

# IPC Habitat Framework

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# The Habitat Framework

## Why?

- Provide a common understanding of habitat for federal, tribal, and state managers
- Understand important habitat types
- Inform EFH, EBM, MSP, etc.
- Work together to fill data gaps

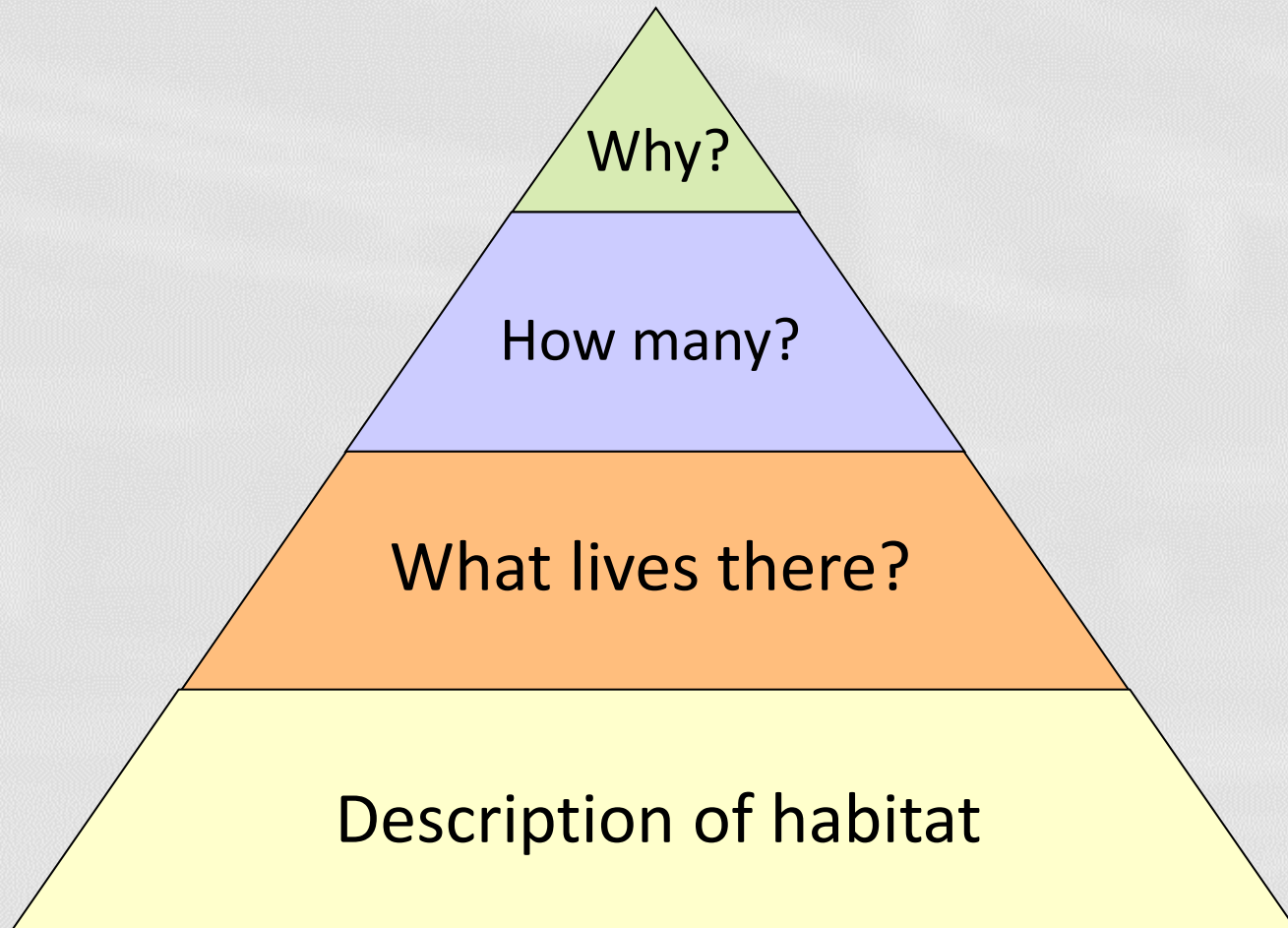
# The Habitat Framework

## What Is It?

- Compilation of existing data into a comprehensive catalog
- Description of habitat (e.g. presence/absence data, density, use/productivity, etc.)
- Understanding what we do and what we do not know about the habitats off Olympic Coast



# Habitat Information Pyramid



# The Habitat Framework

## How?

- Expert Panel
  - Agency staff from the State, Tribes, and NOAA
  - Invited experts from other agencies and academia
- Review data and explore methodology

# The Scientific and Technical Working Group

- Charged with accomplishing the Scope of Work
- Reporting back to IPC
- Two initial orders of business per IPC (July 2014)
  - Decide on a classification scheme
  - Review State GIS layers



# The Scope of Work

## Objective 1

- Catalog of known habitat types
  - Organize available data into a common classification (i.e. CMECS)
  - GIS layers mapping these habitat types

# The Scope of Work

## Objective 2

- Species associations with habitats
  - Analogous to “Tier 1” in NMFS Marine Fisheries HAIP or “Level 1” in EFH
  - GIS layers of known and/or inferred habitat associations by species
  - GIS layers of human use/interaction as available
  - May include temporal aspect (data allowing)



# The Scope of Work

## Objective 3

- Ecosystem Understanding
  - Understanding relative contribution of habitat types to ecosystem function, health, services
  - GIS layers of higher-level habitat function where available
  - Important for defining “important” habitats

# The Habitat Framework

Where are we in the process?

- 千里之行，始于足下 – Lao Tzu

# Questions?

