Dear Jeff,

Thank you for the feedback on the draft technical report that we submitted. I am very glad to receive such positive reviews and trust that this work can now be published.

We believe that all the comments and issues raised by reviewers have been addressed in the revised document that is being resubmitted for publication. Responses to individual reviewers appear below.

If you feel like the report is ready for publication, please let me know once the DFO Library issues a report number and I will include it in the final PDF.

All the best.

Daniel and co-authors

**Responses to reviewer 1 (Koen-Alonso)**

We thank reviewer 1 for his constructive comments and for his encouraging words.

* Figures 1 and 2 are now appearing in the same order as they are cited in the report.
* Table 1 was modified to also include the depth range of each stratum in meters.
* The density-dependence habitat selection model equation in section 2.4.7 was corrected.
* The duplicated sentence in section 2.5.1 was removed.
* “Compliment” changed to “complement” in section 4.1
* The classification of cusk (Brosme brosme) as category LI is based on the number of records (between 200 and 1000 records), not on its distribution. So the classification LI is correct.

**Responses to reviewer 2 (anonymous)**

We thank reviewer 2 for his/her constructive comments and for his/her encouraging words.

* The term “environmental preferences” was changed to “environmental associations”
* The relative fish condition defined in section 2.4.5 now cites LeCren (1951)
* Rewording in section 2.4.7 to “we implemented a generalized linear model” as suggested
* The density-dependence habitat selection model equation in section 2.4.7 was corrected.
* “wasd” changed to “was” in section 4.2

**Responses to reviewer 3 (Cook)**

We thank reviewer 3 for his constructive comments and for his encouraging words.

* Table 1 and Figure 3 were modified, and some text was added to section 2.2 to address the reviewer’s comments about color-coding the strata map by depth, and the mixed depths encountered in strata 443, 444, 445 and 459. The revised map in Figure 3 is inspired by Figure 1 in Cook and Bundy (2012) and the mixed depths.
* Two sentences were added to section 2.3 to document the change from spring scales to electronic balances, and how it changed the error structure of weight measurements.
* Table 2 was changed so that category LI is described as “between 200 and 1000 catch records”
* The density-dependence habitat selection model equation in section 2.4.7 was corrected.
* The caption for IDW figures now describes what P(occ) represents. Note that P(occ) is also described in section 2.5.1.
* The caption for the temporal evolution of distribution indices now describes the loess smoother. Note that this is also described in section 2.5.2.

To include some suggestions made by reviewer #3, the figure showing the indices of distribution was modified from the one that appeared in the draft document.