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## **NEFMC TIMELINES**

**January 26, 2010**

- 1. Groundfish**
- 2. Scallops**
- 3. Herring**
- 4. Whiting**
- 5. Habitat Omnibus Amendment**
- 6. Monkfish**
- 7. Red crab**

**TIMELINE # 1**

**COUNCIL ACTION: Scallop Amendment 15**

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Deirdre Boelke  
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: August 1, 2010  
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: March 1, 2011

MILESTONES		DATES
1.	<b>Council approves Amendment alternatives for analysis in DSEIS</b>	<b>FEB/APR 2009</b>
2.	Scallop PDT prepares Draft Amendment /DSEIS	FEB – JUN 2009
3.	<b>Council approves Draft Amendment/DSEIS and selects preferred alternatives</b>	<b>SEP 2009</b>
4.	Staff submits DEIS	OCT-NOV 2009
5.	Public hearings	FEB 2010
6.	<b>Council approves final Amendment measures</b>	<b>JUN 2010</b>
7.	Staff submits final Amendment to NMFS	AUG 1, 2010
8.	Implementation	MAR 2011

**COUNCIL ACTION: Scallop Framework 21 - 2010 scallop specifications, adjustments to observer program & measures to comply with turtle biological opinion**

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: Nov 2009  
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: March 1, 2010

MILESTONES		DATES
1.	Council initiates framework	APR 2009
2.	Staff begins work on framework	MAY 2009
3.	<b>Council approves framework</b>	<b>NOV 2009</b>
4.	Staff submits framework to NMFS	JAN? 2009
5.	Implementation	MAY? 2010

**COUNCIL ACTION: Scallop Framework 22 – 2011-2012 scallop specifications under ACL management**

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: Oct 2010  
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Mar 1, 2011

MILESTONES		DATES
1.	Council initiates framework	APR 2010
2.	Staff begins work on framework	JUL 2010
3.	<b>Council approves framework</b>	<b>SEP 2010</b>
4.	Staff submits framework to NMFS	OCT 2010
5.	Implementation	MAR 2011

**TIMELINE # 2**

**COUNCIL ACTION: Multispecies Amendment 16**

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Tom Nies  
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: July 2009  
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: May 1, 2010

MILESTONES	DATES
<b>1. Council approves Amendment 16 alternatives for analysis in DEIS</b>	<b>FEB 2009</b>
2. Groundfish PDT prepares Draft Amendment /DSEIS	FEB-MAR 2009
3. Public hearings	APR/MAY 2009
<b>4. Council approves final Amendment 16 measures</b>	<b>JUN 2009</b>
5. Staff submits final Amendment 16 to NMFS	SEP 2009
6. Implementation	MAY 2010

**COUNCIL ACTION: Framework 44 - 2010-2011 Groundfish Specifications & measures to address common pool management issues for GOM Cod and Pollock**

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: Dec 2009  
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: May 1, 2010

MILESTONES	DATES
1. Staff begins work on specifications	AUG 2009
<b>2. Council approves specifications</b>	<b>NOV 2009</b>
3. Staff submits specifications package to NMFS	JAN 2010
4. Implementation	MAY 2010

UPDATED: 11 SEP 2009

**TIMELINE # 3**

PROJECT MANAGER: Lori L. Steele

PROJECT TITLE: **2010-2012 Specifications**

OBJECTIVE: **Specifications for 2010-2012 fishing years using new stock assessment**

MILESTONES	PLANNED
1. TRAC Stock Assessment for Atlantic Herring	JUNE 2009
2. Herring PDT works with SSC to develop recommendations re. ABC and address scientific uncertainty	JULY-SEPT 2009
3. SSC reviews stock assessment results, PDT recommendations, and provides recommendations for ABC, etc. for 2010-2012 fishing years	AUGUST-SEPT 2009
4. Committee, Advisory Panel, and PDT review stock assessment results and begin to draft options for ACLs and 2010-2012 fishery specifications	AUGUST-SEPT 2009
<b>5. Council reviews SSC recommendations (ABC), discusses fishery specifications (ACLs)</b>	<b>SEPT 2009</b>
6. Committee, Advisory Panel, and PDT work on options for ACLs; Committee (and ASMFC) develops recommendations for final 2010-2012 specifications	OCT-NOV 2009
<b>7. Council selects final 2010-2012 fishery specifications, approves research recommendations for 2011-2012 RSAs</b>	<b>NOV 2009</b>
8. Staff submits specifications for 2010-2012 fishing years	DEC 2009
9. Implementation of 2010-2012 specifications	ASAP

