2019 NEFMC Priorities Final - 01/02/2019

	UNDERLINE: REGULATORY REQUIREMENT					Italics: Not Recommended by Ex Comm				
1/2/2019	Executive Committee Recommendation									
			-							
FMP	Annual	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank	Multi-Year	Comm.	Executive	Council	Rank
Groundfish										
	Set ABCs/ACLs for all groundfish stocks for FY2020-2022 and US/CA stocks for FY 2020	√	✓	✓	9	Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring (including Fishery Data for Stock Assessment Working Group and possible workshops)	✓	✓	✓	1
	Staff: TRAC/TMGC		✓	√	12	Address SDC issue when analytic assessments fail (changed to multi-year 6/2018)				40
	Explore alternative ways to manage yellowtail flounder for the groundfish and scallop fisheries				18	Consider results of public listening sessions for possible initiation of an amendment to develop a limited access program for the party/charter fishery			✓	67
	Groundfish operational assessments		✓	✓	45	Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop		✓	✓	72
	Address commercial/recreational allocation issues if raised by new MRIP data	✓	✓	✓	50					
	Modify the GF control rule for stocks without analytical models – i.e., empirical and indexbased				50					
	US/CA Trading Provisions				50					
	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				53					
	Staff: Sector five-year review		✓	✓	58					
	Evaluate electronic reporting for recreational fishery				60					
	Consider sub-ACL of haddock for the small- mesh multispecies fishery				67					
	Specify allocation review triggers		✓	✓	75					

FMP	Annual	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank	Multi-Year	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank
	Possible recreational sub-ACL for GB cod				81					
	Modify Council policy on gear standards to			✓						
	facilitate use of gear in AMs.									
								-		
Monkfish	Monkfish specifications for 2020-2022		✓		8			-		
	MOTIVITS I Specifications for 2020-2022		V		8					
Sea Scallops										
	Prepare a specifications package to set FY 2020 (2021 default) specifications (i.e. setting DAS, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations, etc.).	✓	✓	√	2	NGOM scallop management measure changes: such as changing opening date, consistent gear restrictions, possession limits, effort controls; LAGC IFQ Trip Limits.	✓	✓	✓	24, 45
	Staff: Support annual scallop RSA process, including priority setting, and technical and management reviews.		~	√	18	Scoping/exploratory process for harvester cooperatives				80
	Evaluate rotational management program	✓	✓	✓	32					
	LAGC IFQ Trip Limit Changes	✓			45					
	Adjustments to scallop industry funded				34					
	observer program (NGOM coverage, etc.)				3.					
	NMFS and PDT have new annual responsibilities related to estimating scallop, YT, windowpane catch during the year (i.e. LA AM exception, re-evaluation of YT sub-ACL based on updated information).		✓	√	34					
	Action to modify scallop access areas to be	√			40					
	consistent with OA2 revised management areas	v			40					
	Evaluate options for harvesting slow growing	√			67					
	scallops in Nantucket Light Ship-South Deep									
	Measures to address DAS and IFQ carryover				72					
	Gear modifications to protect small scallops (extended link)				75					
	Specify allocation review triggers		✓	√	77			İ		
	Action to mitigate impacts on yellowtail flounder	✓	✓	✓	NR					

FMP	Annual	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank	Multi-Year	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank
Herring										
	Specifications for 2020-2021: revise reference points; consider different methods for RH/S catch caps; and potentially other measures	✓	✓	✓	4	Submit A8: ABC control rule and measures to address potential localized depletion and user conflicts	✓	✓	✓	5
	2019 specifications development (if needed)	✓			16	Consider spawning closures on Georges Bank: staff to work with ASMFC staff to identify possible time/area closures		~	✓	NR
	Staff: Coordination with MAFMC, ASMFC on various herring issues (RH/S, etc.)		✓	✓	45					
	Workshop to solicit feedback on MSE process	✓	✓	✓	74					
	Consider increase in herring incidental possession limit in the range of 2,000-40,000 pounds				77					
Spiny Dogfish										
Spiriy Dogrisii	Support MAFMC action to consider trip limit changes			√						
SBRM										
	No Action Planned									
Red Crab										
neu crus	Specifications for 2020-2023		✓	✓	40					
Habitat										
nabitat	Complete framework action to address surfclam access to HMAs	✓	✓	✓	12					
	Develop habitat and fishery related comments on non-fishing activities, in consultation with other agencies, (including BOEM)	✓	✓	✓	12					
	NEFMC-MAFMC Workshop on offshore wind fisheries issues	✓			16					

