

NEFMC
2017 Priorities
12/01/2016

12/1/2016	UNDERLINE: REGULATORY REQUIREMENT					<i>Italics: Not Recommended by Ex Comm</i>				
	Council approved priorities					Grey: Not approved				
FMP	Annual	Comm.	ExCom	Council	Rank	Multi-Year	Comm.	ExCom	Council	Rank
Groundfish										
	<u>Set ABCs/ACLs for all stocks, and adjust rebuilding plans as required;</u> to include common pool trimester quota changes	✓	✓	✓	5/58	Monitoring amendment (to include measures not addressed in FW 55; possibly to include EM)	✓	✓	✓	6
	Process for review of groundfish catch in other fisheries; to include state water and other sub-component analysis review, identifying those stocks and segments of the fishery where sub-component catch exceeds 5 percent and determine if additional sub-ACLs are needed.	✓	✓	✓	37	Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop		✓	✓	31
	Revise Atlantic halibut management measures	✓	✓	✓	12	<i>Amendment to consider limited entry in the groundfish party/charter fishery</i>	✓			62
	Operational assessment of all stocks		✓	✓	NR	<i>Develop alternative strategies for setting catch advice for stability in ACLs</i>				25
	<i>Investigate reclassification of both windowpane flounder stocks as Ecosystem Component Species, or other approaches that will improve flexibility.</i>			✓	NR					
	<i>Improve recreational management measure process for GOM cod and GOM haddock, and include changes in 2017 framework adjustment</i>			✓	NR					
	Staff: TMGC/TRAC		✓	✓	11					
	<i>Timing of recreational management measures and possible sub-ACL for GB cod</i>				47/64					
	<i>Modifications to common pool regulations: HA exemptions from broad stock area provisions</i>				58					
	<i>Adjust exemption areas as necessary due to OHA2 changes (GenCat sea scallop, whiting, etc.; may be better addressed by other Committees)</i>	✓			31					
	<i>Specify allocation review triggers</i>				51					
	<i>Electronic reporting for party/charter vessels</i>				42					
	<i>Staff: Five year sector review</i>				51					
Monkfish										
	Action to address strategies for better utilization of the TAL for NFMA and SFMA	✓			17	<i>Re-initiate Monkfish Amendment 6 to consider catch shares and DAS leasing</i>	✓			NR
	Staff: Research Set Aside		✓	✓	NR					

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Sea Scallops										
	<u>Prepare a specifications package to set FY 2018 and 2019 (2020 default) specifications (i.e. setting DAS, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations, etc.). Clarification needed on whether this is for one or two year specifications.</u>	✓	✓	✓	1					
	Framework action to modify scallop access areas to be consistent with OA2 revised areas (including CAI carry-over trips in the north)	✓	✓	✓	6					
	NGOM scallop management measure changes: such as changing opening date, consistent gear restrictions, possession limits, effort controls.	✓	✓	✓	14					
	Modify flatfish AMs	✓	✓	✓	31					
	Gear modifications to protect small scallops (extended link)	✓	✓	✓	27					
	<u>Complete LAGC review (final report April 2017)</u>		✓	✓	14					
	Staff: Support annual scallop RSA process, including priority setting, and technical and management reviews.	✓	✓	✓	36					
	Staff: NMFS and PDT have new <u>annual responsibilities related to estimating scallop and YT catch during the year</u> (i.e. LA AM exception, re-evaluation of YT sub-ACL based on updated information).	✓	✓	✓	17					
	<i>Integrate findings from Sea Scallop Survey Methods Peer Review (process TBD, but may include additional review of how surveys are combined for management advice)</i>			✓	43					
	<i>RSA program review and modifications</i>	✓			17					
	<i>Measures to address high-grading of scallops and reduce discard mortality</i>				27					
	<i>Specify allocation review triggers</i>				51					

