

New England Fishery Management Council Timelines

JUNE 17, 2014

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SCALLOPS

1. Scallop Framework 25

OBJECTIVE: 2014 scallop specifications – ABC/ACL, DAS limits, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations, windowpane flounder AMs, research priorities, etc.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Deirdre Boelke
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: FEB 2014
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: JUNE 2014

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Staff begins work on framework	FEB 2013	✓
2. Council initiates framework	APR 2013	✓
3. SSC develops ABC recommendations	SEP 2013	✓NOV 2013 ^{1.}
4. Council approves framework	NOV 2013	✓JAN 2013 ^{2, 3.}
5. Final submission of framework to NMFS	JAN 2014	✓APR 2014 ^{4.}
6. Implementation	MAY 2014	JUN 2014

1. Changed from SEP 2013 to NOV 2013 because of lack of quorum at SEP SSC meeting
2. Changed from NOV 2013 to DEC 2013 as a result of the Federal government shut down in October
3. Changed from DEC 2013 to JAN 2013 to include specification alternatives 4-6 and Scallop PDT resources diverted from FW25 to work on analyses for EFH Omnibus Amendment.
4. Extended document review

2. Performance Review of LAGC IFQ Program

OBJECTIVE: Performance review and potential workshop (similar to lessons learned Groundfish Sector Workshop) for IFQ program for Limited Access General Category vessels

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Deirdre Boelke
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: APR 2013
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: N/A

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Staff begins work on performance review	JAN 2012	✓
2. Present results and recommendations for Council consideration	JAN 2013	JUN 2014 ^{1, 2, 3.}

1. Changed from JAN 2013 after Council expanded the scope of this project at the Jan 2012 Council meeting. The report will include a review of economic and social trends as well as other relevant indicators about the effectiveness of the program
2. Changed from APR 2013 and then from JUN 2013 to SEP 2013 to JAN 2014 due to problems with the data and the need to complete FW25 in November
3. Changed from JAN 2014 to JUN 2014 as a result delay in final action by Council on FW25

3. Scallop Framework Adjustment 26 – 2015-2016 Specifications, etc.

OBJECTIVE: 2015-2016 Scallop Specifications – ABC/ACL, DAS limits, access area trips, Northern GOM TAC, limited access general category IFQ allocations, potentially including scallop fishery access measures based on potential changes under consideration in the EFH Omnibus Amendment

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Deirdre Boelke
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: JAN 2015
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Staff begins work on framework	APR 2014	✓ MAY 2014 ¹
2. Council initiates framework	JUN 2014	
3. Scallop benchmark assessment	JUL 2014	
4. SSC develops ABC recommendations	SEP 2014	
5. Council approves framework	NOV 2014	
6. Final submission of framework to NMFS	JAN 2015	
7. Implementation	MAY 2015	

1. Changed from APR to MAY 2014 as a result delay in final action by Council on FW25

GROUND FISH

1. Framework Adjustment 51 – 2014 Specifications for US/CA Stocks, Etc.

OBJECTIVE: Set specifications for US/CA stocks for 2014; revise rebuilding programs for GOM cod, plaice; other measures.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jamie Cournane
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: DEC 2013
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 2014

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Council initiates framework	JUN 2013	✓
2. SSC completes ABC recommendations for relevant stocks	AUG-SEP 2013	✓
3. Council approves ABC for GB yellowtail flounder, other relevant stocks and TACs for other US/CA stocks	SEP 2013	✓
4. Staff develops framework document	OCT 2013	✓ OCT-NOV 2013
5. Council approves framework /specifications	NOV 2013	✓ DEC 2013 ¹ .
6. Final submission of framework to NMFS	DEC 2013	✓ FEB 2014 ¹ .
7. Implementation	MAY 2014	✓

1. Delayed as a result of the Federal government shut down in October 2013

2. Framework Adjustment 52 – Revisions to Windowpane Flounder AMs

OBJECTIVE: A narrow and focused framework adjustment to revise the windowpane flounder Accountability measures (AMs) for both stocks (Northern and Southern), potentially implemented in-season for FY 2014