PROJECT TITLE: **Herring Amendment 4**

OBJECTIVE: **Address MSRA requirements including ACL/AM provisions**

MILESTONES	PLANNED
1. Committee, Advisory Panel, and PDT review stock assessment results and begin to draft options for ACLs and 2010-2012 fishery specifications	AUGUST-SEPT 2009
<b>2. Council addresses any outstanding issues re. Amendment 4 (ACLs/AMs)</b>	<b>SEPT 2009</b>
3. Committee, Advisory Panel, and PDT work on options for ACLs;	OCT-NOV 2009
<b>4. Council finalizes Amendment 4 (with ACLs/AMs)</b>	<b>JAN 2010</b>
5. Staff submits Amendment 4	FEB 2009
6. Implementation	AUG 2010

**PROJECT TITLE: Herring Amendment 5**

**OBJECTIVE: Include all other elements originally in Amendment 4 but which could not be included because of time constraints**

- Catch monitoring program for the herring fishery
- Measures to address river herring bycatch
- Measures to establish criteria for access to groundfish closed areas by midwater trawl vessels
- Measures to address interactions with the Atlantic mackerel fishery and bycatch concerns

<b>MILESTONES</b>	<b>PLANNED</b>
1. Herring Committee, PDT, and Advisory Panel continue development of alternatives for Amendment 5	JAN – MAY 2010
<b>2. Council approves Amendment 5 alternatives for analysis in DSEIS</b>	<b>JUN 2010</b>
<b>3. Council approves Draft Amendment 5/DSEIS and public hearing document and selects preferred alternatives</b>	<b>SEP 2010</b>
4. Herring Amendment 5 Public Hearings	OCT/NOV 2010
<b>5. Council reviews public and advisor comments and O/S recommendations; approves final Amendment 5 measures</b>	<b>JAN 2011</b>
6. Staff submits Amendment 5	FEB 2011
7. Amendment 5 Implementation	JUL/AUG 2011

**TIMELINE # 4**

**COUNCIL ACTION: Whiting (Small Mesh Multispecies) Amendment 19**

OBJECTIVE: ACLs, AMs, Specifications for 2011, 2012 and 2013 (NO LIMITED ACCESS & NO DEIS)

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Andrew Applegate  
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: OCT 2011  
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 1, 2012

MILESTONES	DATES
1. Council receives results of whiting assessment	JAN 2011
2. SSC recommends ABC	JAN-FEB 2011
3. Council approves alternatives for analysis	APR 2011
4. PDT prepares Draft Amendment	APR/MAY 2011
5. Council approves Draft Amendment and selects preferred alternatives	JUN 2011
6. Public hearings	AUG 2010
7. Council approves final amendment measures	SEP 2011
8. Staff submits final amendment to NMFS	OCT 2011
9. Implementation	MAY 2012

**(WITH LIMITED ACCESS & DEIS)**

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: DEC 2011  
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: JUL 1, 2012

MILESTONES	DATES
1. Council receives results of whiting assessment	JAN 2011
2. SSC recommends ABC	JAN-FEB 2011
3. Council approves alternatives for analysis in DEIS	APR 2011
4. PDT prepares Draft Amendment /DEIS	MAY – AUG 2011
5. Council approves Draft Amendment/DEIS and selects preferred alternatives	SEP 2011
6. Public hearings	OCT 2011
7. Council approves final amendment measures	NOV 2011
8. Staff submits final amendment to NMFS	DEC 2011
9. Implementation	JUL 2012

**TIMELINE # 5**

PROJECT MANAGER: Michelle Bachman

PROJECT TITLE: **Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2, Phases I & II**

SUPPORTS COUNCIL PRIORITY #:

