



National Essential Fish Habitat Summit May 17-19, 2016 • Annapolis, MD • Westin Annapolis

FINAL AGENDA

Workshop Partners

NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation • NOAA Fisheries Office of Science & Technology
Council Coordination Committee • Fisheries Leadership & Sustainability Forum

EFH Summit Objective

The purpose of the EFH Summit is to assess and identify opportunities, challenges, and successful approaches for the effective implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Act EFH authorities.

Terms of Reference:

1. Share perspectives on successful approaches to EFH designation and review.
 2. Consider approaches for evaluating the effectiveness of actions taken to minimize adverse effects of fishing on EFH.
 3. Identify opportunities to ensure effective communication between NOAA Fisheries and councils on the implementation and use of EFH authorities, including the EFH consultation process.
 4. Identify opportunities to integrate habitat information into the fishery management process and ecosystem-based fisheries management.
 5. Consider how advances in habitat science can support the effective implementation and use of EFH authorities, and identify opportunities and challenges to aligning habitat science with management needs.
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Registration will begin at 7:30 am outside the main meeting room, Capitol D.

Tuesday, May 17th • Where are we now?

8:30 – 9:15 am Opening remarks and discussion

- *Carrie Selberg, NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation*
- *Bill Tweit, North Pacific Fishery Management Council and Council Coordination Committee*
- *Katie Latanich, Fisheries Forum*
- *John Boreman, North Carolina State University; MAFMC SSC*
- *Group discussion*

- What opportunities exist to build professional networks among scientists, managers, and staff with EFH responsibilities?
- What do you hope to gain from your participation in the EFH Summit?
How can the EFH Summit support your work?

9:15 – 10:30 am Regional roundtable: Identifying and reviewing EFH and HAPCs

- New England – *Michelle Bachman, NEFMC*
- Mid-Atlantic – *Jessica Coakley, MAFMC*
- Atlantic HMS – *Jennifer Cudney, NMFS/OSF*
- South Atlantic – *Roger Pugliese, SAFMC*
- Gulf of Mexico – *Claire Roberts, GMFMC*
- Caribbean – *Graciela Garcia-Moliner, CFMC*
- North Pacific – *Steve MacLean, NPFMC*
- Western Pacific – *Becky Walker, WPRFMC*
- Pacific – *John Stadler, NMFS/WCRO*

10:30 – 10:45 am Break

10:45 – 12:00 pm Regional roundtable (continued)

- Regional approaches (continued)
- Group discussion

- What factors contribute to different regional approaches to EFH and HAPC identification and review?
- What works well for your region, and why? What have you learned from your region's experience?

12:00 – 1:15 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:15 – 2:45 pm Translating habitat science into fishery management decisions

- The science and process behind habitat management areas in New England – *Michelle Bachman, NEFMC and David Stevenson, NMFS/GARFO*
- Habitat science in Alaska: It starts with a plan. – *Matt Eagleton, NMFS/AKRO, John Olson, NMFS/AKRO, and Chris Rooper, NMFS/AKFSC*
- A comprehensive strategy to identify and conserve Pacific Coast Groundfish EFH: Has it succeeded? – *Waldo Wakefield, NMFS/NWFSC and John Stadler, NMFS/WCRO*
- Group discussion

2:45 – 3:00 pm Break

3:00 – 4:15 pm

Facilitated breakout discussions: Practicability and effectiveness

Participants will be divided into three breakout groups including a mix of roles/regions. Fisheries Forum facilitators.

- What objectives, tradeoffs, and considerations are shaping your region’s implementation of EFH authorities?
- How is practicability discussed and determined in your region?
- What are the opportunities and challenges to evaluating the effectiveness of EFH-related decisions?

4:15 – 5:00 pm

Full group discussion

Fisheries forum facilitators

- From your perspective, what constitutes “successful” or “effective” implementation and use of EFH authorities?
- Is the identification of EFH a gradual process of refinement? A process of innovation and reinvention? Why?

The Fisheries Forum will host a networking reception, 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Level, 69 West Street. All participants are invited to attend!

