

2017 Priorities for Scallop FMP

Table 1 – 2017 Scallop Priorities

1	Specifications (Reg. req.)
2	Modify AA to be consistent with OHA2
3	NGOM Management Measure Changes
4	Modify flatfish accountability measures
5	Gear modifications to protect small scallops
6	Complete LAGC IFQ Review (from 2016, final report in June)
7	Integrate findings from Sea Scallop Survey Methods Peer Review
8	STAFF: Support Annual Scallop RSA Process
9	STAFF: Annual responsibilities related to estimating scallop and flatfish catch during the year.
10	OTHER: Programmatic RSA review (Scallops, Herring, Monkfish)

Notes:

- The work items outlined in Table 1 are not in rank order. However, specifications and the development of an accountability measure for northern windowpane are regulatory requirements and will need to be developed for the start of FY 2018.
- ***NEW (post April Council meeting):*** The Council voted in April to remove gear modifications to protect small scallops from the 2017 priority list. Staff anticipate that 2017 priorities will be addressed in a single framework action (FW29) in 2017.
- Completion of the LAGC IFQ five year review is a holdover from the 2016 process, and will be a top priority for Council staff this spring.
- The programmatic RSA review has been discussed at the Council's Executive Committee, and is likely to be a joint effort between the Council, NEFSC, and GARFO.
- Assessment updates are planned for all groundfish stocks this year. This will update the sub-ACLs for the four allocated stocks, and add to the scallop PDT workload in the fall with respect to projections for several flatfish stocks.

Table 2 – Current monthly outlook for work on Scallop FMP and 2017 priorities.

2017	FW Specs Action and Mgmt Measures	RSA Priorities	5 Year IFQ Review
APR 18	NEFMC – initiated Framework 29		
MAY	PDT work on 2017 priorities	Joint PDT/AP (RSA Share Day)	
JUN	Committee / PDT develop alternatives	Develop Recommendations	
JUN 20-22	NEFMC – receives information on the development of specifications	Council Recommends 2018/2019 RSA Priorities	Final Report
JUL-SEP	Committee / PDT develop alternatives	Letter to NMFS	
SEP 26-28	NEFMC – receives information on the development of specifications		
OCT 18	SSC recommends ABC for FY17 and FY18		
OCT-NOV	Committee and PDT complete documents		
DEC 5-7	NEFMC – Council takes final action		
DEC-JAN	Council staff submits decision draft completes pre-submission		
2018			
JAN	NMFS publishes proposed rule		
JAN	EA reviewed by NMFS		
FEB	Staff completes final submission for NMFS review and approval		
March	NMFS publishes final rule		
APR 1	Target Implementation		