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jamie Cournane
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: AUG 2014
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: NOV 2014

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Council initiates framework	FEB 2014	✓
2. Council approves range of alternatives for analysis	APR 2014	✓
3. Staff develops framework document	MAY-JUN 2014	✓
4. Council approves framework	JUN 2014	
5. Final submission of framework document to NMFS	AUG 2014	
6. Implementation	NOV 2014	

3. Framework 53 –Specifications for Several Groundfish Stocks

OBJECTIVE: Specifications for US/CA stocks (GB yellowtail flounder, EGB cod, EGB haddock) for FY 2015, and specifications for GOM haddock, winter flounder stocks, and pollock for FY 2015-FY 2017

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Jamie Cournane
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: DEC 2014
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. GB yellowtail flounder empirical benchmark assessment	APR 2014	✓
2. Council initiates framework	JUN 2014	
3. TRAC assessments for US/CA stocks	JUN 2014	
4. Benchmark assessment for GOM haddock	JUL 2014	
5. Groundfish assessment updates for winter flounder & pollock	AUG-SEP 2014	
6. SSC completes ABC recommendations for relevant stocks	AUG-SEP 2014	
7. Council approves ABC for GB yellowtail flounder, other relevant groundfish stocks and TACs for other US/CA stocks	OCT 2014	
8. Staff develops framework document	OCT 2014	
9. Council approves framework /specifications	NOV 2014	
7. Final submission of framework document to NMFS	JAN 2015	
10. Implementation	MAY 2015	

4. Amendment 18 – Accumulation Limits & Fleet Diversity (with EIS)

OBJECTIVE: Amendment to consider accumulation limits; measures to preserve fleet diversity, measures to enable US-Canada quota trading, measures for permit banks; other measures.
The Council is waiting for guidance from NMFS about whether an EIS will be required.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Rachel Feeney

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: APR 2015

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 1, 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Staff completes draft Fleet Diversity, Allocation, and Excessive Shares whitepaper	SEP 2010	✓
2. NMFS publishes control date for A18	APR 2011	✓
3. Accumulation Limits Workshop	JUN 2011	✓
4. Committee approves scoping document	AUG 2011	✓
5. Council approves scoping document	SEP 2011	✓
6. Scoping hearings	NOV-DEC 2011	✓JAN 2012 ¹⁻
7. Council reviews scoping comments	JAN 2012	✓JUN 2012 ²⁻
8. Council considers fishery performance data and sets goals & objectives for the amendment	MAR-JUN 2013 ³⁻	✓JUN 2013
9. Independent peer review of Compass-Lexecon report on excessive shares in the groundfish fishery	APR-MAY 2014	JUN 2014 ⁴⁻
10. Council approves range of alternatives for DEIS	JAN 2014	JUN 2014 ⁵⁻
11. Council approves DEIS & selects preferred alternatives	APR 2014	NOV 2014
12. NMFS accepts DEIS	JUN 2014	JAN 2015
13. Public hearings - 45-day comment period	JUL – AUG	FEB – MAR 2015
14. Council votes on final action	SEP 2014	APR 2015
15. Amendment & FEIS submitted to NMFS	NOV 2014	JUN 2015
16. Revisions, final submission of amendment & FEIS, review, and deeming of proposed regulations. NMFS publishes NOA. 60-day public comment period	NOV 2014 - FEB 2015	JUN – NOV 2015
17. Implementation	TBD	MAY 2016

1. Delayed by additional time needed to complete Framework 47

2. Further delayed from April until June by Executive Committee decision on to extend the comment period by an additional 60 days

