

Monkfish

RSA Priorities

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Monkfish PDT Chair

NEFMC Meeting
June 13, 2019



DRAFT Monkfish RSA Priorities

- 1. Research on monkfish life history focusing on: (a) age and growth, (b) longevity, (c) reproduction and (d) natural mortality;
- 2. Studies of stock structure/stock identification and implications for stock assessment and fisheries management.
- 3. Development of a standardized CPUE time series to estimate relative abundance.
- 4. Cooperative research surveys to supplement current survey coverage;

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- **Additional Priorities**

- 5. Research concerning bycatch and discard mortality focusing on: (a) Target species (i.e., monkfish or Northeast multispecies), and (b) non-target species (e.g., monkfish or skate);
- 6. Trawl and gillnet gear studies focusing on (a) bycatch reduction, including reducing interactions, and injury/mortality associated with these interactions, with sea turtles, Atlantic sturgeon, right and humpback whales, and other protected species and (b) size and/or species selectivity.
- 7. Ecological studies on protected species and monkfish as a new monkfish RSA priority, including consideration of monkfish and protected species' responses to environmental/climate change, and how these responses have the potential to change interaction risks to protected species.
- 8. Research concerning trophic interactions of monkfish with other species