



Revisiting the FEI List

September 2023

Recap: Fishery Ecosystem Issue Selection Exercise



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Potential list:

1. Reducing discards
2. Offshore wind energy
3. Red tide
4. Finfish depredation
5. Impacts of climate change on fish and communities
6. Achieving Optimum Yield (OY) for the reef fish complex

Uncertainties

- How big should the Fishery Ecosystem Issue be?
 - Large scope, e.g., climate change, water quality, habitat
 - Narrower scope, e.g., red tide, offshore wind energy



Council Discussion June 2023

Potential list of Fishery Ecosystem Issues

1. Reducing discards
- ~~2. Offshore wind energy~~
3. Red tide
4. Finfish depredation
5. Impacts of climate change on fish and communities
- ~~6. Achieving Optimum Yield (OY) for the reef fish complex.~~

Discussion

- Limitations over the Council's authority to address offshore wind energy.
- Too broad a scope to have an FEI on Achieving OY for the Reef Fish complex
- Responding to climate change and reducing discards might be FEI's of higher concern



ETC Recommendations

Assignment was to select four Fishery Ecosystem Issues and rank them, so:

- a. Current four after Council's motion
 - 1. Reducing discards
 - 2. Red tide
 - 3. Finfish depredation
 - 4. Impacts of climate change on fish and communities

- b. What is the path forward?

