

# E1 Ecosystem Committee Report

Katie Latanich, June 2026



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# Agenda

**The Ecosystem Committee met in person and virtually for a full-day meeting on May 8. Discussion topics included:**

1. Groundfish Management Policy Review document (June item E1)
2. Climate Resilience Work Plan update and Discussion Paper on Development of Alternative Harvest Control Rules (June item E2)



# Groundfish Management Policy Review

## Main recommendations

- **The EC recommended the Council consider modifying the existing Groundfish Management Policy, as resources allow and recognizing that an FMP amendment would be necessary to make these changes.**
- The report includes a redline version of the Management Policy with wording suggestions and additional discussion. See appendix.



# Groundfish Management Policy Review

- **The Committee also recommended the Council not finalize changes to the Management Policy in June by initiating an FMP amendment, to allow for additional EC discussion on specific revisions, particularly for**
  - Goal 3: Preserve Food Web
  - Goal 8: Increase Alaska Native Consultation



# Suggested revisions

## **Goal 3: ~~Preserve Food Web~~** Revise to focus on ecosystems, potentially including climate resilience

- Revised wording to be determined. Additional revisions could be considered, in addition to those identified by the Ecosystem Committee at this time.
- Climate resilience could be captured under multiple goals but fits best under Goal 3.
  - Capture the Climate Resilience Work Plan
  - Tie in healthy fisheries and communities
  - Draw on/complement the Council's Ecosystem Policy
- Consider consolidating research objective (16, 29, 42)



# Suggested revisions

## Goal 8: Increase Alaska Native ~~Consultation~~ Engagement

Additional revisions could be considered, in addition to those identified by the Ecosystem Committee at this time.

- *Obj. 35: Continue to incorporate local and traditional knowledge in fishery management.*
- *Obj. 36: Consider ways to enhance collection of local and traditional knowledge from communities, and incorporate such knowledge in fishery management ~~where appropriate~~.*
- *Obj. 37: Increase Alaska Native participation and consultation in fishery management.*



# Suggested revisions

## Goal 8: Increase Alaska Native ~~Consultation~~ Engagement

Additional considerations for revisions:

- Consider impact and effectiveness of engagement, and engagement as a two-way process
- In addition to Alaska Native participation, consider other groups that are not Tribes (e.g. CDQ, rural communities)
- While the Council does not engage in consultations, it's important for information to be available to the Council at an appropriate and effective point in the process.



# Groundfish Management Policy Review

## Summary of recommendations

- **The EC recommended the Council consider modifying the existing Groundfish Management Policy, as resources allow and recognizing that an FMP amendment would be necessary to make these changes.**
- **The EC recommended the Council not finalize changes to the Management Policy in June by initiating an FMP amendment, to allow for additional EC discussion on specific revisions.**
- **The EC recommended the Council task the EC with a role in developing and reviewing plain language materials related to the Council's climate resilience work, including the HCR work.**

