

**New England Fishery Management Council Timelines**  
**January 19, 2017**

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## **Background**

Preliminary or draft timelines may be provided for actions for which Action Plans have not been formally approved; however, they will be revised as needed when Actions Plans are available. The Council, together with GARFO and the NEFSC, will develop action plans for all regulatory actions as soon as practicable.

Timelines are provided for actions until they have been approved or disproved by NMFS. They are updated only after review by the Executive Committee or at the direction of the Council Chair between Executive Committee meetings or as part of the process for updating action plans.

# SCALLOPS

## 1. Scallop Specifications / Framework Adjustment 28

OBJECTIVE: 2017-2018 Scallop Specifications (may be included in Framework Adjustment 28 or separate specifications package)

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jonathon Peros

2016	
<b>JUN 16-18</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council initiates action</b>
JUL-SEP	Committee / PDT develop alternatives
<b>SEP 20 – 24</b>	<b>NEFMC – receive information on the development of specifications</b>
OCT 18	SSC recommends ABC for fishing year 2016 and default ABC for fishing year 2017
OCT-NOV	Committee and PDT complete documents
<b>NOV 15-17</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council takes final action</b>
DEC	Council staff submits decision draft completes presubmission
2017	
JAN	NFMS publishes proposed rule
JAN	Council staff completes presubmission
JAN	EA reviewed by NMFS
FEB	Staff completes final submission for NMFS review and approval
FEB	NMFS publishes final rule
APR 1	Target Implementation

## 2. Five-year review of LAGC IFQ fishery (preliminary timeline)

OBJECTIVE: Complete five-year review of this catch share program as required by the MSA

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Demet Haksever/Jonathon Peros/Deirdre Boelke

2016	
	Working Group development
<b>APR</b>	<b>Council reviews work plan</b>
JUN-JAN	Working Group prepares draft analyses
<b>NOV 15-17</b>	<b>Council receives update on progress</b>
2017	
JAN	Working Group completes draft report
MAR	Committee reviews draft report
<b>APR</b>	<b>Council reviews final report (timing depends on timing of FW 28 and FW 29)</b>

**3. Scallop Specifications for FY 2018 and 2019 Default**

OBJECTIVE: 2018-2019 Scallop Specifications (may be included in a Framework Adjustment or separate specifications package)

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jonathon Peros

<b>2017</b>	
<b>JUN 20-22</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council initiates action</b>
JUL-SEP	Committee / PDT develop alternatives
<b>SEP 26-28</b>	<b>NEFMC – receives information on the development of specifications</b>
OCT 18	SSC recommends ABC for fishing year 2016 and default ABC for fishing year 2017
OCT-NOV	Committee and PDT complete documents
<b>DEC 5-7</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council takes final action</b>
DEC-JAN	Council staff submits decision draft completes presubmission
<b>2018</b>	
JAN	NFMS publishes proposed rule
JAN	EA reviewed by NMFS
FEB	Staff completes final submission for NMFS review and approval
FEB	NMFS publishes final rule
APR 1	Target Implementation

**4. Scallop Framework Adjustment 29**

OBJECTIVE: Modify scallop access area boundaries consistent with Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2, consider measures to modify ACL structure in the scallop fishery, consider gear modifications to reduce impacts on small scallops

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jonathon Peros

***Timeline to be developed based on implementation of  
Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2***

**5. Other Scallop Actions for which timelines are TBD**

<p>NGOM scallop management measure changes: such as changing opening date, consistent gear restrictions, possession limits, effort controls.</p>
<p>Modify flatfish AMs</p>
<p>Gear modifications to protect small scallops (extended link)</p>
<p>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).</p>
<p><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></p>

# GROUND FISH

## 1. Framework 57 FY 2018-2020 specifications for all groundfish stocks

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jamie Cournane

2017	
<b>JUN 20-22</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council initiates framework</b>
JUL	TRAC assessments for US/CA stocks including GB yellowtail flounder
SEP	SSC recommends ABC for GB yellowtail flounder
SEP	TMGC recommends TACs for US/CA stocks
SEP	Assessment updates for all groundfish stocks (except for GB yellowtail flounder)
<b>SEP 26-28</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council reviews progress on setting specifications for groundfish stocks, the three U.S./Canada stocks for 2016 &amp; other measures in the framework</b>
OCT	SSC recommends ABCs for all groundfish stocks except for US/CA stocks
<b>DEC 5-7</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council takes final action/approves framework</b>
2018	
JAN	Final submission of framework document to NMFS
MAY 1	Implementation

