

Potential Priorities

Groundfish 2015

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List of Potential Priorities

Development of List

- Based on priorities list for 2014
- Added items below the line for FW 53
- Added an item from Council motion in October
- Added Council staff suggestions

Pending Council Action

- Some items may be completed in FW 53
- One item may be removed from consideration in A18

PDT and APs

- PDT did not weight in on priorities due to time constraints
- GAP/RAP did not have priorities discussion on their agenda for their September meetings
- RAP did make one motion regarding priorities at its September meeting
- Previous motions on priorities from the GAP in 2013 are provided for reference purposes



Annual- Potential Priorities for 2015

- Set specifications for all groundfish stocks 2016-2018*
- Set specifications for US/CA stocks for 2016*

- Sector ACE Carryover Provisions
- Electronic Monitoring
- Recreational Management Measures Process
- Changes to trawl gear regulations to improve enforceability

- Staff: Five Year Sector Review
- Staff: TMGC/TRAC
- Staff: Operational/Update Assessments

*Regulatory requirement



Multi-Year- Potential Priorities

- Continue to coordinate action on the Habitat Omnibus Amendment to include possible modifications of the Groundfish closed areas.
- Complete Amendment 18 to consider fleet diversity and accumulation caps.
- Develop alternative strategies for setting catch advice for stability in ACLs.
- Consider trading of quota under US/CA Understanding/TMGC (measured progress).
- ACE Trading between scallop/groundfish fisheries.
- Process for review of groundfish catch in other fisheries.
- Consider changes to spawning closures for groundfish species.
- Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop



Additional Consideration- RAP

From the September 16, 2014 RAP meeting

Motion: The RAP requests that the Committee revisit the allocation of GOM haddock, due to the recalculation of recreational discard mortality in the recent assessment, in the next available action.

The motion passed 5/0/3.



GAP 2013

GAP Management Priority = STABILITY IN ACL'S

The GAP supports and encourages the GF OSC to pursue, under council priorities, alternative methods for setting catch advice to achieve the following management objectives:

1. Protect fish stocks and commercial / recreational fishermen by stabilizing catch advice within historical catch ranges known to be safe both biologically and economically.
2. Use historical data from past assessments to determine the catch at which point the stock biomass that followed was stable and increasing.
3. Account for volatility in successive assessment results by developing management strategies that are risk averse to either optimistic or pessimistic assessments that indicate ACL increases or decreases that are outside these historical “safe” catch levels by slowing the increases or decreases to pre-set, incremental steps upward or downward.
4. Pursue scientifically based methods that can meet these objectives within NS1 / MSA

Motion Carried 7/0/1



GAP 2013

The GAP recommends the addition of these priorities from 2012.

- Develop a cost effective sector monitoring plan, that includes options for electronic monitoring of discards (including a full retention policy for allocated stocks), phasing in industry cost-share over a 5-10 year timeframe
- Develop options to move unused ACE between scallops/groundfish fleets and between groundfish commercial and recreation fleets

Motion Carried 7/0/0



Groundfish Committee Discussion

- 1) Does the Committee have any additional recommendations for potential 2015 Groundfish priorities?
- 2) Does the Committee recommend removing any of the potential 2015 Groundfish priorities?
- 3) Rank the annual and multi-year list of priorities.