**GOAL: Develop Omnibus Habitat Amendment to designate EFH for all managed species, HAPCs as necessary, and minimize the adverse effects of fishing on EFH to the extent practicable in a consistent manner across all FMPs**

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: Oct 2010 (FEIS, Phases I&II combined)

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: March 1, 2011

MILESTONES	PLANNED
<b>1. Council approves Phase I DEIS</b>	<b>June, 2007</b>
<b>2. Council approves Great South Channel Juvenile Cod HAPC</b>	<b>September, 2007</b>
<b>3. Council approves revised Canyon-area HAPCs</b>	<b>November, 2007</b>
4. PDT develops vulnerability assessment, spatial model and gear effects model (SASI model)	December, 2007 – February, 2009
<b>5. SSC review of analysis tool (SASI model)</b>	<b>March, 2009</b>
6. Committee and Council receive SSC review results	April, 2009
7. PDT continues development of analysis tool	April – October, 2009
8. Committee, Advisory Panel and interested parties model review	October, 2009
9. Committee approves analysis tool (SASI model) for review by SSC	October, 2009
10. Committee develops alternatives to minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse effects of fishing on EFH	October 2009 – January, 2010
<b>11. SSC review of revised analysis tool (SASI model)</b>	<b>December, 2009</b>
<b>12. Council receives final SSC review results</b>	<b>January, 2010</b>
<b>13. Council approves range of alternatives for analysis</b>	<b>April, 2010</b>
14. PDT analyzes fishing impacts minimization alternatives	April 2010 – June 2010
9. Advisory Panel reviews fishing impacts minimization alternatives	July, 2010
10. Committee finalizes fishing impacts minimization alternatives for Council approval	July, 2010
<b>11. Council approves fishing impacts minimization alternatives, Phase II EIS and public hearing document and selects preferred alternatives</b>	<b>September, 2010</b>
12. Staff submits Omnibus 2 EIS (combining EFH designation and impacts minimization alternatives)	October, 2010
15. NMFS publishes NOA, starts public hearings (45-day DSEIS comment period)	December, 2010
13. Public hearings, Omnibus 2 EIS	December, 2010 – January 2011
<b>16. Council approves Omnibus 2 EIS</b>	<b>April, 2011</b>
17. Staff submits Omnibus 2 FEIS	May, 2011
18. Implementation	September 1, 2011

**TIMELINE # 6**

**COUNCIL ACTION: Monkfish Amendment 5**

OBJECTIVE: ACLs, AMs, Specifications for 2011, 2012 and 2013

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Phil Haring

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: Aug 2010

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: May 1, 2011

MILESTONES	DATES
1. Staff begins work on amendment	JAN 2009
2. Scoping meetings	MAR 2009
3. AP, Committee develop alternatives for Council consideration	APR-MAY 2009
<b>4. Council approves alternatives for analysis in Draft Amendment</b>	<b>JUN 2009</b>
5. PDT prepares Draft Amendment	JUL- OCT 2009
<b>6. Council approves Draft Amendment/EA and selects preferred alternatives</b>	<b>NOV 2009</b>
7. Public hearings	JAN/FEB 2010
8. AP, Committee review public comment, analysis, recommends final measures	FEB-MAR 2010
<b>9. Council approves final amendment measures</b>	<b>APR 2010</b>
10. Staff/PDT drafts Final EIS, RIR, IRFA, etc.	May 2010
<b>11. Council approves final document and draft regulations</b>	<b>JUN 2010</b>
12. Staff submits final amendment to NMFS, begin formal review	AUG 2010
13. Implementation	MAY 2011



**TIMELINE # 7**

**COUNCIL ACTION: Red Crab Specifications for 2010**

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Not yet assigned

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: October 2009

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: March 1, 2010

The Council will complete specifications for 2010 following emergency action taken be NMFS to implement 2009 specifications.