Wednesday, May 18th • EFH authorities in a changing environment

8:30 – 8:45 am

Introduction and Day 1 review

Fisheries Forum facilitators

8:45 – 10:30 am

Advances in habitat science to support EFH

- Habitat science orientation – *Steve Brown, NMFS/OST*
- Ecosystem modeling for habitat management - *Howard Townsend, NMFS/OHC*
- Nowcasting seascape dynamics to better estimate past and future species-habitat distributions - *John Manderson, NMFS/NEFSC*
- Prioritizing habitat across ontogeny and species – *Richard Appeldoorn, University of Puerto Rico; CFMC SSC*
- Monitoring, modeling, and mapping demersal communities in untrawlable habitats - *Mary Yoklavich, NMFS/SWFSC*

- What are the key research questions underlying the implementation and use of EFH authorities?
- Which questions are possible and feasible to address? How are advances in habitat science enabling us to address these questions more effectively?
- What are the limitations? Are any questions impossible to answer?

10:30 – 10:45 am Break

10:45 – 12:00 pm Facilitated breakout discussions: EFH authorities in a changing environment

Participants will be divided into three breakout groups including a mix of roles/regions. Fisheries Forum facilitators.

- How might climate change impact the effectiveness of actions to identify and conserve EFH, including through the EFH consultation process? Why—and how—might the use of EFH authorities need to adapt?
- How could EFH authorities be used to support climate resilience?
- What are the key questions, concerns, and uncertainties to consider?

12:00 – 1:15 pm Lunch (on your own)

1:15 – 3:30 pm EFH consultations and effective council-agency communication

- Introduction to the EFH consultation process – *Karen Greene, NMFS/GARFO*
- Council-agency communication and EFH consultations
 - *Pace Wilber, NMFS/SERO*
 - *Jessica Coakley, MAFMC*
 - *Matt Eagleton, NMFS/AKRO*
- Regional EFH Coordinators - Emerging issues roundtable
 - *Danielle Jayewardene, NMFS/PIRO*
 - *Karen Greene, NMFS/GARFO*
 - *Matt Eagleton, NMFS/AKRO*
 - *John Stadler, NMFS/WCRO*
 - *David Dale, NMFS/SERO*
- Group discussion

- What pathways exist for council-agency communication related to EFH consultations?
- What level of council engagement and awareness of EFH consultations is beneficial, and why? What are the opportunities and challenges to effective council engagement?
- How might emerging issues and development activities influence the need for communication among regions and management partners?

3:30 – 3:45 pm **Break**

3:45 – 5:00 pm **Habitat networks and opportunities for collaboration**

- *Gerry Davis, NMFS/PIRO*
- *Pace Wilber, NMFS/SERO*
- *Lou Chiarella, NMFS/GARFO*
- *Vince Guida, NMFS/NEFSC*
- Group discussion

- What collaborations and partnerships does your council, region, or science center participate in? What is the purpose? (E.g. information sharing, coordination, communicating research priorities, etc.)
- How are collaborations and partnerships initiated and maintained? What makes them successful?

Thursday May 19th • Looking ahead

8:30 – 8:45 am **Introduction and Day 2 review**
Fisheries Forum facilitators

8:45 – 10:30 am **EFH authorities and ecosystem-based fisheries management (EBFM)**

- A national perspective on EFH as a tool for EBFM – *Karen Abrams, NMFS/OSF*
- Habitat indicators for the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment – *Correigh Greene, NMFS/NWFSC*
- Group discussion

- How can habitat conservation be used as a strategy to implement EBFM?
- How can EFH authorities be leveraged to support regional EBFM approaches?
- In the context of your region, how could EFH information be organized to support EBFM most effectively?

10:30 – 10:45 am **Break**

10:45 – 12:00 am **Facilitated breakout discussions: Regional discussions**
Participants will break out into groups by region. NOAA Fisheries facilitators.

- What challenges, emerging issues, and new opportunities do you think will influence your region’s use of EFH authorities in the future?
- What discussions at the EFH Summit were most informative to your work? What new ideas and information will you take back to your region?

12:00 – 1:15 pm **Lunch (on your own)**

1:15 – 2:30 pm **Full group report back and discussion: Looking ahead**
Each regional group will present highlights of their region’s discussion.

2:30 – 3:00 pm **Wrap up and closing remarks**

Adjourn