

The original FMP specified the following management objectives:

- 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.*

The goals and objectives for Amendment 6 are to supplement the basic FMP objectives. Specifically:

GOAL: *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.*

Sub-goal 1. Maximize yield.

Objective 1. Implement measures to reduce the ratio of discards to pounds landed.

Objective 2. Implement measures to provide incentives to reduce discards of undersized monkfish.

Objective 3. Implement measures to ensure the full utilization of the ACT.

Sub-goal 2. Maximize efficiency in the fishery.

Objective 4. Implement measures that allow vessels to more efficiently, economically and opportunistically harvest monkfish.

Objective 5. Implement measures that allow vessels to better utilize monkfish bycatch on non-directed trips.

Sub-goal 3. Simplify regulations.

Objective 6. Implement measures that provide increased flexibility through better integration of Monkfish management measures with other FMPs.

Objective 7. Address existing geographic constraints on permit categories.

Sub-goal 4. Minimize disruption to current fleet distribution and composition and fishing community structure while allowing the fishery to evolve.

Objective 8. Implement measures that would result in accumulation limits if some sort of catch shares are implemented.

Sub-goal 5. Maintain the monkfish bycatch allowances necessary to sustain the yield of other fisheries

Objective 9. Implement specifications/measures that quantify and allocate monkfish bycatch to other fisheries.

Sub-goal 6. Minimize the impacts on protected species.

Objective 10. Implement measures to reduce Atlantic sturgeon mortality in the monkfish fishery (if necessary).