3. The Council revised Groundfish priorities for 2012 and put several actions ahead of the completion of Amendment 18.

4. The results of this review of the Compass Lexecon report will not be available until a later time.

5. Delayed to consider measures that address fishing effort in the inshore Gulf of Maine.

5. Amendment 18 – Accumulation Limits and Fleet Diversity (without EIS)

OBJECTIVE: Amendment to consider accumulation limits; measures to preserve fleet diversity, measures to enable US-Canada quota trading, measures for permit banks; other measures.
The Council is waiting for guidance from NMFS about whether an EIS will be required.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Rachel Feeney
TARGET COMPLETION DATE: APR 2015
TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 1, 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Staff completes draft Fleet Diversity, Allocation, and Excessive Shares whitepaper	SEP 2010	✓
2. NMFS publishes control date for A18	APR 2011	✓
3. Accumulation Limits Workshop	JUN 2011	✓
4. Committee approves scoping document	AUG 2011	✓
5. Council approves scoping document	SEP 2011	✓
6. Scoping hearings	NOV-DEC 2011	✓JAN 2012 ¹ .
7. Council reviews scoping comments	JAN 2012	✓JUN 2012 ² .
8. Council considers fishery performance data and sets goals & objectives for the amendment	MAR-JUN 2013 ³ .	✓JUN 2013
9. Independent peer review of Compass-Lexecon report on excessive shares in the groundfish fishery	APR-MAY 2014	✓JUN 2014 ⁴ .
10. Council approves range of alternatives	JAN 2014	JUN 2014 ⁴ .
11. Council selects preferred alternatives	APR 2014	SEP-OCT 2014
12. Council votes on final action	SEP 2014	NOV 2014
13. Final submission of amendment submitted to NMFS	NOV 2014	FEB 2015
14. Implementation	TBD	TBD

1. Delayed by additional time needed to complete Framework 47
2. Further delayed from April until June by Executive Committee decision on to extend the comment period by an additional 60 days
3. The Council revised Groundfish priorities for 2012 and put several actions ahead of the completion of Amendment 18.
4. The results of this review of the Compass Lexecon report will not be available until a later time.
5. Delayed to consider measures that address fishing effort in the inshore Gulf of Maine.

Herring

1. Framework 3 - Catch Cap for River Herring

OBJECTIVE: Establish catch cap for river herring caught in the Atlantic herring fishery

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Lori Steele

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: FEB 2014

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: JUL 2014

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. PDT begins work on framework	FEB 2013	✓
2. Council initiates framework action	JUN 2013	✓
3. PDT analyzes alternatives	JUL – SEP 2013	✓
4. Council approves framework action	SEP 2013	✓
5. Final submission of framework to NMFS	JAN 2014 ¹	✓ MAR 2014 ²
6. Implementation	JUN 2014	AUG 2014

1. Changed from October 2013 to allow more time for review and implementation requirements to be developed

2. Delayed one month as the result of the Federal government shut down in October

2. Framework 4 – Disapproved Elements of Amendment 5

OBJECTIVE: Address some disapproved elements of Amendment 5, including dealer weighing provisions and measures to address net slippage

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Lori Steele

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: JUN 2014

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: JAN 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. PDT and Committee begin work on framework	JAN 2014	✓
2. Council initiates framework action	JAN 2014	✓
3. PDT analyzes alternatives	FEB-MAR 2014	✓
4. Council approves framework action	APR 2014	✓
5. Preliminary submission of framework to NMFS		JUN 2014
6. Completion of NMFS review of preliminary framework document		JUL 2014
7. Final submission of framework to NMFS	JUN 2014	AUG 2014
8. Implementation	JAN 2015	

WHITING (Small Mesh Multispecies)

1. Whiting & Hake Specifications for 2015-2017

OBJECTIVE: 2014-2017 specifications for whiting, red hake and offshore hake – ABCs/ACLs, AMs and trip limits if applicable

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Andrew Applegate
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: JAN 2015
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. PDT begins work on specifications	JUN 2014	
2. Assessment update	JUL 2014	
3. SSC develops ABC recommendations	AUG 2014	
4. Council initiates specifications	OCT 2014	
5. Council approves specifications	NOV 2014	
6. Final submission of specifications package to NMFS	JAN 2015	
7. Implementation	MAY 2015	

2. Multispecies Amendment 21 – Small Mesh Multispecies Limited Access

OBJECTIVE: Develop Limited access program for Small Mesh Multispecies FMP which includes whiting.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Andrew Applegate
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: To be determined (TBD)
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: To be determined (TBD)