## 2. Framework 56

OBJECTIVES - Set FY 2017 specifications for US/CAN stocks (EGB cod, EGB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder); set FY 2017- FY 2019 specifications for witch flounder, increase the GB haddock sub-ACL for the midwater trawl Atlantic herring fishery; establish a sub-ACL for northern windowpane flounder for the sea scallop fishery; and modify AM implementation policy for the seas scallop fishery for GB yellowtail flounder and northern windowpane flounder.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jamie Cournane

2016	
<b>JUN</b>	<b>NEFMC – Initiate framework</b>
JUL	TRAC assessments for US/CA stocks including GB yellowtail flounder, EGB cod, and EGB haddock
AUG 10	SSC meeting to recommend ABC for GB yellowtail flounder
SEP 7-9	TMGC meeting to recommend TACs for US/CA stocks
<b>SEP 20 – 24</b>	<b>NEFMC – Receive an update on the development of the action, including discussing US/CA stocks</b>
<b>NOV 15-17</b>	<b>NEFMC – Final approval of preferred alternatives except for witch flounder specifications</b>
NOV 29 – DEC 3	Benchmark assessment for witch flounder
2017	

JAN	SSC meeting to recommend ABC for witch flounder
<b>JAN 31-FEB 1</b>	<b>NEFMC – Final approval of witch flounder specifications</b>
FEB	Preliminary submission of documents for NMFS review
FEB	NMFS provides comments
MAR	Resubmission
MAY 1, 2017	Implementation

### 3. Amendment 18 – Accumulation Limits & Fleet Diversity

OBJECTIVE: Amendment to consider accumulation limits; measures to preserve fleet diversity, measures to enable US-Canada quota trading, measures for permit banks; other measures.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER:

Rachel Feeney

<b>2010 -2014</b>	
SEP 2010	Staff completes draft Fleet Diversity, Allocation, and Excessive Shares whitepaper
APR 2011	NMFS publishes control date for A18
JUN 2011	Accumulation Limits Workshop
AUG 2011	Committee approves scoping document
<b>SEP 2010</b>	<b>Council approves scoping document</b>
JAN 2012	Scoping hearings
<b>JUN 2012</b>	<b>Council reviews scoping comments</b>
<b>JUN 2013</b>	<b>Council considers fishery performance data and sets goals &amp; objectives for the amendment</b>
JUN 2015	Independent peer review of Compass-Lexecon report on excessive shares in the groundfish fishery
<b>JUN 2015</b>	<b>Council partially approves range of alternatives for DEIS</b>
<b>NOV 2014</b>	<b>Council approves remaining range of alternatives for DEIS</b>
<b>APR 2015</b>	<b>Council approves DEIS &amp; selects preferred alternatives</b>
JUN 2015	NMFS accepts DEIS
JUL-AUG 2015	Public hearings - 45-day comment period
<b>SEP 2015</b>	<b>Council votes on final action</b>
OCT 2015	Amendment & FEIS submitted to NMFS (preliminary submission)
<b>2016</b>	
AUG	Revisions, final submission of amendment & FEIS
NOV	Deeming of proposed regulations
<b>2017</b>	
FEB	NMFS publishes NOA. 60-day public comment period
MAY	Implementation

**4. Other Groundfish Priorities for which timelines are TBD**

<b>2017</b>
Groundfish monitoring amendment
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.
Revise Atlantic halibut management measures
Investigate reclassification of both windowpane flounder stocks as Ecosystem Component Species, and other approaches that will improve flexibility.
Improve recreational management measure process for GOM cod and GOM haddock ,and include changes in 2017 framework adjustment
<b>MULTIYEAR</b>
Monitoring amendment (to include measures not addressed in FW 55; possibly to include EM)
Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop.



# Herring

## 1. Framework 5 – GB haddock AMs for the Atlantic herring fishery

**OBJECTIVE:** Consider amending the herring fishery catch cap of Georges Bank haddock, associated accountability measures, and their implementation using approaches that may be implemented through a framework adjustment, incentivize the midwater trawl fleet to minimize the incidental catch of haddock in the herring fishery.

