

# Updated Draft Gulf Fishery Ecosystem Plan



Ecosystem Technical Committee Meeting  
March 3, 2026

# FEP Timeline in Brief



- LGL-developed Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP)
  - April 2022 - Council review
- Updated draft FEP document
  - October 2025 - ETC review (*CANCELLED*)
  - November 2025 - Council review
  - March 2026 - ETC review
- FEP stakeholder engagement workshops
  - March - April 2026

# FEP Document Outline



	Content
Ch 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to national guidance to implement Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management Efforts into the Council process</li><li>• Gulf Council's EBFM efforts</li><li>• Overarching Goals and Objectives</li></ul>
Ch 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to FEP</li><li>• Introduction to FEIs</li><li>• Protocol for prioritizing FEIs</li><li>• Protocol for addressing extra jurisdictional issues</li></ul>
Ch 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intro to FEI Loop</li><li>• Specifications of what information would come out of each step within the loop</li></ul>
Ch 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communications Plan</li></ul>
Separate Modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Each FEI would have its own hyperlink or document outlining the issue and outcomes from each step of the FEI Loop. This would live within the Council's Ecosystem webpage</li></ul>

# Summary of Updated Draft FEP



- Focuses FEP on Fishery Ecosystem Issues (FEIs)
- Process for identifying FEIs for Council consideration
- Timeline for Council review of FEP and FEIs
- Modifications to the FEI Loop
- Communications plan co-developed with O&E

# Summary of Council Discussion



- Revisiting the FEP mission statement
  - Responsiveness vs. long-term sustainability
- Clarifications on processes and procedures
  - Role of Council and ETC in recommending FEIs
  - Initiation of FEI Loop
- FEP communications
  - Highlight past Council successes