

New England Fishery Management Council Strategic Plan Development

June 24, 2025

The Project Team

The Parnin Group

The Parnin Group provides business and management consulting services to leaders in the Government, Non-Profit and Private Sectors, helping them to address their complex problems. We are committed to helping organizations achieve sustainable results by improving their organizational health, the performance of programs and their people, and the adoption and implementation of digital services.

**THE PARNIN
GROUP**

Lynker

Lynker delivers innovative solutions to support global environmental security and economic prosperity as a trusted partner to governments, communities, and industry. Lynker is a premier science, engineering, and technology company supporting some of the nation's most important missions.

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Background

- The Council is developing a holistic strategic plan and has partnered with [The Parnin Group](#) (TPG).
- Address challenges with management uncertainty and ecosystem changes.
- TPG will review Council processes and identify improvements to programs, policies, and practices that would foster efficiency.
- The strategic plan will directly focus on near- and long-term Council initiatives that can support resilient and responsive fisheries management.



Goals of Strategic Plan Development

- Considering improvements in the process of developing federal fisheries management actions from early considerations to rulemaking;
- Identifying existing and emerging topics and processes that require increased responsiveness, and document the risks and challenges that Council-managed fisheries face within and across FMPs and jurisdictions; and
- Establishing mission and vision statements along with strategic goals that will guide Council activities and actions in the near and long-term in the face of uncertainty and ecosystem changes.

Analytical Process We Use

- **Discovery Phase**

- Background Research
- Benchmarking
- Focus Groups
- Interviews
- Surveys

- **Assessment Phase**

- Key Findings
- Patterns/Themes
- More Focus Groups/Interviews
- Ground truthing of some pathways forward

- **Recommendation Phase**

- Mission/Vision/Strategic Plan Development
- Other Recommendations for Change



Participants in this Process



Project Oversight Team

Jonathon Peros (Council Staff)
Emily Bodell (Council Staff)
Connor Buckley (Council Staff)
Michelle Bachman (Council Staff)
John Pappalardo (Council Member, MA)
Travis Ford (NMFS, GARFO, SFD)
Mary Sabo (MAFMC)
Emilie Franke (ASMFC)
To Be Determined (NEFSC)

Climate and Ecosystem Committee

Expected Participants in Focus Groups

- Council members, Council staff, plan development team members, advisory panel members, committee members, SSC members, and stakeholders;
- GARFO Sustainable Fisheries Division staff and Protected Resources staff;
- Science Center staff (Ecosystem Divisions, Social Science Branch, Resource Ecosystem Assessment Division);
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission staff; and
- Other personnel and fishery participants as identified by the NEFMC Lead staff

Timeline



Task	Timing
Discovery Phase Focus groups and interviews Develop and potentially deploy constituent questionnaire Prepare Draft Project Report on Discovery Phase methods and findings	May – August 2025
Analysis Phase Gap analysis Prepare Draft Project Report on Assessment Phase (methods and findings)	September – November 2025
Recommendations Phase Prepare Mission/Vision, Draft Strategic Plan Council workshop (targeting December 2025 or January 2026)	December 2025/January 2026
Submit Final Strategic Plan	March 1, 2026
Submit Final Project Report	April 1, 2026



Contact Information

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