	North Pacific	Western Pacific	Pacific	Caribbean	Gulf of Mexico	South Atlantic	Mid-Atlantic	New England
Council composition	11 voting members from 3 states (AK, WA, OR)	13 voting members from 1 State, 2 Territories and 1 Commonwealth (HI, GU, AS,CNMI)	14 voting members 4 State agency (WA, OR, CA, ID); 1 Tribal, 8 appointed, 1 NMFS	7 Voting Members (PR & USVI)	17 voting members (TX, LA, MS,AL, FL)	13 voting members from 4 states (NC, SC, GA, FL)	21 voting members from 7 states (NC, VA, MD, DE, PA, NJ, NY)	18 voting members from 5 states (ME, NH, MA, RI, CT)
Meetings and public comment								
How many Council meetings per year, and how long does the council meet?	5 meetings per year; 9 days/ meeting. 3 meetings in Anchorage, 1 in AK fishing community, 1 in Seattle or Portland. *Centrally located meetings near airports (limited road system).*	3 meetings per year; 4 days council meeting; 2 in Honolulu; 1 either in AS or Guam and CNMI (Rotates annually)	5 Meetings per year,6 days of Council floor time plus 1-2 additional day of advisory body meetings to prepare statements for Council consideration on Day 1.	Usually three to four meetings a year, two days each, on a rotating basis St.Thomas, St. Croix and Puerto Rico.	5 meetings per year, each lasting between 4-5 days	4 meetings/year - 5 days/meeting One meeting in each of the states each year.	Generally 6 meetings/year; 3-4 days/ meeting. Infrequently, ad-hoc meetings (possibly via webinar) might be added to deal with unanticipated issues.	Generally 5 meetings/year; 3 days/ meeting; in New England coastal areas. Ad-hoc meetings might be added to deal with unanticipated problems or delays.
Does the Council meet in the same location/time as its SSC and fishing industry advisory panel?	Yes. The SSC meets on days1-3, The AP meets days 2-6, and Council meets days 3-9. *Meeting together provides efficiencies and more open public process.*	The Council does meet in close coordination with its SSC (just prior to council meeting). Fishing Advisory Panel being formed.	SSC always and AP's almost always meet at Council meetings. Both may also meet outside Council meetings to prepare materials for early distribution to Council, Agencies, other advisory bodies, and public	Usually the AP and SSC meet separately. Starting in 2013, these meetings are conducted at the CFMC's conference room. Sometimes at hotels if needed.	Gulf Council does not typically meet with AP or SSC	No. We don't meet with the SSC. Yes and no for the APs (depending on the circumstances). The public attends our SSC and AP meetings and is allowed to comment.	No re: SSC, but Chair and Vice Chair usually attend SSC meetings. Advisory panels for FMPs or special topics usually meet independently or with the relevant committee.	No, but Council members are compensated for attending SSC meetings. The NEFMC has advisory panels for each FMP that may meet separately or together with FMP committees.
Do you hold public hearings separate from Council meetings, and are they issue specific?	No. Public hearings for each issue are integrated into the Council meeting. *Integration provides time and cost efficiencies.*	Yes. Hearing are held separately from Council meeting for specific issues, but most are held during Council meeting.	Rarely, except for Salmon season hearings between March and April meetings in several coastal communities. Always issue specific.	Yes, we hold public hearings separate from the Council meetings. Sometimes, we set aside time for PHs at Council meetings.	Yes, we hold public hearings separate from the Council meetings. We also hold public hearings during the Council meeting when final action is being taken on an item.	Yes. We generally hold a series of 8 issue-specific public hearings spread through the 4 states as well as public hearings at each of the 4 Council meetings. The series of public hearings are generally conducted three times each year, depending on the number of issues to be addressed.	Hearings are usually held separately. Sometimes it is convenient/useful to have a hearing during a Council meeting (usually in the evening). Depending on the action, hearings can be held from ME-NC. Council holds issue-specific hearings and occasional open comment listening sessions.	Hearings are usually held separately from Council meetings to provide greater access, especially for major actions. For less significant actions, hearings may be incorporated into Council meetings. Depending on the action, hearings can be held from Maine to Virginia.