**STAFF PROJECT MANAGERS:**

Deirdre Boelke

<b>2016</b>	
<b>APR</b>	<b>Council initiation</b>
MAY	Develop alternatives with PDT and plan analyses
<b>JUNE</b>	AP/Committee – develop alternatives <b>NEFMC – approve range of alternatives</b>
JUL - AUG	Further develop alternatives and draft impact analyses
SEP	TMGC meeting to set GB Haddock TAC
<b>2017</b>	
<b>JAN</b>	AP/Committee – Identify preferred alternatives <b>NEFMC – Final action</b>
FEB	Preliminary submission of EA
APR	Final submission EA
JUL	Implementation of action

**2. Amendment 8 – MSE for ABC control rule / localized depletion**

**OBJECTIVE:** To account for the role of Atlantic herring within the ecosystem including its role as forage (via revising the ABC control rule), to stabilize the fishery at a level designed to achieve OY, and to address localized depletion in inshore waters.

**STAFF PROJECT MANAGERS:**

Deirdre Boelke/Rachel Feeney

<b>2015</b>	
<b>JAN</b>	<b>NEFMC - Review action plan and approve scoping document</b>
FEB-APR	NOI for developing an EIS is published – Scoping period
<b>JUN</b>	<b>NEFMC - Review EBFM Report and A8 scoping comments; revise goals and objectives; recommends peer review of Management Strategy Evaluation</b>
AUG-SEP	Supplemental scoping period regarding expanded scope of A8 (localized depletion)
DEC	Herring PDT reviews scoping comments, discusses technical analyses to support A8
<b>2016</b>	
<b>JAN</b>	<b>NEFMC - Review scoping comments, approve MSE approach to developing ABC control rule alternatives</b>
FEB - APR	Herring PDT, AP, Committee work to develop background information and alternatives regarding localized depletion. Planning for MSE workshop.
MAY	Public workshop on MSE.
<b>JUN and SEPT</b>	<b>NEFMC – approve range of ABC control rule objectives, performance metrics and control rules to be evaluated. Continued development of localized depletion alternatives.</b>
JUL - NOV	MSE and localized depletion-related work continues
<b>NOV 15-17</b>	<b>Update</b>
DEC	Second Public Workshop on MSE work to develop alternatives
<b>2017</b>	
<b>JAN</b>	<b>NEFMC - Consider results of 2<sup>nd</sup> MSE workshop; consider approving range of alternatives for ABC control rules for analysis in Draft EIS</b>
MAR	Peer review of MSE methods and models
<b>APR</b>	<b>NEFMC - consider approving range of alternatives for ABC control rules and localized depletion in Draft EIS</b>
<b>SEP</b>	<b>NEFMC - Review/approve Draft EIS for public hearings, select preferred alternatives</b>
NOV	Public hearings
<b>2018</b>	
<b>JAN</b>	<b>NEFMC - Review public comments, select final preferred alternatives</b>
FEB	Preliminary submission of EIS
APR	Final submission EIS
AUG	Implementation of action

## WHITING (Small Mesh Multispecies)

### 1. Amendment 22 – Limited Access (DRAFT TIMELINE)

OBJECTIVE: Develop Limited access program for Small Mesh Multispecies FMP which includes whiting.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Andrew Applegate

2015	
MAY-AUG	Draft scoping document
AUG-SEP	Whiting PDT finalizes annual monitoring report with management advice
<b>SEP 29-OCT 1</b>	<b>NEFMC - approve scoping document for Amendment 22 - receive annual monitoring report and decide whether additional whiting management action is needed – additional action may delay Amendment 22</b>
DEC -JAN	Staff conducts public hearings and summarizes comments
2016	
<b>JAN 26-28</b>	<b>Council reviews scoping comments and approve scope of amendment</b>
FEB-NOV	Whiting Committee/AP develop range of alternatives
MAR-SEP	PDT prepares preliminary analysis of alternatives and potential effects, committee and advisory panel identify range of qualification criteria alternatives
<b>NOV</b>	<b>NEFMC - Committee report on limited access qualification criteria alternatives</b>
2017	
<b>APR</b>	<b>NEFMC – Approve fleshed-out limited access alternatives for DEIS analysis</b>
MAR-MAY	Whiting PDT analyzes range of alternatives and develops Draft EIS
MAY	Whiting AP/Committee review Draft amendment /DEIS, recommend preferred alternatives
<b>JUN</b>	<b>NEFMC - Review draft amendment and select preferred alternatives</b>
AUG	Submit DEIS; NEPA comment period begins
OCT?	Staff conducts public hearings for Draft Amendment 22
<b>DEC</b>	<b>NEFMC – Review public comments, committee recommendations and select final measures to submit for review and approval</b>
2018	
TBD	Whiting PDT develops Final EIS
TBD	Amendment 22 preliminary submission
TBD	Amendment 22 Final submission 2018
TBD	Implementation

1. A control date for this action was published on November 28, 2012.

**2. 2018-2020 Specifications**

PRELIMINARY TIMELINE (prior to development of an Action Plan) - Small mesh multispecies (silver hake, offshore hake, red hake specifications for FY 2018-2020).

