

2016 Priorities  
Council Approved December 2015

1/6/2015	UNDERLINE: REGULATORY REQUIREMENT				<i>Italics: Not Recommended by Ex Comm</i>			
	Final Council Approved Priorities				Grey: Not approved			
FMP	Annual	Comm.	ExCom	Council	Multi-Year	Comm.	ExCom	Council
Groundfish								
	Action to adjust ASM provisions		✓	✓	<i>Amendment to consider limited entry in the groundfish party/charter fishery</i>			✓
	<u>Set US/CA specifications for 2017</u>		✓	✓	Develop alternative strategies for setting catch advice for stability in ACLs		✓	✓
	Recreational management measures process		✓	✓				
	Process for review of groundfish catch in other fisheries		✓	✓				
	Windowpane flounder management alternatives		✓	✓				
	<i>Recreational management measures and possible sub-ACL for GB cod</i>							
	<i>Staff: work with ASMFC lobster TC on groundfish bycatch in lobster traps</i>							
	<i>Modifications to common pool regulations: trimester quota changes, HA exemptions from broad stock area provisions</i>							
	<i>Adjust exemption areas as necessary due to OHA2 changes (GenCat sea scallop, whiting, etc.; may be better addressed by other Committees)</i>							
	Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop		✓	✓				
	Staff: Five year sector review		✓	✓				
	Staff: TMGC/TRAC		✓	✓				
	<i>Review of GB haddock catch cap accounting, possible vessel-specific catch caps</i>	✓						
	<i>Staff: Witch flounder assessment</i>			✓				

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<b>Monkfish</b>								
	<u>Monkfish specifications for 2017-2019</u>		✓	✓	<i>Continue Monkfish Amendment 6 for modifications to DAS program (including leasing) and catch shares (sectors and IFQs).</i>			
	Staff: Research Set Aside		✓	✓				
	Staff: Monkfish assessment		✓	✓				
<b>Sea Scallops</b>								
	<u>Prepare a specifications package to set FY 2017 and 2018 (2019 default) specifications (i.e. setting DAS, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations, potential modification of scallop access area boundaries, etc.). Clarification needed on whether this is for one or two year specifications.</u>	✓	✓	✓				
	Framework action to modify scallop access areas to be consistent with OA2 revised areas (including CAI carry-over trips in the north); develop gear modifications to further protect small scallops (same as reactive windowpane flounder AM)	✓	✓	✓				
	Host a workshop to address concerns raised about scallop fishing pressure in inshore areas.	✓	✓	✓				
	Staff: Support technical and management reviews for Research Set Aside program	✓	✓	✓				
	<i>Integrate findings from Sea Scallop Survey Methods Peer Review (process TBD)</i>	✓						
	Staff: NMFS and PDT have new annual responsibilities related to estimating scallop and YT catch during the year (i.e. LA AM exception, re-evaluation of YT sub-ACL based on updated information).	✓	✓	✓				

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	<u>Five year review of LAGC IFQ program (will require staff and Committee time)</u>	✓	✓	✓				
	Review the overall performance of the ACL structure since it was adopted under Amendment 15 in 2010 (could be considered in a future action in 2016 or later).	✓	✓	✓				
	<i>Consider modifications of current reactive YTF AMs to be more consistent with windowpane flounder AMs.</i>	✓						
<b>Herring</b>								
	<i>Catch share alternatives for the limited access herring fishery</i>				Amendment to address ABC control rule, localized depletion	✓	✓	✓
	<i>Framework action to allow seasonal allocation of the RH/S catch caps</i>	✓						
	<i>Action to address GB haddock bycatch cap accountability measures</i>			✓				
<b>SBRM</b>								
	<i>No Action Planned</i>							
<b>Red Crab</b>								
	<u>Update 2017-2019 specifications</u>		✓	✓	<i>Consider management of Jonah crab and addition to this FMP (or a new FMP)</i>			
	<i>Consider allowing landing of female red crab and modify specs accordingly</i>							
<b>Habitat</b>								
	Complete Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment with range of alternatives already approved as part of the Omnibus EFH Amendment 2 process (as time and resources permit)	✓	✓	✓	Complete Omnibus Habitat Amendment (expected implementation 2016)	✓	✓	✓
	Framework action to address surf clam access to HMAs	✓	✓	✓				
	Staff: Update and further development of the SASI model		✓	✓				
	Staff: Habitat impacts of other management actions		✓	✓	Coordinate wind power issues with other agencies'spatial planning		✓	✓
	Staff: SBNMS Advisory Committee		✓	✓				

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<b>Research Steering</b>								
	Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans.	✓	✓	✓				
	Support S-K program	✓	✓	✓				
<b>SSC</b>								
	Support SSC activities such as <u>recommending ABCs</u> and making recommendations in the FMP development process		✓	✓				
<b>Enforcement, Safety, VMS</b>								
	Continue to support enforcement, safety and VMS issues.	✓	✓	✓				
<b>Whiting</b>								
	Staff: <u>PDT receives annual monitoring report from Regional Office and advise Council whether management adjustments are needed</u>	✓	✓	✓	Conduct scoping and prepare a draft amendment with limited access alternatives and possibly other management issues	✓	✓	✓
<b>Skates</b>								
	<del>Complete action for 2016-2017 skate specifications</del>	✓	✓		<i>Prepare an amendment to consider limited access in the skate fishery (late in year)</i>	✓		✓
	Staff: <u>Annual monitoring report</u>		✓	✓				
	Staff: Monitor thorny skate ESA review		✓	✓				
<b>EBFM</b>								
					Develop and validate an example Fishery Ecosystem Plan; prepare scoping document	✓	✓	✓
<b>Hagfish</b>								
	<i>No action planned</i>							

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<b>Observer Committee</b>								
	Complete industry funded monitoring amendment	✓	✓	✓				
	<i>Develop policy for monitoring commercial fisheries to address multiple information needs</i>	✓		✓				
<b>Risk Policy Working Group</b>								
	Review FMP risk policies for consistency with overall policy	✓	✓	✓				
<b>Trawl Survey AP</b>								
	Address issues identified in AP charter	✓	✓	✓				
<b>Other</b>								
	Fishery dependent data projects: likely initiation of an Omnibus Amendment (GARFO lead) to adopt recommendations of GARFO/NEFSC		✓	✓	Fishery dependent data (NERO lead)		✓	✓
	NRCC SAW Working Group Participation		✓	✓				
	International Fisheries Management <u>TMGC</u> /TRAC/Steering Committee <u>ICCAT</u> <u>HMS Advisory Panel</u> /HMS FMP NAFO Commissioner		✓	✓				
	Staff: Protected Species issues		✓	✓				
	Staff: Support for NERP; review and comment on the Draft Regional Ocean Plan		✓	✓				