DRAFT PROPOSED: 2027 New England Fishery Management Council Priority List							
Ref #	**Plan/Topic**	**Category**	**Type**	**Priority/Task**	**Estimated Timing**	**Coordination**	**Staff Months**
EO1	EO14276-NOAA	New	Review or Action	Implement rotational access for the scallop fishery on the Northern Edge - Review of habitat management to consider effectivess and need for HAPC and EFH provisions - Scallop focused action based on existing Habitat and Groundfish regulations - Habitat focused action based on evaluation of the HAPC and EFH regulations	Depends on Scope	Scallop/Habitat	6 to 18
EO2	EO14276-NOAA	New	Consultation	Implement scallop permit stacking - Possible Secretarial action	2027	Scallop	1 to 2
EO3	EO14276-NOAA	New	Action	Rescind Industry-Funded Monitoring requirements - Herring - Combined measure in ongoing RHS action	2027	Herring	2
EO4	EO14276- NOAA	New	N/A	Deprioritize advancing requirements for ropeless gear - Maintain staff involvement with TRT updates and inter-agency coordination	N/A	On-Demand	0
EO5	EO14276-NOAA	New	Action	Revise vessel baseline restrictions - Joint action with MAFMC - Possible MAFMC lead on action	Single Year	MAFMC/GARFO	4
EO6	EO14276- NOAA	New	Action or Consultation	Consider reopening the GSC Habitat Management Area to surfclams - Habitat focused action based on evaluation of GSC clam exemption program - Joint action with MAFMC to address habitat and surfclam regulations - Habitat focused action on overarching HMAs, including HAPCs, EFH, exemption areas - Additional EFPs in 2027	Multi-Year	Habitat	2 to 18
EO7	EO14274-NEFMC	Ongoing	Action	Atlantic herring slippage measures - Combined measure in ongoing RHS action	2027	Herring	1
EO8	EO14274-NEFMC	Ongoing	Action	Monkfish management modifications - Combined measures with 2028 Specifications Package	Multi-Year	Monkfish	0 to 12
EO9	EO14274-NEFMC	Ongoing	Reiew or Action	Revisions to Accountability Measures - Holistic review and action identification with follow-on Omnibus - FMP-based multiple actions as time allows	Multi-Year	Cross-FMP	2 to 12
EO10	EO14274-NEFMC	Ongoing	Action	Fishery Management Plan revisions - FMP-based multiple actions as time allows	Multi-Year	Cross-FMP	2
EO11	EO14276-NEFMC	Ongoing	Review or Action	Revise exemption areas (e.g., seasons, boundaries, gear-specific) - Holistic review and action identification with follow-on Omnibus (Habitat, etc.) - FMP-based multiple actions as time allows	Multi-Year	Cross-FMP	6 to 18
IRA1	IRA	Required	Contract/Project	Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rules for Northeast Multispecies - UMaine contract - staff admin	Multiyear, completion 2027	G5	2
IRA2	IRA	Required	Contract/Project	Groundfish management transition - Contracted facilitator - staff admin	Multiyear, completion 2027	G6	1
IRA3	IRA	Required	Contract/Project	Operationalizing ecosystem approaches in NE fisheries management - UMass contract - staff admin; Compilation of information and report to Council - Maris contract - EC Species Guidance	Multiyear, completion 2027	G8	4
IRA4	IRA	Required	Contract/Project	Operationalizing the East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning Initiative - Governance Workshop, compilation of information and report to Council	Multiyear, completion 2027		4
IRA5	IRA	Required	Contract/Project	Holistic strategic plan for climate resilient NE fisheries management - Complete KPIs for Goals 2-4 - Tracking KPIs and staff admin	Multiyear, completion 2027		2
IRA6	IRA	Required	Contract/Project	Enhancing participatory processes for climate resilient fisheries - Maris contract - staff admin - Implement automation and AI tools for staff efficiency	Multiyear, completion 2027		4
G1	Groundfish	Required	Staff Task	Complete and submit FW74	Complete early 2027		2

G2	Groundfish	Required	Action	Action to set ABC/ACL for groundfish stocks for FY2028-FY2032; US/CA stocks for FY2028 - Including rebuilding plans for four cod stocks and white hake - MRIP recalibrated data and commercial/recreational sub-allocations of cod	2027		10
G3	Groundfish	Required	Support	Groundfish Management Track Assessments (June - GB cod; Sept - EGOM, WGOM, SNE Gulf of Maine cod, white hake, witch flounder)	2027		1
G4	Groundfish	Required	Action	FW68 to revise ABC Control Rules	2027	IRA1	6
G5	Groundfish	Paused	Contract/Project	Groundfish Management Transitioning - Listening Sessions	2027	IRA2	Coordinated with IRA2