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Andrew Applegate

<b>2017</b>	
APR-MAY	Staff prepares action plan, review by PDT
JUL-AUG	GARFO and NEFSC prepare small-mesh multispecies fishery monitoring report, including assessment update for red and silver hake stocks
AUG	Whiting PDT finalizes annual monitoring report with management advice
AUG-SEP	SSC develops ABC recommendations
<b>SEP 26-28</b>	<b>NEFMC – Receive annual monitoring report &amp; approval of ABC specification, possession limit, and exemption area alternatives</b>
SEP-OCT	Staff and PDT prepare specifications document
<b>DEC 5-7</b>	<b>NEFMC Approve and submit specifications document with preferred alternatives</b>
DEC	Preliminary submission of documents for NMFS review
<b>2018</b>	
JAN-FEB	NMFS comments / final submission
FEB-MAY	NMFS review and NEFMC deeming
MAY 1, 2018	Implementation

# HABITAT

## 1. Omnibus Essential Fish Habitat Amendment 2, Phases I & II

OBJECTIVE: Designate EFH and HAPCs as necessary, for all managed species; minimize the adverse effects of fishing on EFH to the extent practicable in a consistent manner across all FMPs; evaluate and possibly modify system of groundfish closures.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Michelle Bachman

MILESTONES	PLANNED / REVISED COMPLETION DATE	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Phase 1 scoping hearings	MAR 2004	✓
2. Council approves EFH designations (Phase 1)	JUN 2007	✓
3. Peer Review of Habitat Models	FEB 2011	✓
4. Committee develops alternatives to minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse effects of fishing on EFH (including coral alts)	MAY-JUN 2011	Through AUG 2011
5. PDT analyzes adverse effects minimization alternatives (including coral alts)	MAY-JUN 2011	✓MAY-SEP 2011
6. Habitat Committee finalizes adverse effects minimization options (=habitat options), forwards to joint process with groundfish	Winter 2011-2012	✓FEB 2012
7. Council approves deep-sea coral alternatives for analysis	<b>APR 2012</b>	✓
8. Council moves deep-sea coral alternatives into a separate action	<b>SEP 2012</b>	✓
9. Habitat Committee develops Designated Habitat Research Area (DHRA) options	n/a	✓
10. Groundfish CATT/PDT/AP/Committee develop options for groundfish areas	DEC-MAR 2013	✓DEC-MAR 2013 <sup>2.</sup>
<b>11. Council reviews groundfish options <sup>3.</sup></b>	<b>APR 23-25 2013</b>	NA
12. Habitat and Groundfish Committees package habitat and groundfish options into alternatives <sup>4.</sup>	MAR-APR 2013	✓MAY-JUN 2013
<b>13. Council approves packaged habitat /groundfish alternatives, including DHRAs, for analysis in DEIS</b>	<b>APR 2013</b>	✓ <b>JUN 2013</b>
<b>14. Council approves Omnibus 2 draft EIS; selects preferred alternatives</b>	<b>JUN 2013</b>	✓ <b>FEB 2014 <sup>5.</sup></b>
15. Preliminary submission of DEIS	<i>added milestone</i>	✓MAY 2014
16. NMFS completes review of preliminary submission	<i>early JUL 2014</i>	✓JUL-SEP 2014
17. Final submission of Omnibus 2 DEIS (combining EFH and HAPC designations, habitat/groundfish alternatives, and DHRAs)	<i>JUN 2014 <sup>6.</sup></i>	✓SEP-OCT 2015
18. NMFS publishes NOA, starts 45-day comment period	<i>JUL 2014 <sup>6.</sup></i>	✓OCT 2014
19. Public hearings	<i>AUG 2014 <sup>6.</sup></i>	✓ NOV 2014-JAN 2015
<b>20. Council reviews public comments, selects final alternatives</b>	<i>NOV 2014</i>	✓ <b>APR - JUN 2015 <sup>6.</sup></b>
21. Preliminary submission of amendment and FEIS to NMFS	<i>JAN 2014</i>	✓ JAN 2016 <sup>7.</sup>
22. NMFS provide comments on submission		✓ APR 2016
23. Staff revisions submitted to NMFS	<b>MAY 2016 <sup>8.</sup></b>	<b>AUG 2016</b>
24. Proposed rule published	<b>FEB 2017</b>	
25. Final rule published	<b>JUL 2017</b>	
26. Implementation	<b>AUG 2017</b>	

