

5-Sep-19	This worksheet identifies possible priorities or tasks for 2020. This list has not been prioritized by the Ex Comm.				
9/5/2019					
Number	Priority/Task Title	Status	Multi_Year	Legal/Regulatory Requirement?	Source
<b>Groundfish</b>					
1	<u>Set ABCs/ACLs for half of groundfish stocks for FY2021-2023 and US/CA stocks for FY 2021</u>			Y	Requirement
2	Complete Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring action	Ongoing	Y		
3	Cod Stock Structure Working Group: review results and develop management approach	Ongoing	Y		Jan 2012 SSC report; 2015-2018 priorities
4	Amendment to adopt limited access for the party/charter fishery		Y		Follow-up from 2019 priorities
5	Possible recreational sub-ACL for GB cod				
6	Address SDC issue when analytic assessments fail		Y		2018 priorities
7	Address commercial/recreational allocation issues if raised by new MRIP data	Ongoing	Y		
8	Modify the GF control rule for stocks without analytical models – i.e., empirical and index-based (see SSC list below, item 7 above)				SSC meeting August 2017 and 2018
9	Get input on different ways to manage recreational fishery in light of highly variable catch estimates: for example, consideration of catch error estimates under MRIP, and errors in bioeconomic model used to determine measures	Ongoing			Groundfish Committee, Sept 2017 Council meeting, 2018 priorities
10	Consider sub-ACL of haddock for the small-mesh multispecies fishery				Sept 2018 Council meeting
11	Explore alternative ways to manage yellowtail flounder for the groundfish and scallop fisheries				Sept 2018 Council meeting
12	US/CA trading provisions				Sept 2018 Council meeting
13	Action to adopt electronic reporting for party/charter vessels				June 2019 Council Meeting
14	Staff Complete sector five-year review	Ongoing	Y		NMFS catch share policy
15	Staff Groundfish operational assessments				
16	Staff TRAC/TMGC				
<b>Monkfish</b>					
17	No actions planned			Y	

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<b>Sea Scallops</b>					
18	<u>Prepare a specifications package to set FY 2021 (2022 default) specifications (i.e. setting DAS, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations, etc.).</u>			Y	Requirement
19	Complete Amendment 21: NGOM management, LAGC trip limits, state waters fishing by LAGC vessels	Ongoing	Y		
20	Support action for access to Northern Edge HMA ( see Habitat)		Y		2018 priority
21	Review and implement recommendations from 2015 scallop survey review panel				
22	Modify RSA program as recommended by RSA Program Review (see below)				
23	Performance report for the LA component				
24	Evaluate rotational management program				Committee
25	Evaluate options for harvesting slow growing scallops in Nantucket Light Ship-South Deep				Added to 2019 priorities
26	Develop limited access vessel DAS leasing pilot project suggested by East Coast Scallop Harvester's Association				September 2019 letter
27	Adjustments to scallop industry funded observer program (IFO coverage vs. required SBRM coverage, etc.)				NEFSC letter August 2017
28	Staff NMFS and PDT have annual responsibilities related to estimating scallop, yellowtail, and windowpane catch during the year (i.e. LA AM exception, re-evaluation of YT sub-ACL based on updated information).	Ongoing		Y	
29	Staff Support annual scallop RSA process, including priority setting, and technical and management reviews.	Ongoing			
<b>Herring</b>					
30	<u>Specifications for 2021-2023</u>			Y	
31	Action to adjust measures in the herring plan that potentially inhibit optimizing yield in the mackerel fishery (i.e. increase in herring incidental possession limit in the range of 2,000-40,000 pounds, modify seasonal closure of Area 1B)				
32	Action to consider GB spawning closures				
33	Staff Coordination with MAFMC, ASMFC on various herring issues (RH/S, etc.)	Ongoing			
34	Staff Atlantic herring management track stock assessment				
<b>SBRM</b>					
35	No action planned				
<b>Red Crab</b>					
36	No action planned				