G6	Groundfish	New	Action	Revisions to redfish sector exemption program	Single Year		4
G7	Groundfish	New	Action	Revisions to Amendment 23 monitoring system	Multi-Year		1 to 12
G8	Groundfish	New	Action	Define Ecosystem Component status for several groundfish stocks	Multi-Year	IRA3	12
SC1	Scallop	Required	Staff Task	Complete and submit scallop specifications action	Complete early 2027		2
SC2	Scallop	Required	Action	FW42 measures for NGOM sub-management units and regional allocations of Limited Access DAS	2027		4
SC3	Scallop	Required	Action	Action to set ABC/ACL for scallop stock with specifications for FY2028 (FY2029 default)	2027		8
SC4	Scallop	Required	Contract/Project	Complete new projection methods	2027		2
SC5	Scallop	Ongoing	Outreach	Scallop RSA Management (Share Day, Proposal Review)	Ongoing		1
SC6	Scallop	New	Contract/Review	Scallop Strategic Plan Menu Items - Joint PDT/AP WG white paper on improving fishing practices, including defining high-grading	Multiyear		4
SC7	Scallop	New	Staff Support	Scallop Strategic Plan Menu Items - Coordinate review of automated detection techonology	Multiyear		0.5
SC8	Scallop	New	Staff Support	Scallop Strategic Plan Menu Items - Support external projects: in-season triggers, real-time data applications	Multiyear		1
HE1	Herring	Required	Action	River Herring & Shad Management Measures (e.g., Catch Caps or Time/Area Closures) - Add IFM rescission, slippage measures, bycatch caps from EO 14286	2027	EO3/EO7/HE2/HE3	4
HE2	Herring	Ongoing	Action	A10 to minimize user conflicts, achieve OY, and support rebuilding of the herring resource - Consider status and possible discontinuation	Multi-Year		Unclear
HE3	Herring	Required	Support	Coordination with MAFMC/ASMFC for river herring/shad issues	Ongoing		1
W1	Whiting	Required	Staff Task	Complete and submit FY2027-2031 Specifications Action	Complete early 2027		2
RC1	Red Crab	Required	Action	Set red crab specifications - Possible contract for 5 years or greater (FY2028-2032+)	2027		1 to 4
HA1	Habitat	Required	Staff Task	Habitat impacts of management actions (NEPA analyses)	Ongoing		0.5
HA2	Habitat	Ongoing	Support	Contribute to habitat and ocean planning science and management partnerships	Ongoing		1.5
HA3	Habitat	Ongoing	Staff Task	Develop habitat and fishery related comments on non-fishing activities	Ongoing		0.5
HA4	Habitat	New	Action	Revise EFH designations for deep-sea red crab and Atlantic salmon	2027		2

RP1	Risk Policy WG	Required	Staff Task	Communication strategies for revised Risk Policy	Ongoing		1
SSC1	SSC	Required	Support	Support Council activities including recommending OFLs and ABCs and review of scientific information	Ongoing		4
SSC2	SSC	Ongoing	Support	Support SSC Social Science Sub-panel	Ongoing		2
SSC3	SSC	New	Support	Support SSC Workgroup on Dynamic Reference Points	Ongoing		2
EN1	Enforcement	Required	Support	Committee input where requested	Ongoing		0.5
NT1	NTAP	Ongoing	Support	Continue the Survey Contingency Working Group; Industry-Based Survey implementation	Ongoing		0.25
CE1	Climate and Ecosystem	Ongoing	Support	Guidance for IRA initiatives, climate-resilient fisheries management, and ecosystem approaches	Ongoing		2
IA1	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	CCC participation	Ongoing		3
IA2	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	NRCC participation	Ongoing		4
IA3	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	East Coast Coordination Group and Climate Core Team	Ongoing		2
IA4	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	MAFMC Committees and joint activities (Spiny Dogfish)	Ongoing		1
IA5	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	SAFMC Committees and joint activities	Ongoing		0.25
IA6	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	Standardized Bycatch Reporting Method Review	Ongoing		1
IA7	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	CEFI Decision Support Team	Ongoing		0.5
IA8	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	NROC Ocean Policy	Ongoing		0.25
IA9	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	Sanctuary Advisory Committees (Stellwagen, Hudson Canyon)	Ongoing		0.25
IA10	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	International Fisheries Management (US/CA TMGC, Steering Committee, ICCAT, HMS, NAFO)	Ongoing		3
IA11	Inter-Agency	Required	Support	Take Reduction Teams and Protected species topics (BiOps and NARW recovery plan)	Ongoing		2