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Staff /PDT develops scoping document	TBD	
2. Council approves scoping document	TBD	
3. Council approves management alternatives for analysis	TBD	
4. PDT prepares Draft Amendment	TBD	
5. Council approves draft amendment and selects preferred alternatives	TBD	
6. Public hearings	TBD	
7. Council approves final amendment measures	TBD	
8. Staff submits final amendment to NMFS	TBD	
9. Implementation	TBD	

1. A control date for this action was published on November 28, 2012.

HABITAT

1. Omnibus Essential Fish Habitat Amendment 2, Phases I & II

OBJECTIVE: Designate EFH, and HAPCs as necessary, for all managed species; minimize the adverse effects of fishing on EFH to the extent practicable in a consistent manner across all FMPs; evaluate and possibly modify system of groundfish closures.

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Michelle Bachman

MILESTONES	PLANNED / REVISED COMPLETION DATE	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Phase 1 scoping hearings	MAR 2004	✓
2. Council approves EFH designations (Phase 1)	JUN 2007	✓
3. Peer Review of Habitat Models	FEB 2011	✓
4. Committee develops alternatives to minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse effects of fishing on EFH (including coral alts)	MAY-JUN 2011	Through AUG 2011
5. PDT analyzes adverse effects minimization alternatives (including coral alts)	MAY-JUN 2011	✓MAY-SEP 2011
6. Habitat Committee finalizes adverse effects minimization options (=habitat options), forwards to joint process with groundfish	Winter 2011-2012	✓FEB 2012
7. Council approves deep-sea coral alternatives for analysis	APR 2012	✓
8. Council moves deep-sea coral alternatives into a separate action	SEP 2012	✓
9. Habitat Committee develops Designated Habitat Research Area (DHRA) options	n/a	✓
10. Groundfish CATT/PDT/AP/Committee develop options for groundfish areas	DEC-MAR 2013	✓DEC-MAR 2013 ² .
11. Council reviews groundfish options ³.	APR 23-25 2013	NA
12. Habitat and Groundfish Committees package habitat and groundfish options into alternatives ⁴ .	MAR-APR 2013	✓MAY-JUN 2013
13. Council approves packaged habitat /groundfish alternatives, including DHRAs, for analysis in DEIS	APR 2013	✓JUN 2013
14. Council approves Omnibus 2 draft EIS; selects preferred alternatives	JUN 2013	✓FEB 2014 ⁵ .
15. Preliminary submission of DEIS	<i>added milestone</i>	✓MAY 2014
16. NMFS completes review of preliminary submission	<i>early JUL 2014</i>	late JUL 2014
17. Final submission of Omnibus 2 DEIS (combining EFH and HAPC designations, habitat/groundfish alternatives, and DHRAs)	<i>JUN 2014 ⁶.</i>	AUG 2014
18. NMFS publishes NOA, starts 45-day comment period	<i>JUL 2014 ⁶.</i>	AUG 2014
19. Public hearings	<i>AUG 2014 ⁶.</i>	SEP - early OCT 2014
20. Council reviews public comments, selects final alternatives	<i>NOV 2014 ⁶.</i>	
21. Staff submission of amendment and FEIS to NMFS	<i>JAN 2014 ⁶.</i>	
22. Implementation	<i>AUG 2015 ⁶.</i>	

1. Planned completion dates for pending items are based on the November 2012 timeline.

2. CATT convened in August 2012. Projected completion of this step was pushed back due to delay in Groundfish Framework 48 and complexity of technical issues and analyses.

3. Step added to January 2013 timeline for clarification.

4. This step would require at least one joint meeting of the Groundfish Committee and the Habitat Committee; however, these options were not completed in time for review by the Council in April.

5. Delayed from NOV 2013 because of Federal government shutdown and Council decision in DEC 2013 to request more complete analysis of alternatives

6. Revised as a result of alternatives added at Feb 25-26, 2014 Council meeting

2. Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment

OBJECTIVE: Designate deep-sea coral protection zones in the Gulf of Maine, continental slope and canyons, and New England seamounts, and develop fishing restrictions to protect corals within those zones.

