

2018 Priorities
Council Approved Actions

7/6/2018

UNDERLINE: REGULATORY REQUIREMENT						<i>Italics: Not Recommended by Ex Comm</i>				
7/6/2018										
FMP	Annual	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank	Multi-Year	Comm.	Executive Committee	Council	Rank
Groundfish										
	<u>Revise rebuilding plans as needed (ocean pout, GB winter flounder, witch flounder, GOM/GB windowpane flounder, SNE/MA yellowtail flounder); set ABCs/ACLs for US/CA stocks;additional guidance on sector overages</u>		✓	✓	4/18/18	ASM action/Amendment 23 (including work groups/workshops necessary and working group on how fishery dependent data can be used to inform stock abundance).		✓	✓	4
						Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop		✓	✓	67
	<i>Process for review of groundfish catch in other fisheries</i>				72	<i>Scope limited entry in the groundfish party/charter fishery</i>			✓	75
						<i>Develop alternative strategies for setting catch advice for stability in ACLs</i>				18
	Address allocation issues if raised by new MRIP data		✓	✓	50	<u>Address SDC issue when analytic assessments fail (changed to multi-year 6/2018)</u>		✓	✓	18
	<i>Develop amendment that considers changes to management status of windowpane flounder stocks</i>				57					
	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		✓	✓	50					
	Staff: TRAC/TMGC		✓	✓	13					
	Possible recreational sub-ACL for GB cod		✓		65					
	<i>Modify the GF control rule for stocks without analytical models – i.e., empirical and index-based (see SSC list below, item 9 above)</i>				35					
	<i>Adjust exemption areas as necessary due to OHA2 changes (GenCat sea scallop, whiting, etc.; may be better addressed by other Committees)</i>				47					
	Specify allocation review triggers		✓	✓	63					

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	Consider requirement for eVTRs in the party/charter recreational fishery		✓		35					
	Staff: Sector five-year review		✓	✓	54					
Monkfish										
	<i>Staff: Research Set Aside</i>				NR					
Sea Scallops										
	<u>Prepare a specifications package to set FY 2019 and 2020 (2021 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. Develop standard default measures (added 4/2018).	✓	✓	✓	1	<i>Amendment to consider harvester associations</i>				78
	Framework action to modify scallop access areas to be consistent with OA2 revised management areas	✓	✓	✓	13	NGOM scallop management measure changes: such as changing opening date, consistent gear restrictions, possession limits, effort controls. Minimal activity in 2018.	✓	✓	✓	16
	<i>Action to consider increasing General Category trip limits</i>	✓		✓	57					
	Gear modifications to protect small scallops (extended link) (removed 4/2018)	✓	✓		35					
	<i>Measures to address DAS and IFQ carryover</i>				67					
	Staff: Support annual scallop RSA process, including priority setting, and technical and management reviews.		✓	✓	29					
	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).		✓	✓	18					

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	2018 benchmark. Integrate findings from 2018 benchmark (process TBD, but may include additional review of how surveys are combined for management advice)	✓	✓	✓	9					
	<i>RSA program review and modifications</i>				42					
	Specify allocation review triggers		✓	✓	73					
	Monitoring and catch accounting provisions		✓	✓	29					
	<i>Adjustments to scallop industry funded observer program (NGOM coverage, etc.)</i>				18					
Herring										
	Specifications for 2019-2021; consider different stratification for RH/S in SA 521		✓	✓	1	Amendment 8: MSE for ABC control rule and measures to address localized depletion		✓	✓	9
	2018 benchmark assessment		✓	✓	4					
	Update of RH/S white paper and reconsideration of RH/S as stocks that need conservation and management (i.e. "stocks in the fishery")		✓	✓	29					
	Staff: Coordination with MAFMC, ASMFC on various herring issues (RH/S, etc.)		✓	✓	43					
	<i>EM MWT Pilot Project</i>				26					
SBRM										
	<i>No Action Planned</i>									
Red Crab										
	<i>No Action Planned</i>									