FMP	Annual	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank	Multi-Year	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank
	Develop Council policies on additional non- fishing activities (offshore energy policies adopted 2018)	✓	✓	√	18					
	Brief HC and Council on 2017-18 updates to SASI model and identify next steps	✓	✓	✓	34					
	Staff: Habitat impacts of other management actions	\checkmark	✓	✓	40					
	Initiate action to revise habitat management areas on Northern Edge of Georges Bank	✓			60					
	Staff: SBNMS advisory panel and ASMFC habitat committee	√	✓	✓	67					
Research Steer	ing									
	Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans				18					
	Improve RSC priority process				34					
SSC										
	Support Council activities such as recommending ABCs and making recommendations in the FMP development process		✓	✓	5					
	Understand and resolve poor assessment model performance (primarily groundfish assessments)				18					
	Develop consistent guidelines for application of Plan B approaches		✓	✓	24					
	Consider modifications to groundfish ABC control rules (see Groundfish)				58					
Enforcement, S	afety, VMS									
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Continue to support enforcement, safety and VMS issues.		✓	✓	24					
Whiting										

FMP	Annual	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank	Multi-Year	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank
	Submit final preferred alternatives with FEIS for		_		24					
	Amendment 22, limited entry		,		24					
	Address overfished condition/develop									
	rebuilding plan for southern red hake; modify		✓	✓	9, 32					
	northern red hake AM									
	Investigates sources of bycatch and adopt									
	avoidance mechanisms in the small-mesh			✓	NR					
	multispecies fishery									
	AM for small-mesh multispecies catches of				45					
	haddock (if sub-ACL adopted)				45					
	Consider whiting exemption area adjustments				63					
	Staff: PDT receives annual monitoring report from									
	Regional Office and advises Council whether		✓	✓	67					
	management adjustments are needed									
Skates										
	Skate specifications for 2020-2021		✓	✓	2	Prepare an amendment to consider limited access in the skate fishery		✓	✓	53
	Staff: Annual skate monitoring report		✓	✓	53					
EBFM										
	Support EBFM activities (WGNARS, SOE, etc.)				77	Complete example Fishery Ecosystem Plan for Georges Bank and develop a Management Strategy Evaluation process to engage fishermen and other stakeholders while conducting testing and validation.		✓	√	45
Observer Com										
Observer Con	Study issue of full retention/no discards.				34	Develop a policy and strategic approach to monitor commercial fisheries to address multiple information needs		✓	✓	5
	Policy and procedures for NEFOP "no sail" list; appropriate observer protocols		✓	✓	24,40					
Risk Policy W	orking Group									

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	Review implementation of Council Risk Policy				63					
Trawl Survey AP										
	Address issues identified in AP charter		✓	✓	24					
Other										
	Participate on Large Whale and Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Teams		✓	√	9	Fishery dependent data projects: FMAT to begin development of omnibus amendment				60
	International Fisheries Management TMGC/TRAC/Steering Committee ICCAT HMS Advisory Panel/HMS FMP NAFO Commissioner		√	√	12	Preliminary work on aquaculture FMP				82
	Adopt additional measures for fisheries if required by Northern Right Whale Biological Opinion		✓	√	23					
	NRCC Working Group Participation		✓	√	24					
	Complete review of RSA programs in sea scallops, monkfish, and herring FMPs		✓	√	24					
	Particiapte in MAFMC eVTR action			✓	NR					
	Staff: Support S-K program		✓	√	39					
	Staff: Protected Species issues		✓	✓	53					
	Consider creation of a Recreational Committee				53					
	Review and implement Program Review recommendations		✓	√	63					
	Dialogue meeting between Council, industry, and scientists				63					