

Options/Recommendations to STAR 2010 Bay Barometer Changes Fisheries Management Indices

Indices Changes:

Revise or remove “Fisheries Management Indices”

Justification for Change(s):

The Fisheries Index Management Effort Indices does not fully capture the work being done to transition to Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) from single species management. This index mixes management progress, the health of the species, and the health of the ecosystem into a single metric. This way of reporting program progress is arbitrary, and doesn’t convey information to the public in an understandable and meaningful way.

Background:

- Please refer to the existing top-level index for [Managing Fisheries](#) and the [Fisheries Management Effort Indices](#).
- Fisheries GIT is recommending potential changes due to improved tracking/reporting and continued efforts to develop ecosystem based reference points for key bay species.
- Habitat GIT recommends changes to component indicators in the Restoration and Protection Efforts functional group. The [Restoration and Protection Efforts Overarching Index](#) includes some measures that strictly account for planning efforts. Managing Fisheries is a measure of progress on establishing and implementing management plans...The Habitat GIT thinks it is misleading the public to have “planning” goals under an index that implies progress towards restoration and protection effort goals. These measures should be removed from the Restoration and Protection Efforts Overarching Index.

Recommendation(s) from:

Fisheries GIT and Habitat GIT

Recommendation(s):

- Remove the Fisheries Management Effort Index until a more appropriate tool can be developed. Fisheries GIT will consult with Habitat GIT on this.
- Replace Managing Fisheries metrics for each species with a measure of abundance or control rule where applicable.
- Continue development of Ecosystem Based Fisheries management efforts to develop ecological reference points for key bay species.