PROJECT MANAGER: Michelle Bachman
TARGET COMPLETION DATE: To be determined (TBD)
TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: To be determined (TBD)

Comments: work on the coral amendment will be reinitiated once the Council completes Omnibus EFH Amendment 2. The Mid-Atlantic Council is pursuing a similar action and efforts and analyses will be coordinated between the two Councils. The timeline may be compressed if an Environmental Assessment can be completed, rather than an EIS.

MILESTONES	PLANNED ^{1.}	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Council directed PDT to evaluate information related to deep-sea corals and develop alternatives for deep-sea coral protection	-	✓ FEB 2008
2. Committee and PDT develop deep-sea coral alternatives	-	✓ SEP 2010-APR 2012
3. Advisory Panel reviews deep-sea coral alternatives	-	✓ JAN 2012
4. Council approves deep-sea coral alternatives for analysis	APR 2012	✓
5. Council develops and approves MOU with MAFMC and SAFMC coordinating coral management activities	SEP 2012	✓ JUN 2013
6. Council splits coral alternatives from Omnibus EFH Amendment 2; initiate separate coral action	SEP 2012	✓
7. Council approves Omnibus Coral draft EIS (or EA) and public hearing document; selects preferred alternatives	NOV 2012	TBD ^{2.}
8. Staff submits Omnibus Coral DEIS	DEC 2012	TBD
9. NMFS publishes NOA, starts 45-day comment period (perhaps reduced in scope if EA)	JAN 2012	TBD
10. Public hearings (perhaps reduced in scope if EA)	JAN 2012	TBD
11. Council approves Coral Amendment EIS (or EA)	APR 2013	TBD
12. Final submission of amendment and FEIS to NMFS	JUN 2013	TBD
13. Implementation	DEC 2013	TBD

1. Planned dates were based on the coral amendment being completed before Omnibus EFH Amendment 2; however the Council decided to finish the coral amendment after the Omnibus EFH A2 submission.
 2. This could occur at the Council meeting following Omnibus EFH A2 submission.

MONKFISH

1. Monkfish Framework Adjustment 8

OBJECTIVE: Set specifications - ABCs, ACLs & AMs for monkfish for fishing years 2014-2016; Consider modifications to boundary for H category permits & DAS use rules in the Northern Management Area

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Cate O’Keefe
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: JAN-FEB 2014
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: To be determined (TBD)

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. Operational assessment update completed	APR 2013	✓
2. PDT begins work on framework adjustment	APR 2013	✓
3. NEFMC initiates framework adjustment	JUN 2013	✓
4. SSC develops ABC recommendations	MAY 2013	✓AUG 2013 ^{1.}
5. NEFMC approves range of alternatives ^{2.}		✓SEP 2013 ^{2.}
6. MAFMC approves range of alternatives	OCT 2013	✓OCT 2013
7. PDT analyzes alternatives	JUL – SEP 2013	✓OCT –DEC 2013 _{3.}
8. NEFMC approves framework	SEP 2013	✓JAN 2014 ^{4.}
9. MAFMC approves framework	OCT 2013	✓FEB 2014
10. Final submission of framework to NMFS	NOV 2013	✓APR 2014
11. Implementation	MAY 2014	JUL-AUG 2014

1. The SSC requested fishing year 2012 catch data and modified projections before making an ABC recommendation. The catch data was not be available until August. This change delayed NEFMC final action until November 2013 or January and MAFMC final action until DEC 2013.
2. This step was added to allow both Councils more time to consider management alternatives.
3. Delayed from NOV 2013 because of Federal government shutdown
4. Previous version of the timeline had shown NEFMC approval in NOV 2013 or JAN 2014 and MAFMC approval in DEC 2013.