1. Planned completion dates for pending items are based on the November 2012 timeline.

JAN-19-2017

2. CATT convened in August 2012. Projected completion of this step was pushed back due to delay in Groundfish Framework 48 and complexity of technical issues and analyses.
3. Step added to January 2013 timeline for clarification.
4. Delayed from NOV 2013 because of Federal government shutdown and Council decision in DEC 2013 to request more complete analysis of alternatives
5. Revised as a result of alternatives added at Feb 25-26, 2015 Council meeting
6. Delayed because Council modified previously identified alternatives
7. Additional time required to analyze final preferred alternatives
8. Additional time required because extensive revisions were required to address comments

**2. Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment**

**OBJECTIVE:** Designate deep-sea coral protection zones in the Gulf of Maine, continental slope and canyons, and New England seamounts, and develop fishing restrictions to protect corals within those zones.

**STAFF PROJECT MANAGER:** Michelle Bachman

**COMMENTS:** Work on the coral amendment was resumed because Omnibus EFH Amendment 2 is nearing completion.

<b>2008-2013</b>	
FEB 2008	Council directed PDT to evaluate information related to deep-sea corals and develop alternatives for deep-sea coral protection
2010-2012	Committee and PDT develop alternatives
<b>APR 2012</b>	<b>Council approves range of alternatives for analysis</b>
AUG 2012	Notice of intent to split habitat amendment
<b>SEP 2012</b>	<b>Council splits coral alternatives from Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2</b>
<b>JUN 2013</b>	<b>Council approves MOU to coordinate with MAFMC and SAFMC on coral protection</b>
<b>2015</b>	
<b>JUN</b>	<b>Council approves remaining aspects of OHA2</b>
<b>DEC</b>	<b>Council identifies coral amendment as 2016 priority</b>
DEC 4 & 15	Habitat PDT meetings
<b>2016</b>	
MAR	Habitat Committee meeting
AUG-FEB 2017	PDT analysis, development of draft EA
<b>SEP</b>	<b>Council receives update</b>
<b>NOV</b>	<b>Council reviews preliminary impacts analysis; refines range of alternatives</b>
<b>2017</b>	
MAR	Develop EA, Advisory Panel review, additional Committee work, workshop
<b>APR</b>	<b>Council finalizes range of alternatives including final zone boundaries, prior to hearings, selects preferred alternatives</b>
MAY-JUN	Public hearings
<b>JUN</b>	<b>Council takes final action on amendment</b>
TBD	Submission of Deep-Sea Coral Amendment and final EA
TBD	Implementation

**3. Habitat - Clam dredge exemption framework - preliminary timeline**

OBJECTIVE: Identify possible exemption areas for hydraulic clam dredges within two management areas proposed in Omnibus EFH Amendment 2

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER:

Michelle Bachman

<b>2015</b>	
<b>SEP 29-OCT 1</b>	<b>Council initiates framework</b>
NOV 23	Habitat PDT meeting
<b>DEC 1-3</b>	<b>Council Identifies as 2016 priority</b>
<b>2016</b>	
MAR	Habitat Committee meeting – PDT update
MAY-AUG	PDT/Committee work
<b>2017</b>	
JAN-JUN	PDT/Committee/AP work to develop alternatives
<b>JUN</b>	<b>Council selects range of alternatives for analysis <sup>1</sup></b>
JUL-SEP	PDT prepares draft EA, Committee recommends preferred alternatives
<b>SEP</b>	<b>Council takes final action on framework</b>
TBD	Submission of clam exemption framework
<b>2018</b>	
TBD	Implementation

1. This step is scheduled to occur after the decision date for Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2, since the Amendment will implement the new habitat management areas where the clam dredge exemptions are being sought.



