

## **Habitat Protection and Restoration Committee Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab P**

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**Agenda Item IV:** Presentation on Development of Generic EFH Amendment

**Timeline Status:** Information and discussion

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**Council input and next steps:** Council staff will provide a presentation outlining the purpose, potential approaches, and timeline for the development of a generic Essential Fish Habitat Amendment (EFH). The Council is mandated to define EFH for all managed species and generate 5-year reviews of these definitions to NOAA. After reviewing the last 5-year review, completed in 2016, NOAA encouraged the Council to begin development of an EFH amendment. The last time the Council completed an EFH amendment was in 2004. Newer data streams and analytical approaches are now available for certain managed species that would better refine definitions of EFH. The Committee should review the materials and ask questions of staff. Additionally, the Committee should consider the best approach to achieve EFH management goals while working within the development timeline.

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**Agenda Item V:** Discussion Session on President Biden's E.O. 14008, Section 216 (c) titled Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

**Timeline Status:** Presentation and discussion

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**Council input and next steps:** Following a directive from an Executive Order titled “Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, Section 216 (c) Conserving Our Nation’s Lands and Waters”, NOAA is collecting recommendations on how to make fisheries, including aquaculture, and protected resources more resilient to climate change. This includes changes in management and conservation measures and improvements in science, monitoring, and cooperative research. Throughout 2021, NOAA plans to gather input from federal agencies, state and tribal governments, regional ocean councils, and other partners and constituents on this topic through scheduled meetings, public listening sessions, and other means. The Committee should listen to the presentation by NOAA staff, ask questions, and provide insight on how the effects of climate change relate to fishery resiliency.

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