

Council's 2015 Groundfish Priorities

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**Groundfish Advisory Panel and
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Annual Priorities for 2015

- Set specifications for all groundfish stocks 2016-2018*
- Set specifications for United States/Canada stocks for 2016*
- Recreational Measures Management Process
- Staff
 - Five Year Sector Review
 - Transboundary Management Guidance Committee/
Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee
 - Operational/Update Assessments
 - Discussion paper on management alternative for windowpane flounder
 - Coordinate with Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Lobster Technical Committee on lobster trap bycatch of groundfish species

**Regulatory requirement*



Multi-Year Priorities for 2015+

- Continue to coordinate action on Habitat Omnibus Amendment 2 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 Annual Catch Limits.
- Process for review of groundfish catch in other fisheries.
- Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop



Courtesy: Paul Nitschke, NEFSC



Other Priority for 2015

- Electronic Monitoring Working Group (reports to the Council) completes white paper