2. Amendment 6 - Catch Shares / Modifications to DAS Program

OBJECTIVE: Consider catch shares including sectors and IFQs in the Monkfish FMP as well as modifications to the DAS system

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: TBD

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: To be determined (TBD)

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: To be determined (TBD)

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. PDT begins work on amendment	SEP 2010	✓
2. Scoping	NOV 2010 – FEB 2011	✓
3. Councils consider scoping comments	APR-JUN 2011	✓
4. Councils approves goals & objectives	SEP-OCT 2011	✓ NOV 2011
5. Committee develops management alternatives	FEB 2011- MAR 2013	FEB 2011- AUG 2013 ^{1.}
6. NEFMC approves Amendment 6 alternatives for analysis in Draft EIS (including voter eligibility)*	MAR 2013	TBD
7. <i>MAFMC approves Amendment 6 alternatives for analysis in Draft EIS (including voter eligibility)*</i>	<i>APR 2013</i>	TBD
8. NEFMC approves Draft Amendment 6/Draft EIS, public hearing document & selects preferred alternatives	NOV 2013	TBD
9. <i>MAFMC approves Draft Amendment 6/Draft EIS, public hearing document & selects preferred alternatives</i>	<i>DEC 2013</i>	TBD
10. Public Hearings	FEB 2014	TBD
11. NEFMC reviews public and advisor comments and O/S recommendations; approves final Amendment 6 measures	JUN 2014	TBD
12. <i>MAFMC reviews public and advisor comments and O/S recommendations; approves final Amendment 6 measures</i>	<i>JUN 2014</i>	TBD
13. NMFS prepares and conducts referendum (including proposed and final rule), tally results; concurrent with FEIS preparation	MAY 2015	TBD ²
14. Final submission of amendment & FEIS to NMFS	AUG 2015	TBD ²
15. Implementation	MAR 2015	TBD ²

1. Delay in developing measures

2. If Council includes ITQ program requiring a referendum

SKATES

1. Skate Specifications for 2014 – 2015

OBJECTIVE: Set specifications - ABCs, ACLs & AMs for Skate FMP for fishing years 2014-2015

PROJECT MANAGER: Fiona Hogan
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: OCT 2013
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 2014

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED(✓) / PROJECTED
1. PDT begins work on specifications	JUN 2013	✓
2. SSC recommends ABC alternative(s)	SEP 2013	✓NOV 2013 ¹⁻
3. Council initiates framework adjustment ²⁻	SEP 2013	✓NOV 2013
4. PDT prepares specifications package	OCT 2013	✓DEC 2013 - JAN 2014
5. Council approves framework	NOV 2013	✓JAN 2014
6. Preliminary submission of framework to NMFS	DEC 2013- JAN 2014	✓APR 2014 ³⁻
7. Final submission of framework to NMFS	added milestone	JUN 2014 ³⁻
8. Implementation	MAY 2014	TBD ³⁻

1. Delayed because new discard mortality rates need to be incorporated into the model to calculate ABC
2. Action changed from specifications to framework to eliminate the unclassified skate wing category in the VTR.
3. Document review longer than anticipated

2. Framework to End Overfishing for Winter and Thorny Skates

OBJECTIVE: End overfishing for winter and thorny skates

PROJECT MANAGER: Fiona Hogan
 TARGET COMPLETION DATE: DEC 2014
 TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED(✓) / PROJECTED
1. PDT develops monitoring report	JUL - SEP 2014	
2. Council initiates framework adjustment (the timing of the action will depend on the results of the monitoring report)	TBD	
3. PDT begins work on framework	TBD	
4. Committee & PDT develop & analyze alternatives	TBD	
5. Council approves framework	TBD	
6. Final submission of framework to NMFS	TBD	
7. Implementation	TBD	

RED CRAB - Specifications for 2014 - 2016

OBJECTIVE: Set specifications - ABCs, ACLs, and AMs for Red Crab FMP for fishing years 2014-2016

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Christopher Kellogg

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: OCT 2013

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: APR 2014

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED(✓) / PROJECTED
1. PDT begins work on specifications	JUN 2013	✓
2. SSC recommends ABC/ABC	AUG 2013	✓
3. Council approves specifications	SEP 2013	✓
4. Final submission of specifications to NMFS	OCT 2013	✓NOV-DEC 2014 ¹ .
5. Implementation	MAR 2014	✓ MAY 30, 2014 ¹ .

