

NEFMC  
2017 Priorities  
4/27/2017

| 4/27/2017         | UNDERLINE: REGULATORY REQUIREMENT  |       |       |         |       | <i>Italics: Not Recommended by Ex Comm</i>  |       |       |         |      |
|-------------------|--|-------|-------|---------|-------|---|-------|-------|---------|------|
|                   | Council approved priorities  |       |       |         |       | Grey: Not approved  |       |       |         |      |
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| <b>Groundfish</b> |  |       |       |         |       |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <u>Set ABCs/ACLs for all stocks, and adjust rebuilding plans as required;</u> to include common pool trimester quota changes   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 5/58  | Monitoring amendment (to include measures not addressed in FW 55; possibly to include EM) | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 6    |
|                   | Process for review of groundfish catch in other fisheries; to include state water and other sub-component analysis review, identifying those stocks and segments of the fishery where sub-component catch exceeds 5 percent and determine if additional sub-ACLs are needed. | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 37    | Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop   |       | ✓     | ✓       | 31   |
|                   | Revise Atlantic halibut management measures  | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 12    | <i>Amendment to consider limited entry in the groundfish party/charter fishery</i>        | ✓     |       |         | 62   |
|                   | Operational assessment of all stocks   |       | ✓     | ✓       | NR    | <i>Develop alternative strategies for setting catch advice for stability in ACLs</i>      |       |       |         | 25   |
|                   | <i>Investigate reclassification of both windowpane flounder stocks as Ecosystem Component Species, or other approaches that will improve flexibility.</i>  |       |       | ✓       | NR    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Improve recreational management measure process for GOM cod and GOM haddock, and include changes in 2017 framework adjustment</i>   |       |       | ✓       | NR    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | Staff: TMGC/TRAC   |       | ✓     | ✓       | 11    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Timing of recreational management measures and possible sub-ACL for GB cod</i>  |       |       |         | 47/64 |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Modifications to common pool regulations: HA exemptions from broad stock area provisions</i>  |       |       |         | 58    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Adjust exemption areas as necessary due to OHA2 changes (GenCat sea scallop, whiting, etc.; may be better addressed by other Committees)</i>  | ✓     |       |         | 31    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Specify allocation review triggers</i>  |       |       |         | 51    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Electronic reporting for party/charter vessels</i>  |       |       |         | 42    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Staff: Five year sector review</i>  |       |       |         | 51    |   |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Monkfish</b>   |  |       |       |         |       |   |       |       |         |      |
|                   | <i>Action to address strategies for better utilization of the TAL for NFMA and SFMA</i>  | ✓     |       |         | 17    | <i>Re-initiate Monkfish Amendment 6 to consider catch shares and DAS leasing</i>          | ✓     |       |         | NR   |
|                   | Staff: Research Set Aside  |       | ✓     | ✓       | NR    |   |       |       |         |      |

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| <b>Sea Scallops</b> |   |       |       |         |      |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | <u>Prepare a specifications package to set FY 2018 and 2019 (2020 default) specifications (i.e. setting DAS, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations, etc.).</u> Clarification needed on whether this is for one or two year specifications. | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 1    |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | Framework action to modify scallop access areas to be consistent with OA2 revised areas (including CAI carry-over trips in the north)   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 6    |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | NGOM scallop management measure changes: such as changing opening date, consistent gear restrictions, possession limits, effort controls.   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 14   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | Modify flatfish AMs   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 31   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | Gear modifications to protect small scallops (extended link) (CANCELLED April 2017)   | ✓     | ✓     |         | 27   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | Complete LAGC review (final report April 2017)  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 14   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | Staff: Support annual scallop RSA process, including priority setting, and technical and management reviews.  | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 36   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | Staff: NMFS and PDT have new <u>annual responsibilities related to estimating scallop and YT catch during the year</u> (i.e. LA AM exception, re-evaluation of YT sub-ACL based on updated information).  | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 17   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | <i>Integrate findings from Sea Scallop Survey Methods Peer Review (process TBD, but may include additional review of how surveys are combined for management advice)</i>  |       |       | ✓       | 43   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | <i>RSA program review and modifications</i>   | ✓     |       |         | 17   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | <i>Measures to address high-grading of scallops and reduce discard mortality</i>  |       |       |         | 27   |            |       |       |         |      |
|                     | <i>Specify allocation review triggers</i>   |       |       |         | 51   |            |       |       |         |      |
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| <b>Herring</b>           |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | EM Pilot Project   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 17   | Amendment to address ABC control rule, localized depletion        | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 2    |
|                          | Staff: Preparation for 2018 benchmark  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 22   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>Update of RH/S white paper in preparation for reconsideration of RH/S as stocks in the fishery in 2018.</i> |       |       |         | 51   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>Set control date</i>  | ✓     |       |         | NR   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>Consider mesasure that would move ACL from one area to another in-season</i>                                |       |       |         | NR   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>Staff: Coordination with MAFMC, ASMFC on various herring issues (RH/S, etc.)</i>                            |       |       |         | 47   |   |       |       |         |      |
| <b>SBRM</b>              |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>No Action Planned</i>   |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | Amend SBRM to address lobster trap fishing mode (NMFS lead)  |       | ✓     | ✓       | NR   |   |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Red Crab</b>          |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>No Action Planned</i>   |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Habitat</b>           | <i>(No Committee recommendations)</i>  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | Complete Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 6    | Coordinate wind power issues with other agencies/spatial planning |       | ✓     | ✓       | 42   |
|                          | Framework action to address surfclam access to HMAs  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 6    |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | Staff: Update and further development of the SASI model  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 51   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | Staff: <u>Habitat impacts of other management actions</u>  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 42   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | Staff: ASMFC Habitat Committee   |       | ✓     | ✓       | NR   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>Staff: SBNMS Advisory Council</i>   |       |       |         | 66   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>Staff: Monitor and comment on EFH consultations for major project, coordinated with GARFO HCD</i>           |       |       |         | 58   |   |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Research Steering</b> |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | <i>Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans.</i>  |       |       | ✓       | 14   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                          | Staff: Support S-K program   |       | ✓     | ✓       | 37   |   |       |       |         |      |

