

NEFMC Final 2014 Priorities

2/28/2014	UNDERLINE: REGULATORY REQUIREMENT				Italics: Not Recommended by Ex Comm			
FMP								
	Annual	Comm.	ExCom	Council	Multi-Year	Comm.	ExCom	Council
Groundfish								
	<u>Set specs for WFL, pollock stocks (and perhaps others)</u>	✓	✓	✓	Continue to coordinate action on the Habitat Omnibus Amendment to include possible modifications of the Groundfish closed areas.	✓	✓	✓
	<u>Set specs for US/CA stocks for 2015</u>	✓	✓	✓	Continue Amendment 18 to consider fleet diversity and accumulation caps.	✓	✓	✓
	FW to modify windowpane flounder AMs (<i>adopted February 2014</i>)			✓	Develop alternative strategies for setting catch advice for stability in ACLs	✓	✓	✓
	EM and full retention	✓	✓	✓	Consider trading of quota under US/CA Understanding/TMGC (measured progress)	✓	?	✓
	<i>Revisit MA exemption area eastern boundary (New, October 2013)</i>				<i>ACE Trading between scallop/groundfish fisheries</i>	✓		
	Staff: TMGC/TRAC		✓	✓	Process for review of groundfish catch in other fisheries			✓
	Staff: EM Working Group		✓	✓	Staff: Cod Stock Structure Workshop (as time permits)		✓	✓
	Staff: 2014 Assessment Updates		✓	✓	Consider changes to spawning closures (<i>delayed February 2014</i>)	✓	✓	✓
Monkfish								
					Continue Monkfish Amendment 6 for modifications to DAS program (including leasing) and catch shares (sectors and IFQs).		✓	✓
	Staff: Research Set Aside		✓	✓				

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Sea Scallops								
	<u>Prepare a framework to set FY 2015-2016 specifications (i.e. setting DAS, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations).</u>	✓	✓	✓	Modify scallop access areas to be consistent with OA2 revised areas	✓	✓	✓
	<i>NGOM Management Area Measures for Limited Access Vessels</i>				<i>Consider modifying the small dredge exemption program.</i>			
	<i>Measure to address 5% allocation versus % of actual catch for LAGC fishery (specifically expand current disclaimer to include LAGC fishery as well that allows catch above ACL if updated projection of F lower);</i>				<i>Amendment 17 - Coordinate action with Groundfish Cte to develop strategies to manage YT flounder bycatch under the Scallop FMP. This action would focus on YT initially, but could be expanded to other bycatch species if needed.</i>			
	Staff: Research Set Aside		✓	✓	<i>Revise funding source for scallop observers</i>			
	Staff: Scallop survey review		✓		Staff: Support and analyses for Habitat Omnibus Amendment in terms of potential impacts of new EFH measures on scallop fishery		✓	✓
	Staff: Scallop benchmark assessment		✓	✓				
	Staff: Annual catch monitoring		✓	✓				
	Staff: LAGC IFQ performance review		✓	✓				
Herring								
	Action to address disapproved A5 issues (dealer reporting, slippage)	✓	✓	✓	<i>Prepare an amendment to consider river herring/shad as stocks in the fishery (TBD)</i>			
	<i>Review ABC control rules</i>				MAFMC River Herring/Shad Management Coordination		✓	✓
	Industry-funded monitoring issues	✓	✓	✓				
	Staff: Prepare paper on RH/S stocks in the fishery issue		✓	✓				

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SBRM								
	No Action Planned		✓	✓				
	Staff: Input on SBRM final amendment document		✓	✓				
Red Crab								
	<i>Consider allowing landing of female red crab and modify specs accordingly</i>							
Habitat								
	Continue Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment with range of alternatives already approved as part of the Omnibus EFH Amendment 2 process (as time and resources permit)		✓	✓	Continue Omnibus Habitat Amendment (expected implementation 2015)		✓	✓
	Staff: Habitat impacts of other management actions		✓	✓				
	Staff: SBNMS Advisory Committee		✓	✓				
Research Steering								
	Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans.		✓	✓				
	Collaborative Research Project		✓	✓				
SSC								
	Support SSC activities		✓	✓				
Enforcement, Safety, VMS								
	Continue to support enforcement, safety and VMS issues.		✓	✓				

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Whiting								
	<u>Set specs for 2015 through 2017 pending stock assessment update (date in 2014 for assessment yet to be determined)</u>		✓	✓	Prepare an Amendment for limited access/catch shares to the whiting fishery and other issues: groundfish AMs,		✓	✓
	Consider GB YTF AM changes		✓	✓				
Skates								
	<u>Action to end overfishing on thorny, winter skates</u>	✓	✓	✓	<i>Prepare an amendment to consider limited access in the skate fishery</i>	✓		
	<u>Staff: Annual monitoring report</u>		✓	✓				
EBFM								
					Prepare Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management Plan.		✓	✓
Hagfish								
					<i>Prepare new Hagfish FMP</i>			
Vessel Baseline Amendment								
	Prepare Amendment to respond to NRCC working group recommendations to simplify vessel baseline, upgrade, and replacement restrictions. [NMFS lead – Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published on October 5, 2011]		✓	✓				
Observer Committee								
	Organize and address observer issues			✓				

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Other								
	Develop a strategy including goals and objectives, issues and recommendations to improve monitoring in all FMPs.		✓	✓	Fishery dependent data (NERO lead)		✓	✓
	Risk Policy Working Group (old ABCCRWG)		✓	✓	<i>Omnibus Permit Splitting Amendment</i>	✓		
	EM Working Group		✓	✓				
	NRCC SAW Working Group Participation		✓	✓				
	US/CA Steering Committee		✓	✓				
	Executive Committee review/revise priority setting process		✓	✓				
	Climate Change Workshop with ASMFC and MAFMC		✓	✓				
	Omnibus Industry Funded Monitoring Amendment (NERO lead)		✓	✓				