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<b>Habitat</b>					
37	Initiate action to revise Habitat Management Areas on Northern Edge of Georges Bank		Y		2015 Priorities; OHA2 follow-up
38	Participate in RODA and ROSA activities				
39	Develop Council policies on additional non-fishing activities (offshore energy policies adopted 2018)	Ongoing	Y		2018 priorities
40	Staff Habitat impacts of other management actions	Ongoing	Y	Y	
41	Staff SBNMS advisory panel and ASMFC habitat committee	Ongoing			
42	Staff Develop habitat and fishery related comments on non-fishing activities, particularly wind power, in consultation with other agencies, (including NMFS, BOEM, and MAFMC). This includes addressing offshore energy development issues.	Ongoing			
43	Staff Co-chair Northeast Regional Habitat Assessment Inshore Work Team		Y		
<b>Research</b>					
43	Consider implementation of RSA Program review recommendations for the sea scallop, monkfish, and herring FMPs: 1) Form a group to address recommendations 2 and 3; 2) Form a group to design an overall strategic approach to scallop surveys and implementation and funding of the design; 3) Council, GARFO, and NEFSC evaluate and document RSA program administrative capacity.				Executive Committee implementation recommendations for RSA Program review,
44	Complete annual update to research priorities				Council Policy
45	Staff Support S-K program	Ongoing			
<b>SSC</b>					
46	Support Council activities such as <u>recommending ABCs</u> and making recommendations in the FMP development process	Ongoing		Y	
47	Understand and resolve poor assessment model performance (primarily groundfish assessments)		Y		
48	Develop consistent guidelines for application of Plan B approaches				
49	Develop ABC control rule for GB yellowtail flounder and other empirical approach stocks				August 2019 SSC meeting
<b>Enforcement, Safety, VMS</b>					
50	Continue to support enforcement, safety and VMS issues.	Ongoing			
<b>Whiting</b>					
51	<u>Set OFLs/ABCs/ACLs for 2021-2023</u>			Y	Requirement
52	<u>Complete action that addresses overfished condition/develop rebuilding plan for southern red hake</u>			Y	Requirement
53	Action to make adjustments to possession limits, seasons, transfer at sea limit, northern red hake AM or other measures				

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54	Action to address bycatch issues in the fishery				
55	Red hake research track assessment				
56	Staff <u>PDT receives annual monitoring report from Regional Office and advise Council whether management adjustments are needed</u>	Ongoing		Y	
<b>Skates</b>					
57	Prepare an amendment to consider limited access in the skate fishery	Ongoing	Y		2016 Priorities
58	Staff <u>Skate monitoring report</u>			Y	
<b>EBFM</b>					
59	Conduct information and educational workshops on EBFM, focusing on potential application to Georges Bank eFEP	Ongoing	Y		2014 Priorities
60	Conduct initial stakeholder-engaged management strategy evaluation workshops and work with the NEFSC (or others) to develop operating models to evaluate management procedures and strategies for potential application to a Georges Bank Ecosystem Production Unit.	Ongoing	Y		
61	Staff Support EBFM activities (WGNARS, SOE, etc.)				
<b>Observer Committee</b>					
62	Develop a policy and strategic approach to monitor commercial fisheries to address multiple information needs		Y		Jan 2015 Council motion; 2018 priorities
63	Recommend to NMFS policy and procedures for NEFOP "no sail" list				September 2018 Council Meeting
64	Appropriate observer protocols				September 2018 Council Meeting
65	Study issue of full retention/no discards.		Y		September 2017 Council meeting
<b>Risk Policy Working Group</b>					
66	Review implementation of Council Risk Policy				
<b>Trawl Survey AP</b>					
67	Address issues identified in AP charter	Ongoing	Y		2015 Priorities
<b>Inter-organization Activities</b>					
69	CCC Working Group participation (EM, Legislative, CMOD)				
70	NRCC Working Group Participation	Ongoing	Y		NRCC

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71		International Fisheries Management TMGC/TRAC/Steering Committee ICCAT HMS Advisory Panel/HMS FMP NAFO Commissioner	Ongoing		Y	
76	Staff	Review document preparation and approval procedures with GARFO, NEFSC (i.e. update 2014 Tiger Team report)				

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<b>Other</b>					
68	Review and implement Program Review recommendations	Ongoing	Y		
72	Support Regional Fishery Dependent Data Initiative (FDDI)	Ongoing	Y		NRCC
73	Staff Protected Species issues, including actions as necessary to review Biological Opinion and implement NARW recovery plan	Ongoing	Y		
74	Participate on Large Whale and Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Teams	Ongoing			
75	Adopt additional measures for fisheries if required by Northern Right Whale Biological Opinion		Y		September 2018 Council Meeting
77	Preliminary work on Aquaculture FMP				GARFO/NRCC initiative
78	Dialogue meeting between Council, industry, and scientists to improve communications and cooperation				September 2018 Council Meeting