DRAFT PROPOSED: 2027 New England Fishery Management Council Priority List							
Ref #	**Plan/Topic**	**Category**	**Type**	**Priority/Task**	**Estimated Timing**	**Coordination**	**Staff Months**
EO2	EO14276-NOAA	Sept Decision	Consultation	Implement scallop permit stacking - Secretarial Action	2027	SC4	
EO3/7	EO14276-NOAA	Sept Decision	Action	Rescind Herring Industry-Funded Monitoring requirements - Rescind Atlantic herring slippage accountability measures - Included in Herring A12	2027	HE1	
EO4	EO14276- NOAA	Sept Decision	N/A	Deprioritize advancing requirements for ropeless gear - Maintain staff involvement with TRT updates and inter-agency coordination	N/A	N/A	
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		3
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	Required	Contract/Project	Groundfish Management Transitioning - Listening Sessions - Consider monitoring provisions	2027	IRA2	1
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	Consultation	Implement scallop permit stacking - Secretarial Action	2027		1
SC5	Scallop	Required	Contract/Project	Complete new projection methods	2027		2
SC6	Scallop	Ongoing	Outreach	Scallop RSA Management (Share Day)	Ongoing		0.5
HE1	Herring	Required	Action	Amendment 12: River Herring & Shad Management Measures - Add IFM rescission, slippage measures, bycatch caps from EO 14286	2027	EO3/EO7/HE2/HE3	4
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		3
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
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
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

EO1/6/11	EO14276	New	Review or Action	Northern Edge Scallop/Great South Channel Surfclam/Exemption Areas - Review of habitat management across GB/SNE/GSC to inform potential revisions	Scope Dependent	Hab/Scal/Cross	9
EO5	EO14276-NOAA	New	Action	Revise vessel baseline restrictions - Length and horsepower measures	2027	MAFMC/GARFO	4
EO9	EO14274-NEFMC	New	Review 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	4 in 2027 8 in 2028
G7	Groundfish	New	Action	Revisions to Amendment 23 monitoring system	Multi-Year	NEFSC/GARFO	1
G8/SK1	Groundfish/Skate	New	Action	Define Ecosystem Component status by completing the EC Screening Guidance; initiate Council action as needed	Multi-Year	IRA3	12
SC7	Scallop	New	Contract/Review	Scallop Strategic Plan Menu Items - Joint PDT/AP WG white paper on improving fishing practices, including defining high-grading	Multiyear	Contract	1
SC9	Scallop	New	Staff Support	Scallop Strategic Plan Menu Items - Support external projects: in-season triggers, real-time data applications	Multiyear		1
HA4	Habitat	New	Action	Revise EFH designations for deep-sea red crab and Atlantic salmon	2027		0.25
SSC3	SSC	New	Support	Support SSC Workgroup on Dynamic Reference Points	Ongoing		2
EO1	EO14276-NOAA	New	Review or Action	Implement rotational access for the scallop fishery on the Northern Edge - Review of habitat management across GB/SNE/GSC to inform potential revisions - Scallop action based on existing Habitat and Groundfish regulations - Habitat action to revise HAPC and/or EFH measures	Scope Dependent	Habitat/Scallop	9 to 18
EO6	EO14276- NOAA	New	Review or Action	Consider reopening the GSC Habitat Management Area to surfclams - Review of habitat management across GB/SNE/GSC to inform potential revisions - Habitat action based on evaluation of GSC clam exemption program - Additional EFPs in 2027	Scope Dependent	Habitat	2 to 18
EO8	EO14274-NEFMC	New	Action	Monkfish management modifications - Consider measures with 2028 Specifications Package	Multi-Year	Monkfish	0 to 12
EO10	EO14274-NEFMC	New	Action	Fishery Management Plan revisions - FMP-based multiple actions as time allows	Multi-Year	Cross-FMP	2
EO11	EO14276-NEFMC	New	Review or Action	Revise exemption areas (e.g., seasons, boundaries, gear-specific) - Review of habitat management across GB/SNE/GSC to inform potential revisions - FMP-based multiple actions as time allows	Scope Dependent	Habitat/Cross-FMP	9 to 18
G6	Groundfish	New	Action	Revisions to redfish sector exemption program	Single Year		0 to 4
SC8	Scallop	New	Staff Support	Scallop Strategic Plan Menu Items - Coordinate review of automated detection technology	Multiyear		0.5
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		