

Framework 8 to the Atlantic Herring FMP

DRAFT Action Plan

Council: New England Fishery Management Council (Council)

Fishery: Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP)

Title of Action: Framework 8 to the Atlantic Herring FMP

Scope: Consider fishery specifications for 2021-2023 and consider adjusting herring measures that potentially inhibit the Atlantic mackerel fishery from achieving optimum yield.

Objective of Action:

At its December 2019 meeting, the Council approved the list of 2020 priorities with two items that have been included in this action plan: specifications for 2021-2023 and action to adjust measures in the herring plan that potentially inhibit optimizing yield in the mackerel fishery (i.e. increase in herring incidental possession limit in the range of 2,000-40,000 pounds, modify seasonal closure of Area 1B).

Likely Range of Alternatives:

- Typical measures in a specifications package such as OFL, ABC, ACL, sub-ACL for each herring management area, border transfer, research set-aside, river herring/shad sub-ACLs, etc).
- Measures in the herring plan that potentially inhibit optimizing yield in the mackerel fishery (i.e. increase in herring incidental possession limit in the range of 2,000-40,000 pounds, modify seasonal closure of Area 1B).

Applicable Laws/Issues:

NEPA Analysis (EIS/EA/CE/SIR): This action is expected to require an EA.

Endangered Species Act/Marine Mammal Protection Act: This action is expected to have an informal ESA consultation.

Other Applicable Laws and Regulatory Requirements: Typical issues and analyses expected at this time.

Herring Plan Development Team Membership and Other Individuals:

	Organization	Name	Responsibility
Herring Plan Development Team	NEFMC	Deirdre Boelke	Chair of Herring PDT, Herring FMP Coordinator, and Framework 8 project manager. Coordinate drafting of all relevant documents and Framework 8 EA including description of alternatives and analyses.
	NEFMC	Rachel Feeney	Collaborate on updating Affected Environment and writing Fishery Impacts/Social Impact Assessment.
	NMFS GARFO Sustainable Fisheries Division	Carrie Nordeen	Primary point of contact in NMFS for Herring FMP. GARFO Implementation Team Chairman. Identify potential policy, regulatory, and administrative issues during development and review. Support with data needs and development of document.
	NMFS GARFO Analysis & Program Support Division	Brant McAfee	Support Herring PDT data requests. Provide catch data to develop alternatives, Affected Environment, and impact analyses. Identify potential monitoring issues during development and review. Potentially support with GIS analysis.
	NMFS GARFO NEPA	Marianne Ferguson	Review document for completeness in terms of NEPA requirements during development and review.
	NMFS GARFO Protected Spec. Div.	Danielle Palmer	Draft sections relative to protected resources. Consultation on background information and analysis of impacts on protected resources.
	NEFSC Population Dynamics Branch	Jon Deroba	Technical work associated with biological impact analyses. Assist in writing other elements of document.
	NEFSC Social Sciences Branch	Min-Yang Lee	Develop/write Economic Impact Analyses and impacts on fishery participants. Provide RIR/RFA analyses including summary of economic impacts.
	Maine DMR	Matt Cieri	Provide State fishery and biological data as needed. Consultation on development of measures and biological impact analyses.
	Mass. DMF	Micah Dean	Portside sampling data assimilation/analysis if necessary. Consultation on development of measures and impact analyses. Potentially support with GIS analysis.
	NHFG	Renee Zobel	Provide State fishery and biological data as needed. Consultation on development of measures and biological impact analyses.
	NEFSC Fisheries Sampling Branch	Sara Weeks	Complete observer program data requests. Identify potential monitoring/observer program issues during development and review. Consultation on development of measures and impact analyses.

Other Individuals	NEFMC	Michelle Bachman	Development of background information and analyses of impacts on the physical environment and EFH.
	NMFS GCNE	Mitch MacDonald	Consultation on potential legal issues and questions.
	MAFMC	Jason Didden	Consultation/coordination with Mid-Atlantic Council to address overlapping issues with mackerel fishery.
	ASMFC	Kirby Roots-Murdy	Consultation/coordination with ASMFC for state-federal overlapping issues.
	NMFS GARFO SFD	Doug Cristel	Primary GARFO contact for MAFMC MSB FMP. Consultation/coordination for overlapping issues with mackerel fishery.

NMFS Amendment 8 Implementation Team Membership: TBD by IT Chair

Organization	Name	Responsibility
NMFS GARFO SFD	Carrie Nordeen	Implementation Team Chair; primary GARFO contact for Framework 8.
NMFS GARFO APDS		Consult on development of measures with monitoring considerations
NMFS GARFO PRD		Consult on development of measures with protected resources considerations
NOAA GC		Consult on development of measures with legal and enforcement considerations
NMFS GARFO IRM		Consult on development of measures with GIS considerations.
NMFS OLE		Consult on development of measures with enforcement considerations

Implementation Team Issues: TBD – to be developed by IT Chair

Worksheet 2: Timeline for Development of Framework 8

2020	
JAN	Council initiates action
FEB-MAY	Committee develop action
JUN	Potential update, NEFSC management track assessment
JUL	Preliminary submission of 2020-2021 Atlantic herring fishery specifications package
SEP	Final action
DEC	EA finalized
2021	
MAR	Target Implementation

Worksheet 2: Detailed Implementation Timeline

TBD – to be developed by IT Chair

PROJECT PHASE	STARTING	ENDING
1. Council Meeting to select final measures	Sept 29, 2020	
2.		
3.		
4.		

Action Plan Versions:

Version	Date	Author	Change Description
1	January 17, 2020	Boelke	Prepared for January Council meeting to initiate action.