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Herring										
	EM Pilot Project	✓	✓	✓	17	Amendment to address ABC control rule, localized depletion	✓	✓	✓	2
	Staff: Preparation for 2018 benchmark		✓	✓	22					
	<i>Update of RH/S white paper in preparation for reconsideration of RH/S as stocks in the fishery in 2018.</i>				51					
	<i>Set control date</i>	✓			NR					
	<i>Consider mesasure that would move ACL from one area to another in-season</i>				NR					
	<i>Staff: Coordination with MAFMC, ASMFC on various herring issues (RH/S, etc.)</i>				47					
SBRM										
	<i>No Action Planned</i>									
	Amend SBRM to address lobster trap fishing mode (NMFS lead)		✓	✓	NR					
Red Crab										
	<i>No Action Planned</i>									
Habitat	<i>(No Committee recommendations)</i>									
	Complete Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment		✓	✓	6	Coordinate wind power issues with other agencies/spatial planning		✓	✓	42
	Framework action to address surfclam access to HMAs		✓	✓	6					
	Staff: Update and further development of the SASI model		✓	✓	51					
	Staff: <u>Habitat impacts of other management actions</u>		✓	✓	42					
	Staff: ASMFC Habitat Committee		✓	✓	NR					
	<i>Staff: SBNMS Advisory Council</i>				66					
	<i>Staff: Monitor and comment on EFH consultations for major project, coordinated with GARFO HCD</i>				58					
Research Steering										
	<i>Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans.</i>			✓	14					
	Staff: Support S-K program		✓	✓	37					

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SSC										
	Support SSC activities such as <u>recommending ABCs</u> and making recommendations in the FMP development process	✓	✓	✓	4					
	Understand and resolve poor assessment model performance (primarily groundfish assessments)	✓	✓	✓	17					
	Develop consistent guidelines for application of Plan B approaches	✓	✓	✓	37					
	<i>Consider modifications to groundfish ABC control rules</i>	✓			31					
Enforcement, Safety, VMS										
	Continue to support enforcement, safety and VMS issues.	✓	✓	✓	47					
	<i>Develop cod end certification program</i>	✓			67					
Whiting										
	Develop final and preferred alternatives for Draft Amendment 22, limited entry; consider changes to possession limits for silver and offshore hake; conduct public hearings	✓	✓	✓	25					
	<u>Develop 2018-2020 sSpecifications document for red, silver, and offshore hake stocks.</u> Consider modifications to exemption area dates.	✓	✓	✓	10					
	Staff: <u>PDT receives annual monitoring report from Regional Office and advises Council whether management adjustments are needed</u>	✓	✓	✓	63					
Skates										
	Initiate action to allow landing of barndoor skates	✓	✓	✓	NR	Prepare an amendment to consider limited access in the skate fishery; may include catch share alternatives	✓	✓	✓	31
	<u>Specifications for 2018-2019</u>	✓	✓	✓	2					
	Staff: <u>Annual monitoring report</u>	✓	✓	✓	27					
EBFM										

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	Assist in development of MREP EBFM module		✓	✓	69	Complete example Fishery Ecosystem Plan for Georges Bank and develop a Management Strategy Evaluation process to engage fishermen and other stakeholders while conducting testing and validation.	✓	✓	✓	31
Observer Committee										
						Develop policy for monitoring commercial fisheries to address multiple information needs; strategic approach to bycatch monitoring		✓	✓	12
Risk Policy Working Group										
	<i>No Action Planned</i>									
Trawl Survey AP										
	Address issues identified in AP charter	✓	✓	✓	42					
Other										
	NRCC Working Group Participation		✓	✓	23	Fishery dependent data (NERO lead)		✓	✓	27
	International Fisheries Management TMGC/TRAC/Steering Committee ICCAT HMS Advisory Panel/HMS FMP NAFO Commissioner		✓	✓	23	<i>Preliminary work on aquaculture FMP</i>				NR
	Support for NERP; implementation of Regional Ocean Plan; support to data portal		✓	✓	58					
	Programmatic review of Council operations		✓	✓	51					
	Coordinated review of RSA programs in sea scallops, monkfish, and herring FMPs (see also RSA items above under scallop FMP)		✓	✓	47					
	Coordination of fluke/BSB/scup management with MAFMC		✓	✓	42					
	<i>Staff: Protected Species issues</i>				58					
	<i>Modify permitting restrictions to allow permit splitting</i>				65					
	<i>Modify vessel upgrade restrictions: limit upgrades through restrictions on VHP and weight rather than VHP and length</i>				67					
	<i>Staff: Identify high-carbon regulations</i>				70					
	<i>Council strategic plan development</i>				58					

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