1. Delayed from MAR 2014 as the result of the Federal government shut down in October. Proposed rule published on Mar 10, 2014.

Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) Amendment

OBJECTIVE: Remedy deficiencies in current SBRM amendment in cooperation with NMFS and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

NMFS Project Manager: Douglas Potts

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: APR 2014

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: APR 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. NEFMC & MAFMC approve management alternatives for analysis	SEP 2012	✓
2. FMAT prepares Draft Amendment	OCT 2012- FEB 2013	✓
3. Councils approve draft alternatives for public comment	APR 2013¹	✓JUN 2013
4. Draft available for public comment period	MAY	✓SEP-OCT ² .
5. MAFMC approves final action	JUN 2013	✓APR 2014 ³ .
6. NEFMC approves final action	JUN 2013	✓APR 2014 ³ .
7. Implementation	NOV 2013	APR 2015

1. Draft alternatives were not completed in April for review by Councils.

2. Delayed to address concerns identified at June MAFMC and NEFMC meetings

3. Delayed to extend public comment period

Vessel Baseline Omnibus Amendment

OBJECTIVE: Streamline or reduce vessel upgrade restrictions in NEFMC and MAFMC FMPs in cooperation with NMFS

NMFS Project Manager: Melissa Hooper

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: JUL 2014

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MAY 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. GARFO staff presents plan to both Councils	AUG - SEP 2013	✓
2. GARFO staff gather input from species committees, as requested	NOV 2013 –JAN 2014	✓ JAN 2014
3. Analyze alternatives and draft amendment document	MAR – APR 2014	✓ MAY 2014 ¹ .
4. Councils approve draft amendment	APR 2014	JUN 2014¹
5. 30-day comment period on draft amendment	JUL 2014	JUL 2014
6. Final approval of amendment document by Councils	AUG – OCT 2014	SEP – OCT 2014
7. Completion of final documents for review & approval	JUN-JUL 2014	OCT – NOV 2014
8. Proposed and final rulemaking	OCT 2014 – FEB 2015	
9. Implementation (with start of NE Multispecies fishing year)	MAY 1, 2015	

1. Delayed because the NEFMC the Council expressed an interest in starting a discussion with the MAFMC to remove or loosen vessel length and HP upgrade restrictions, and these are larger changes than the ones currently being considered

Industry-funded Monitoring Amendment

OBJECTIVE: Develop an industry-funded monitoring program to meeting monitoring objectives for all FMPs

STAFF PROJECT MANAGER: Lori Steele/ Monitoring Amendment FMAT

TARGET COMPLETION DATE: JULY 2014

TARGET IMPLEMENTATION DATE: JAN 2015

MILESTONES	PLANNED	COMPLETED (✓) / PROJECTED
1. FMAT begins work on action	FEB 2013	✓
2. NMFS provides NEFMC guidance on type of action required and possible funding mechanisms	SEP 2013	✓ NOV 2013
3. Councils approve draft range coverage target range of alternatives of alternatives to be analyzed	JAN / FEB 2014	✓ JAN / FEB 2014
4. PDT/FMAT/Councils develop alternatives, draft EA	JAN-APR 2014	FEB-AUG 2014 ¹ .
5. Councils approve draft EA for public review	APR 2014	SEP-OCT 2014
6. Councils take final action	JUN 2014	NOV-DEC 2014
7. EA finalized, proposed rule drafted	JUL 2014	JAN 2015
8. Proposed rule publishes with 30 day comment period	SEP 2014	MAR 2015
9. Comment period ends, final rule drafted	OCT 2014	APR 2015
10. Final rule published	NOV 2014	MAY 2015
11. Final rule effective	JAN 2015	JUN 2015

1. New timeline proposed by NMFS in response to comments at NEFMC and MAFMC meeting that the public and Councils would like more opportunity to provide input and consider the implications of the action.