



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**

# Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS)

## Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) 5-Year Review

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# Background

- Section 305(b)(1)(A) of the reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act requires the identification and description of EFH for all federally managed species
- FMP Regulations require review and revision of EFH (50 CFR 600.815(a)(10))
- **Recent HMS EFH Actions**
  - 2006: Consolidated HMS FMP – announced intent to revise EFH
  - 2009: Amendment 1 – Completed initial 5-year review and update of EFH for Atlantic HMS under Consolidated HMS FMP
  - 2010: Amendment 3 – Designated EFH for smoothhound complex.
  - 2010: Rule to incorporate roundscale spearfish into management unit (EFH designated)
  - 2014: Initiate review of all Atlantic HMS EFH

# Request for Information

- NMFS is conducting a preliminary consultation with internal scientists and the HMS Advisory Panel
- Request for any new information published (or not published) since 2009-2010 that should be considered in evaluating current Atlantic HMS EFH:
  - Peer-reviewed publications
  - Technical reports
  - Unpublished data
  - Other sources of information
- NMFS will post a summary of new information received on its webpage (data source, description, publication citation, etc).
  - ***Unpublished data will not be posted online.***

# Information Request: 10 EFH Components

- 1) Description and Identification of EFH
- 2) Fishing Activities that May Adversely Affect EFH
- 3) Non-Magnuson-Stevens Act Fishing Activities that May Adversely Affect EFH
- 4) Non-Fishing Related Activities that May Adversely Affect EFH
- 5) Cumulative Impacts Analysis
- 6) Conservation and Enhancement
- 7) Prey Species List
- 8) Identification of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC)
- 9) Research and Information Needs
- 10) Review and Revision of EFH Components of EFH

# Timeline

	2014												2015	
Milestone	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F
Species-Specific Literature Review	█	█	█	█										
Publish FR Notice: Intent to Conduct 5-Year Review and public request for information			█											
HMS Spring AP Meeting: Seek input for review				█	█									
Draft 5-Year Review				█	█	█	█	█						
Internal-Agency Review								█	█					
Publish Draft in FR										█				
Public Comment Period										█	█			
Present draft to AP for comment										█	█			
Finalize & Publish 5 Year Review												█	█	█

# How to Share EFH Information with NMFS

You may submit information by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submission**

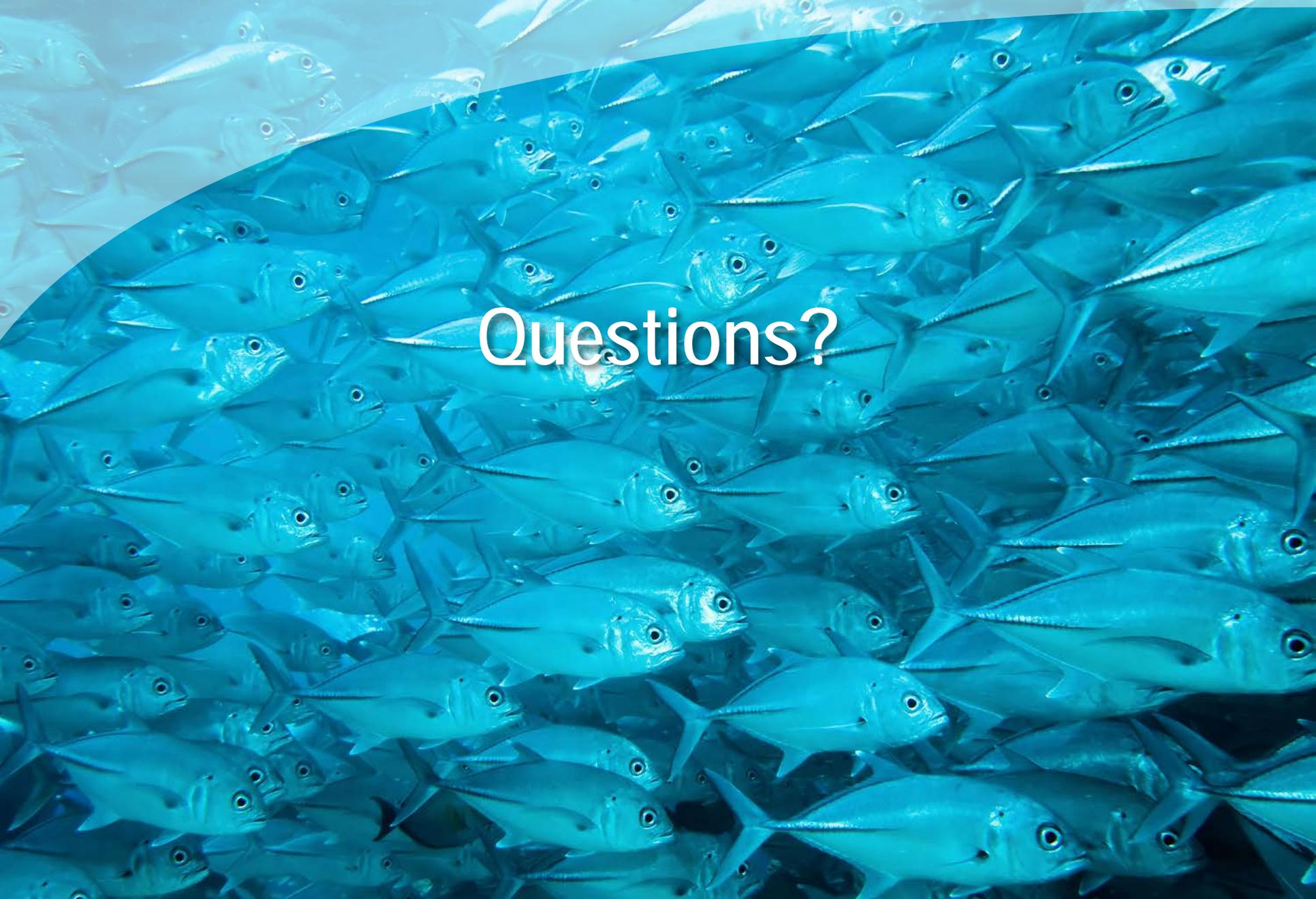
Submit information via email to: [NMFS.HMSEFH@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.HMSEFH@noaa.gov)

- **Mail**

Attn: Jenni Wallace

HMS Management Division, NMFS, SSMC3/F/SF1, 1315  
East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Please mark the outside of the envelope "Atlantic HMS EFH  
5-Year Review."



# Questions?