# MONKFISH

## 1. Framework 10 - 2017-2019 Specifications

OBJECTIVE: The actions modifies will update the specifications and the DAS and trip limits for monkfish

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Fiona Hogan

2016	
JUN	Operational Assessment Reviewed
AUG	SSC develops catch advice for FY 2017-2019
<b>SEP</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council initiates framework</b>
OCT	Committee develops management alternatives
<b>NOV</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council approves framework</b>
<b>DEC</b>	<b>MAFMC approves framework</b>
2017	
JAN	Council deems proposed rule
JAN	Preliminary submission of document
MAR	NMFS comments on preliminary submission
APR	Final submission of framework to NMFS
TBD	Implementation

# SKATES

## 1. Amendment 5 – Limited Access

(Preliminary timeline – Action Plan has not been developed)

OBJECTIVE: Develop Limited access program for the Skate fishery

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Fiona Hogan

<b>2016</b>	
<b>NOV</b>	<b>Council approves scoping document</b>
<b>2017</b>	
JAN-FEB	Scoping hearings
<b>APR</b>	<b>Council reviews comments and initiates action</b>
MAY-SEP	Committee/PDT develop alternatives and preliminary analyses
<b>SEP</b>	<b>Council approves range of alternatives for analysis in draft EIS</b>
SEP-OCT	PDT completes DEIS
<b>NOV</b>	<b>Council approves draft EIS for public review</b>
<b>2018</b>	
JAN-FEB	Public hearings
<b>APR</b>	<b>Council takes final action</b>
TBD	Implementation

## 2. Framework 3 and /or Specifications for FY 2016-2017

PROJECT MANAGER: Fiona Hogan

<b>2017</b>	
JUL-SEP	PDT develops monitoring report
SEP	SSC recommends ABC for skate complex
<b>SEP 26-28</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council considers whether to initiate a framework adjustment if measures need to be added to the specifications</b>
OCT - NOV	Committee & PDT develop & analyze alternatives
<b>DEC 5-7</b>	<b>NEFMC – Council approves framework/specifications</b>
<b>2016</b>	
JAN	Final submission of framework/specifications document to NMFS
MAY 1	Implementation

**3. Other Skate priorities for which timelines are TBD**

Staff: Annual monitoring report
Staff: Monitor thorny skate ESA review

## Industry-funded Monitoring Amendment

OBJECTIVE: Develop an industry-funded monitoring program to meeting monitoring objectives for all FMPs

PROJECT MANAGERS:

Maria Jacob/Jamie Cournane – NEFMC Staff

Carly Bari/Carrie Nordeen - GARFO FMAT

2013	
FEB	FMAT begins work on action
NOV	NMFS provides NEFMC guidance on type of action required and possible funding mechanisms
2015	
<b>JAN / FEB</b>	<b>Councils approve draft coverage target range of alternatives of alternatives to be analyzed</b>
FEB–OCT <sup>1</sup> .	PDT/FMAT/Councils develop alternatives, draft EA
<b>APR 2 <sup>2</sup>.</b>	<b>Councils approve additional alternatives for inclusion in an Environmental Assessment</b>
2016	
<b>JAN<sup>3</sup>. JUN</b>	<b>Councils approve draft EA for public review</b>
OCT-NOV	Public hearing(s)
<b>DEC</b>	<b>MAFMC postponed final action</b>
<b>JAN</b>	<b>NEFMC considers final action</b>
<del>SEP</del> TBD	Final rule published
<del>OCT</del> TBD	Final rule effective

1. New timeline proposed by NMFS in response to comments at NEFMC and MAFMC meeting that the public and Councils would like more opportunity to provide input and consider the implications of the action.
2. Council added portside sampling alternative required additional analysis.
3. Delayed because Council added monitoring set-aside option to the IFM Amendment at its Sept-Oct 2015 meeting. The MAFMC tasked the PDT/FMAT with continuing to refine cost assumptions and economic analysis of mackerel coverage target alternatives.

## Ecosystems Based Management

OBJECTIVE: Phase II – Developed worked example of integrated EFBM for Georges Bank

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Andrew Applegate

### *Timeline to be developed*

2017	
JAN	NEFMC - Georges Bank Example Fishery Ecosystem Plan - receive committee report on working examples of Georges Bank Ecosystem Production Unit Operating Models and a draft ecosystem forage fish management policy for New England; provide feedback