MILESTONES	DATES
1. Work begins on specifications	JUL 2009
2. SSC reports ABC recommendation to Council	SEP 2009
<b>3. Council approves specifications</b>	<b>NOV 2009</b>
4. Staff submits specifications to NMFS	JAN 2009
5. Implementation	MAR 2010

**COUNCIL ACTION: Red Crab Amendment 5 - ACLs, AMs, Specifications for 2011–2012**

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Not yet assigned

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: October 2010

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: March 1, 2011

An EIS is not anticipated for this amendment since it will implement ACLs and AMs based on an ABC that already will have been established in the 2009 and 2010 specifications.

MILESTONES	DATES	Revised
1. Work begins on amendment	OCT 2009	OCT 2009
<b>2. SSC recommends ABC/ABC control rule</b>	<b>SEP 2009</b>	<b>MAR 2010</b>
<b>3. Council approves alternatives for analysis</b>	<b>NOV 2009</b>	<b>APR 2010</b>
4. Preparation of Draft Amendment	DEC–JAN 2010	MAY 2010
5. Public hearings	MAR 2010	MAY/JUN2010
<b>6. Council approves final amendment measures</b>	<b>APR 2010</b>	JUN 2010
7. Staff submits final amendment to NMFS	JUN 2010	JUL 2010
8. Implementation	MAR 2011	MAR 2011

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# January 28, 2010 Priorities Discussion

## November Council Motion

"to put above the line, a joint scallop/groundfish action for the specific purpose of addressing the yellowtail flounder issue and come up with the necessary action to allow groundfish sectors to transfer yellowtail flounder ACE to allow the formation of scallop/yellowtail flounder bycatch sectors or other catch share mechanisms." (17-0)

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## What Problem Do We Want To Solve?

- Not enough yellowtail flounder available for the scallop fishery?
- Not enough yellowtail flounder available for the groundfish fishery?
- No individual accountability for scallop vessel catches of yellowtail flounder?
- Create additional YTF markets for groundfish sectors?

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## Scallop Fishery YTF Catches

- Scallop fishery catches, 2004 - 2008:
  - GB YTF: 87 - 254 mt
  - SNE/MA YTF: 19 - 106 mt
  - CC/GOM YTF: 5 - 34 mt
- Projected catches, 2010 - 2012
  - GB YTF: 110 - 353 mt
  - SNE/MA YTF: 96 - 151 mt
  - CC/GOM YTF: 18 - 35 mt

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**Projected Scallop YTF Catches  
As Percent of U.S. ABC**

	CC	GB	SNE/MA
2010	3.5%	9.2%	22.5%
2011	2.2%	18.8%	12.4%
2012	2.5%	25.9%	13.5%

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**Groundfish Fishery Catches of  
Yellowtail Flounder**

- Catches, 2004 – 2008
  - GB YTF (U.S.): ~1,000 – 6,000 mt
  - SNE/MA YTF: ~250 – 500 mt
  - CC/GOM YTF: ~650 – 1,100 mt
- Approximate catches at ABC control rule
  - GB YTF: 5,740 mt (U.S. only)
  - SNE/MA YTF: 5,584 mt
  - CC/GOM YTF: 1,559 mt

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**Summary**

- In 3-5 years the scallop fishery will probably need only a relatively small amount of the US catch (5-10 percent).
- The groundfish fishery could likely use any amount of YTF likely to be available.

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### Scallop Work

- Jan/Feb - resubmission of FW21 - based on NMFS comments
- Submission of A15 DEIS targeted for the end of Jan for initial review and end of Feb for final submission of draft.
- March - NMFS review of A15
- April - public hearings for A15
- May - Cmte, PDT and AP identify preferred alts for A15
- June - final action on A15

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### Scallop Work cont.

