

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

Agenda Item IV: Generic Amendment 5 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) progress update

Timeline Status: Presentation, review, and discussion

Council input and next steps: The Council is developing a generic amendment to update EFH descriptions for managed finfish, shrimp, and spiny lobster species. Staff will provide a presentation updating the Council on the progress of the amendment and review the proposed timeline. The presentation will include the proposed methods for defining EFH which incorporate the recently contracted work completed by Dr. Bridgette Froeschke (University of Tampa). The Council should ask questions and provide feedback to staff at this time.

Agenda Item V: Draft Aquaculture opportunity areas (AOAs) Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)

Timeline Status: Presentation, review, and discussion

Council input and next steps: Mr. Andrew Richard (National Marine Fisheries Service) will provide a presentation summarizing the recent draft Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOAs) Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) document. The AOAs PEIS comment period is open until Thursday February 20,2025. Council staff will also provide a draft comment letter for Council review. The Council should review the draft AOAs PEIS, attached draft comment letter, and provide any additional feedback.