

**Ecosystem Technical Committee  
Scope of Work  
September 21, 2023  
Tampa, FL**

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**Agenda Item IV:** Gulf Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP)

**Action:** Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

**Committee input and next steps:** The Council approved the FEP produced by LGL’s contracted work as a starting point. The Ecosystem Technical Committee (ETC) should provide additional guidance or modifications to this first iteration of the FEP, so that Council staff could modify and present a new draft to the Council.

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**Agenda Items V:** Draft Updates to the Fishery Ecosystem Issue (FEI) Loop

**Action:** Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

**Committee input and next steps:** At its April 2023 meeting, the ETC recommended modifying the FEI Loop proposed in the FEP drafted under contract with LGL. Council staff will present the modified version of the FEI Loop. The ETC should review and provide additional recommendations if appropriate.

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**Agenda Item VI:** Developing FEI Prioritization Metrics

**Action:** Discussion and recommendations

**Committee input and next steps:** The ETC was provided with an assignment to work individually on developing a way to prioritize work on a FEI. The group was provided with spreadsheets previously discussed during its April 2023 meeting to be used as examples. The ETC should discuss the recommendations from the assignment, find common themes, and propose a rubric that the Council can use as a framework to make their decisions. Once the FEI hierarchy ranking is completed it can be used as a framework to inform the Council and stakeholders on a prioritization process to determine prioritize work on the individual FEIs.

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**Agenda Item VII:** Revisiting the FEI List Recommendations

**Action:** Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

**Committee input and next steps:** During its June 2023 meeting, the Council reviewed the initial list of FEIs recommended by the ETC. The Council recommended that offshore wind

energy and achieving optimum yield be removed from the list at this time due to concerns about operationalizing. The ETC should discuss a path forward in the selection of FEIs.

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**Agenda Item VIII:** Public Comment

**Action:** Information

**Committee input and next steps:** Members of the public will be able to address the ETC directly with respect to topics discussed during the meeting if time allows.

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**Agenda Item X:** Other Business

**Action:** Discussion

**Committee input and next steps:** Staff will discuss a potential funding opportunity focused on tackling the impacts of climate change on fisheries. Additional items may be brought up for discussion during approval of the agenda.

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