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Habitat	<i>(No Committee recommendations)</i>									
	Complete Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment		✓	✓		Coordinate wind power issues with other agencies/spatial planning		✓	✓	NR
	Framework action to address surfclam access to HMAs		✓	✓	9					
	Staff: Update and further development of the SASI model		✓	✓	57					
	Staff: <u>Habitat impacts of other management actions</u>		✓	✓	47					
	Staff: ASMFC Habitat Committee		✓	✓	NR					
	Staff: SBNMS Advisory Council		✓	✓	73					
	Develop habitat and fishery related comments on non-fishing activities, in consultation with other agencies, (including BOEM)		✓	✓	29					
	<i>Develop Council policies on non-fishing activities</i>				43					
Research Steering										
	Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans	✓	✓	✓	26					
	Staff: Support S-K program	✓	✓	✓	54					
	Improve RSC priority process	✓	✓	✓	29					
SSC										
	Support Council activities such as <u>recommending ABCs</u> and making recommendations in the FMP development process	✓	✓	✓	4					
	<i>Understand and resolve poor assessment model performance (primarily groundfish assessments)</i>	✓			12					
	<i>Develop consistent guidelines for application of Plan B approaches</i>	✓			18					
	<i>Consider modifications to groundfish ABC control rules (see Groundfish)</i>	✓			26					

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Enforcement, Safety, VMS										
	Continue to support enforcement, safety and VMS issues.	✓	✓	✓	47					
Whiting										
	Submit final preferred alternatives with FEIS for Amendment 22, limited entry	✓	✓	✓	54					
	<u>Address overfished condition/develop rebuilding plan for southern red hake; modify northern red hake AM; consider whiting exemption area adjustments</u>	✓	✓	✓	8/35/50					
	Staff: <u>PDT receives annual monitoring report from Regional Office and advises Council whether management adjustments are needed</u>	✓	✓	✓	61					
Skates										
	<i>Submit action to allow landing thorny skate caught by vessels fishing in the NAFO area</i>				50	Prepare an amendment to consider limited access in the skate fishery		✓	✓	61
	<i>Action to modify skate wing possession limits</i>			✓	NR					
	Staff: Annual skate monitoring report		✓	✓	61					
EBFM										
	Assist in development of MREP EBFM module		✓	✓	67	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.		✓	✓	57
Observer Committee										
	<i>Study issue of full retention/no discards.</i>				35	Develop a policy and strategic approach to monitor commercial fisheries to address multiple information needs		✓	✓	29
Risk Policy Working Group										
	<i>No Action Planned</i>									

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Trawl Survey AP										
	Address issues identified in AP charter		✓	✓	61					
Other										
	NRCC Working Group Participation		✓	✓	35	Fishery dependent data projects: FMAT to begin development of omnibus amendment		✓	✓	43
	International Fisheries Management TMGC/TRAC/Steering Committee ICCAT HMS Advisory Panel/HMS FMP NAFO Commissioner		✓	✓	16	<i>Preliminary work on aquaculture FMP</i>				77
	Support for NERP; implementation of Regional Ocean Plan; support to data portal		✓	✓	61					
	Complete programmatic review of Council operations		✓	✓	18					
	Complete review of RSA programs in sea scallops, monkfish, and herring FMPs (see also RSA items above under scallop FMP)		✓	✓	13					
	Participate on Large Whale and Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Teams		✓	✓	35					
	<i>Staff: Protected Species issues</i>				67					
	<i>Develop measures necessary to encourage use of fuel-efficient fishing vessels</i>				81					
	<i>Develop Forage Fish Amendment, possibly in partnership with ASMFC</i>				65					
	<i>Consider creating a Seal Oversight Committee</i>				75					
	<i>Review structure of Recreational Advisory Panel and whether it should be a stand-alone committee that reports directly to the Council</i>				79					
	<i>Consider creating a Sand Eel Oversight Committee</i>				79					
	Regulatory review - response to EOs		✓	✓	NR					