

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

Agenda Item IV: Review: Essential Fish Habitat Text and Map identifications and descriptions for Gulf Shrimp, Reef Fish, Coastal Migratory Pelagics, Spiny Lobster, and Red Drum FMPs

Timeline Status: Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

Committee input and next steps: The Council is developing Generic Amendment 5 for Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) as part of the 2025 EFH 5-year review, as required under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery and Conservation Act. As part of the EFH 5-year Review, staff revised the EFH text and map descriptions for managed finfish, spiny lobster and shrimp species to include new EFH text and map identifications using spatial habitat information and literature through 2024. Staff will provide a presentation summarizing the methods and results produced for the EFH text and map descriptions.

The Committee should evaluate information presented, ask questions, and make recommendations. The Committee may recommend a preliminary preferred alternative to the Council at this meeting, if appropriate.