

## Draft Herring Work Priorities for 2021

For AP and Committee Consideration – September 2020

Priority Item	Status	2021 Workload notes
<i>Already on the list</i>		
<b>Framework 7</b> - Action to consider GB spawning closures	Committee has made progress developing alternatives for spawning areas and seasons. Still not clear which fisheries will be included for consideration (i.e. outside the herring fishery or not).	If this action expands to other fisheries that will require input and collaboration from other PDTs and possibly other Committees. Scope would be larger and would likely require more time for development and analysis.
Rebuilding plan	If herring is declared overfished the Council is required to develop a rebuilding plan.	This could be folded into Framework 7 or developed separately. Pros and cons to consider.
<i>Potential items for 2021</i>		
<b>RSA Program Review</b>	Report finalized in April 2019. Council still discussing next steps.	If modifications are considered they could be included in Framework 7 or a rebuilding framework if one is developed separately.
<i>Other work items for 2021</i>		
<b>Coordinate with ASMFC and MAFMC</b> , including support for RH/S TEWG	Uncertain what ASMFC herring or MAFMC mackerel work is planned for 2021 yet.	Some resources needed by handful of PDT members. Some AP/Cmte input may be requested.

### ***Executive Order – Promoting Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth***

Herring AP had an initial conversation in June 2020 and developed the following list of potential ways to reduce burdens on domestic fisheries and increase production within sustainable fisheries, not full consensus on each item. The Committee did not discuss these ideas in detail yet.

1. Allow permit splitting (could get permit to target underutilized species).  
*However, some concern about latent permits reactivating (i.e. squid).*
2. Revisit baseline restrictions for adding permits to suite of permits on a vessel.
3. Inability to catch haddock quota on GB as overall issue – and specific to the herring plan – the haddock catch cap should not be constraining when haddock TAC is so large. Catch cap should be revisited or removed.
4. IFM implementation – too expensive. Delay until more herring TAC available at a minimum.

5. Due to negative impact of the climate crisis on the productivity of the northeast shelf and GOM, and herring stocks, increase efforts to use more renewable energy and address climate crisis to improve herring and all fisheries.

*However, some concern was expressed that if this only means an increase in wind development in the region that would not be a desirable outcome. Furthermore, the fishing industry is currently not able to participate in a meaningful way in the offshore wind process. The process should be modified to improve input of fishing industry.*

6. Remove measure approved in Amendment 8 that would prohibit MWT gear from fishing in coastal areas from Maine to RI.