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| <b>SSC</b>                      |   |       |       |         |      |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Support SSC activities such as <u>recommending ABCs</u> and making recommendations in the FMP development process   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 4    |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Understand and resolve poor assessment model performance (primarily groundfish assessments)   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 17   |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Develop consistent guidelines for application of Plan B approaches  | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 37   |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | <i>Consider modifications to groundfish ABC control rules</i>   | ✓     |       |         | 31   |  |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Enforcement, Safety, VMS</b> |   |       |       |         |      |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Continue to support enforcement, safety and VMS issues.   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 47   |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | <i>Develop cod end certification program</i>  | ✓     |       |         | 67   |  |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Whiting</b>                  |   |       |       |         |      |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Develop final and preferred alternatives for Draft Amendment 22, limited entry; consider changes to possession limits for silver and offshore hake; conduct public hearings | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 25   |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | <u>Develop 2018-2020 sSpecifications document for red, silver, and offshore hake stocks.</u> Consider modifications to exemption area dates.                                | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 10   |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Staff: <u>PDT receives annual monitoring report from Regional Office and advises Council whether management adjustments are needed</u>                                      | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 63   |  |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Skates</b>                   |   |       |       |         |      |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Initiate action to allow landing of barndoor skates   | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | NR   | Prepare an amendment to consider limited access in the skate fishery; may include catch share alternatives | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 31   |
|                                 | Specifications for 2018-2019  | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 2    |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | <u>Action to modify in-season adjustments to skate trip limits (added April 2017)</u>   |       |       | ✓       | NR   |  |       |       |         |      |
|                                 | Staff: <u>Annual monitoring report</u>  | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 27   |  |       |       |         |      |
| <b>EBFM</b>                     |   |       |       |         |      |  |       |       |         |      |

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|                                  | Assist in development of MREP EBFM module  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 69   | 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. | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 31   |
| <b>Observer Committee</b>        |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  |  |       |       |         |      | Develop policy for monitoring commercial fisheries to address multiple information needs; strategic approach to bycatch monitoring  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 12   |
| <b>Risk Policy Working Group</b> |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | <i>No Action Planned</i>   |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Trawl Survey AP</b>           |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | Address issues identified in AP charter  | ✓     | ✓     | ✓       | 42   |   |       |       |         |      |
| <b>Other</b>                     |  |       |       |         |      |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | NRCC Working Group Participation   |       | ✓     | ✓       | 23   | Fishery dependent data (NERO lead)  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 27   |
|                                  | International Fisheries Management<br>TMGC/TRAC/Steering Committee<br>ICCAT<br>HMS Advisory Panel/HMS FMP<br>NAFO Commissioner |       | ✓     | ✓       | 23   | <i>Preliminary work on aquaculture FMP</i>  |       |       |         | NR   |
|                                  | Support for NERP; implementation of Regional Ocean Plan; support to data portal  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 58   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | Programmatic review of Council operations  |       | ✓     | ✓       | 51   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | Coordinated review of RSA programs in sea scallops, monkfish, and herring FMPs (see also RSA items above under scallop FMP)    |       | ✓     | ✓       | 47   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | Coordination of fluke/BSB/scup management with MAFMC   |       | ✓     | ✓       | 42   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | <i>Staff: Protected Species issues</i>   |       |       |         | 58   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | <i>Modify permitting restrictions to allow permit splitting</i>  |       |       |         | 65   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | <i>Modify vessel upgrade restrictions: limit upgrades through restrictions on VHP and weight rather than VHP and length</i>    |       |       |         | 67   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | <i>Staff: Identify high-carbon regulations</i>   |       |       |         | 70   |   |       |       |         |      |
|                                  | <i>Council strategic plan development</i>  |       |       |         | 58   |   |       |       |         |      |

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