

# Monkfish Amendment 6

Checking in

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**Monkfish PDT Chair**

**Monkfish AP**  
**May 23, 2017**



# Timeline

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- ▶ 2010 - priorities
- ▶ 2011 – Notice of Intent
- ▶ 2011 - Scoping
  - ▶ Original scoping: 7 for; 28 against; 17 conditional or other
- ▶ 2012 – 2014 – Analysis and development
- ▶ 2014 - Framework 9
- ▶ 2015 – Removed from 2016 priorities



# Notice of Intent

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- ▶ The purpose of Amendment 6 is to consider one or more catch share management approaches for the monkfish fishery, including, but not limited, to Individual Fishery Quotas (IFQs), sectors, and/or community quotas.



# Goals and Objectives

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## ▶ Original FMP

- ▶ *1.To end and prevent overfishing; rebuilding and maintaining a healthy spawning stock;*
- ▶ *2.To optimize yield and maximize economic benefits to the various fishing sectors;*
- ▶ *3.To prevent increased fishing on immature fish;*
- ▶ *4.To allow the traditional incidental catch of monkfish to occur.*



# Goals and Objectives

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- ▶ *Maximize yield and efficiency and simplify regulations in the monkfish fishery while minimizing any resulting disruption in relative fleet distribution and composition, preserving monkfish bycatch allowances necessary to prosecute other fisheries, and minimizing impacts on protected species.*
  - ▶ *Six sub-goals*



# Draft A6 alternatives from 2014

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- ▶ **DAS**
  - ▶ Leasing
  - ▶ Modify allocation to address latent effort
  - ▶ Declaration
- ▶ **Possession limits**
- ▶ **Modifications to RSA program**
- ▶ **Sectors**
  - ▶ PSC
  - ▶ ACE – transfers
  - ▶ Accumulation limits
  - ▶ Monitoring
- ▶ **ITQ**
  - ▶ Referendum



## 2017 Priorities

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- ▶ Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that we reinitiate A6 to the Monkfish FMP (Pappalardo/Nolan).
- ▶ **Carried 9/0/1.**



## NEFMC to MAFMC

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- ▶ “Our Council has not determined what form of catch share program is best for this fishery. The wide variety of possible catch share alternatives include individual fishing quotas (IFQs) as well as a program similar to groundfish sectors. We are willing to consider the full range of programs that are identified. We believe that by keeping the amendment focused only on catch share alternatives, the Councils will be able to prepare an amendment for consideration in a reasonable time period.”





# Catch share

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- ▶ A catch share program is a fisheries management strategy that dedicates a secure share of fish to individual fishermen, cooperatives, or fishing communities for their exclusive use.



## MAFMC to NEFMC

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- ▶ “In general, the Council was supportive of exploring the concept, and recommended holding a meeting of the Monkfish Committee and Advisory Panel to gauge interest in such an action among Mid-Atlantic fishery participants.”