- SARC 50 - scallop assessment - including 3 subcmte meetings in Feb-May.
- July - Sept - develop FW22 - two year specs
- Sept - final action on FW22 - issue with timing for YT allocation decision - those numbers not final until Nov council meeting
- Oct/Nov - staff submits FW22

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**PRIORITIES for 2010**  
**Approved November 17, 2009**

Committee	Action	Staff
<b>Groundfish/Scallops</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare joint Amendment for Groundfish sectors to transfer YT ACE.</li> <li>2. Prepare Amend or FW to reconsider 7 yr YT rebuilding schedule.</li> </ol>	
ACLs/AMs/Specs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare Amendments to set ACLs, AMs and Spec Packages (2011-2013) for Monkfish, Whiting and Red Crab. Prepare Monkfish Amend 6 for catch shares (sectors and IFQs) after Sep 2010.</li> </ol>	
<b>Scallops/Groundfish</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue A15 to set ACLs, AMs, capacity reduction, DAS leasing, transfers for LA fleet, new overfishing definition, open area trips</li> <li>2. Prepare FW 22 for 2011 and 2012 measures including YT allocation and bycatch reduction measures.</li> <li>3. Prepare joint Amendment to form Scallop YT bycatch sectors or other catch share mechanisms to allow YT ACE transfer.</li> </ol>	
Habitat	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue Omnibus Habitat Amendment</li> <li>2. Conduct EBFM Planning</li> </ol>	
Herring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue A4 to set ACLs, AMs</li> <li>2. Prepare A5 to include monitoring, mackerel, bycatch, criteria for access to closed areas, and protection of spawning aggregations.</li> </ol>	
RSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans</li> </ol>	
Interspecies (Committee will include MAFMC leadership as members)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop Goals and Objectives, issues and recommendations for catch shares and CFAs in those FMPs which are determined most appropriate.</li> <li>2. Develop Goals and Objectives, issues and recommendations to improve monitoring in all FMPs</li> <li>3. Develop Goals and Objectives, issues and recommendations to consolidate our FMPs. Also, examine our joint plans with the MAFMC and complimentary plans of ASMFC.</li> <li>4. Interspecies Cmte will meet jointly with AP chairs and vice chairs. Explore break out sessions among Committee members, APs, and public to brainstorm and better address 1-3 above.</li> </ol>	
SSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support SSC activities such as recommending ABC and making recommendations in the FMP development process.</li> </ol>	

**\*\* Note: no specific catch share action and no limited entry for whiting.**

**Strawman PRIORITIES (Revisited)  
For Jan 2010 Council Meeting**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Council	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare Amend or FW to reconsider 7 yr YT rebuilding schedule.</li> </ol>	Tom, Anne
ACLs/AMs/Specs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare Amendments to set ACLs, AMs and Spec Packages (2011-2013) for Monkfish, Whiting and Red Crab. Prepare Monkfish Amend 6 for catch shares (sectors and IFQs) after Sep 2010.</li> </ol>	Phil, Andy, Dick Allen
Scallops	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue A15 to set ACLs, AMs, capacity reduction, DAS leasing, transfers for LA fleet, new overfishing definition, open area trips</li> <li>2. Prepare FW 22 for 2011 and 2012 measures including YT allocation and bycatch reduction measures.</li> </ol>	Deirdre, Demet, Jess
Habitat	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue Omnibus Habitat Amendment</li> <li>2. Conduct EBFM Planning</li> </ol>	Michelle, Andy
Herring	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue A4 to set ACLs, AMs</li> <li>2. Prepare A5 to include monitoring, mackerel, bycatch, criteria for access to closed areas, and protection of spawning aggregations.</li> </ol>	Lori, Talia
RSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to steer research to support NEFMC plans</li> </ol>	Pat
Interspecies (Committee will include MAFMC leadership as members)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop Goals and Objectives, issues and recommendations for catch shares and CFAs in those FMPs which are determined most appropriate.</li> <li>2. Develop Goals and Objectives, issues and recommendations to improve monitoring in all FMPs</li> <li>3. Develop Goals and Objectives, issues and recommendations to consolidate our FMPs. Also, examine our joint plans with the MAFMC and complimentary plans of ASMFC.</li> <li>4. Interspecies Cmte will meet jointly with AP chairs and vice chairs. Explore break out sessions among Committee members, APs, and public to brainstorm and better address 1-3 above.</li> </ol>	Tom, Anne
SSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support SSC activities such as recommending ABC and making recommendations in the FMP development process.</li> </ol>	Chris, Pat

**\*\* Note: Joint Groundfish/Scallop Amendment to allow YT ACE transfer delayed to 2011. No specific catch share action and no limited entry for whiting.**