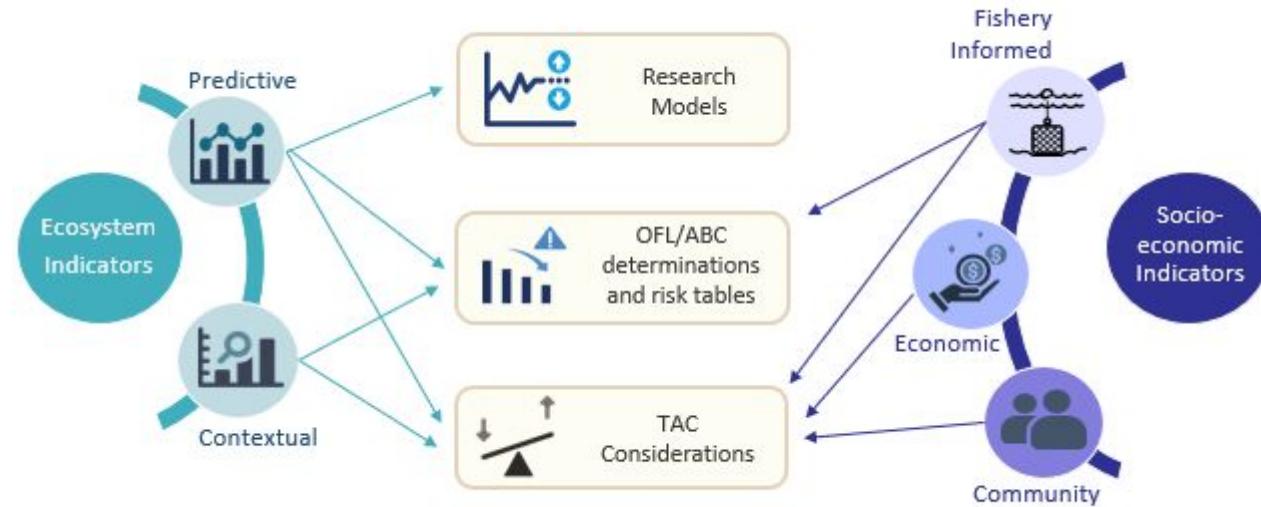




# Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod

## 2026 Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Profile (ESP) Report Card



### Ecosystem Considerations



Predictive

- The Pacific Cod **spawning habitat suitability decreased to low** due to the warmest temperature at depth since 2019, which may have a negative effect on egg survival and a potentially poor 2025 year class.



Contextual

- Recruitment indicators of spring larvae and summer young-of-the-year (YOY) catch per unit effort (CPUE) were both below average **supporting a potentially poor 2025 year class**.
- Ecosystem considerations indicators were **overall average status with mixed directional trends** from 2024 to 2025 conditions.
- Environmental indicators include an increase to **average heatwave events during spawning** but not at the levels of the major heatwave events in 2015, 2016, and 2019 and a decrease to below average eddy kinetic energy implying **reduced larval retention and cross-shelf transport**.
- Prey indicators included average spring bloom timing, sufficient forage resources for seabirds, but a decrease to **below average body condition for juvenile and adult Pacific cod** and a slightly increased metabolic demand.
- Predator indicators were **below average biomass consumed of Pacific cod** based on arrowtooth, Pacific cod, and pollock predation in the multispecies model but a **steadily increasing population of Steller sea lions** in the GOA.



# Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod ESP Report Card

## Ecosystem Indicators

Indicator	Status	Trend
<b>Pacific Cod Spawning Habitat Suitability</b>	Below long-term mean 	
<b>Heatwave During Spawning in GOA</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Eddy Kinetic Energy in Kodiak</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Peak Timing of Spring Bloom in WCGOA</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Spring Pacific Cod Larvae CPUE in Shelikof</b>	Near long-term mean 	

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



# Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod ESP Report Card

## Ecosystem Indicators



Contextual

Indicator	Status	Trend
<b>Murre Reproductive Success on Chowiet</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Summer Pacific Cod YOY CPUE in WCGOA</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Juvenile Pacific Cod Condition in GOA</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Adult Pacific Cod Condition in GOA</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Pacific Cod Ration in GOA</b>	Near long-term mean 	

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



# Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod ESP Report Card

## Ecosystem Indicators



Contextual

Indicator	Status	Trend
<b>Biomass Eaten of Pacific Cod</b>	Near long-term mean 	
<b>Adult Steller Sea Lion Counts in GOA</b>	Near long-term mean 	

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