	North Pacific	Western Pacific	Pacific	Caribbean	Gulf of Mexico	South Atlantic	Mid-Atlantic	New England
How does the Council use committees?	There are standing committees (e.g., Ecosystem, Enforcement) that meet regularly. Adhoc issue-specific committees may be created to provide detailed recommendations on proposed programs. *Committee provide important input from knowledgeable stakeholders*	The standing committees are held just prior to full council meetings and reviews issues and materials in more detail than considered by the full Council. Meetings of advisory group meetings are held separately prior to Council meetings so that reports and recommendations move forward for Council consideration.	Council member Committees include Budget and Legislative Committees. In addition, each FMP has an AP and a Technical/Management Team to develop and analyze effects of management measures, amendments, etc. Also have permanent Advisory Bodies for Habitat, Enforcement , Groundfish Allocation, Salmon Model Evaluation, Groundfish Endangered Species, and Groundfish EFH issues, plus a number of ad hoc committees	In addition to the SSC, we have APs for industry and O & E, and ad hoc committees when needed. Also, there are standing committees for enforcement, and fiscal matters, among others.	The Gulf Council has 21 standing administrative and management committees who meet in advance of the full Council and make recommendations to the Council.	We operate under a committee system (committees made up of council members). There is a species committee for each of the species specific FMPs, as well as executive/administrative committees. There are additional committees for Data Collection, Catch Shares, Ecosystem-Based Management, Habitat and Environmental Protection, SEDAR, Law Enforcement, Information & Education, SSC Selection, and Protected Resources.	The Council uses FMP (e.g. Mackerel-Squid-Butterfish) Committees and Functional Committees (e.g. Ecosystems and Ocean Planning). Committees develop plan amendments in or recommendations on broader issues. The Council sometimes meets as a "committee of the whole" to expedite smaller actions.	There are standing committees for each FMP as well as for Habitat, Research Steering, Ecosystems and Enforcement, Bycatch/SBRM and the SSC. The FMP, Habitat and SBRM committees develop plan amendments or other regulatory actions including documents for Council action. Other committees develop recommendations on variety of topics.
Is there a standardized process for decision-making at the Council meetings?	Yes. For each agenda item, there is a staff report, followed by an SSC report, and AP report, Committee report (if any), public comment, and then Council deliberation. *Council gets fully informed before action.*	Yes. Decision making takes place throughout the agenda based on regional application or program area. Each action is introduced by presentation followed by recommendations from appropriate advisory groups (Standing Committee, SSC, AP, Ad hoc, etc.) followed by Council decision making.	Yes. For each agenda item, there is a staff report, followed as appropriate by an SSC report, advisory bodies and agency reports, public comment, and then Council consideration.	Yes. For each agenda item, there is a staff report, followed by SSC, and AP reports, Committee report (if any), public comments, and then Council deliberation.	Yes, similar to the Caribbean and North Pacific Council	Yes, for each action requiring a decision Council members receive briefing material, a decision document and a staff presentation that includes any AP or SSC recommendations and a summary of public comment. The appropriate committee reviews the information and develops a recommendation for the full Council, where the final decision is made.	Generally yes. Recommendations typically flow from technical and advisory groups to committees then to the Council. Robert's Rules are generally followed for debate and comment on motions.	Yes. For FMP and other regulatory actions committee and AP make recommendations are considered. Public comment is usually taken on each motion considered by the Council. The SSC makes recommendations on OFLs, ABCs and other scientific reference points used in management.

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How is public comment taken at hearings or committee meetings?	Testimony taken separately on each agenda item. Testifiers must sign up on a list in advance. Individuals limited to 3 minutes, groups and associations 6 minutes. Warning light system. *Provides orderly process and succinct comments.*	Testimony is taken at the end of each agenda program or island area. Testifiers must fill out public comment card which is delivered to the chair. Comments are taken in order received and limited to 3 minutes, if significant number of commenters are to be heard. Light timer system can be used. The Chair has discretion on length of testimony by individuals.	Advisory Body/Committee meetings usually have a set period for public comment, but in some cases may be allowed during the meeting at the Chair's discretion. At hearings and Council meetings, must sign up for structured agenda item, usually limited to 5 minutes for individuals, 10 minutes for group representatives.	At hearings and public meetings all comments are recorded, and a summary of all comments received is prepared by staff for Council consideration. Also, at Council meetings there is a public comment period at the end of each day. Five minutes each presentation. In general, if needed, members of the public are allowed to provide comments at specific agenda items.	During each Council meeting we set aside a half day for public testimony At public hearings we record and summarize testimony from each individual who testifies and provide a report to the full Council.	For all public comment a sign-in card is required indicating the topic to be addressed. The length of time public commenters are allowed at scopings, hearings and Council meetings is determined by the Chairman conducting the hearing on a case-by-case basis (generally not less than 3 minutes). A warning light system may be used. A verbatim transcript of all comments is prepared.	The public is generally asked if they want to comment on every motion before votes, and depending on the subject additional opportunities for public comment/questions are often provided, for example after a technical presentation. If extensive public comment is expected, additional time for public comment is factored into agenda.	At public hearings, all comments are taken. Prior sign-up is not required. At committee meetings public comments are usually taken on each agenda item or motion.
How is public informed about meeting agendas and council actions?	Website, newsletter, email. Agenda with all meeting materials posted on web. *Provides transparency and informs public.*	Website, mailers, flyers, newspaper ads, social media and radio.	FR notices, meeting notices, list server, press releases, website, newsletter, email, Facebook, Twitter. Agenda with all meeting materials posted on web.	Public newspaper announcements, webpage, email, and direct mailing to fishers, fishers associations, and fishing clubs, among others.	News releases, web notice, newsletter, and Facebook. We have a public ftp site where we post all briefing materials and meeting minutes. Agendas and Council motions are posted on our web site.	Website, Federal Register Notice, Facebook, Constant Contact (an electronic distribution service), newsletter and hard copy postcards. Final Council actions are posted to the website as they occur during Council meetings. A news release is also produced following each council meeting.	FR notices, press releases, website, interested parties lists (via "icontact"). A matrix exists for different levels of outreach for different kinds of meetings.	Website and meeting notices distributed directly to interested party lists (in addition to FR notices). Agendas with all meeting materials are posted on the website.

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Development of regulations								
How do changes in fishing regulations or FMP get proposed?	Changes may be proposed by Council members during the meeting, by the AP, or through public testimony during "staff tasking" agenda item at each meeting. *Periodic calls for proposals created false expectations.*	Changes can come from public meetings, Council members, Congressional/Administrative directives and advisory groups.	Changes are generally proposed by advisory bodies, but also may be proposed by Council members during the meeting, or through public testimony	Changes to regulations or FMPs can be solicited by any member of the public, Council members, SSC and AP members, or at any public meetings were Council is involved.	Often the Council receives new information about the status of a stock or concerns about landings are brought to the Council's attention to take action. Additional changes to the regulations are recommended by Council members, SSCs, APs, and stakeholders.	Many proposed changes result from the need to address new and updated stock assessments and are made by the Council, SSC or APs. The public can propose management measures during the scoping/hearing process or during public testimony at Council meetings. They also write letters and send emails with their recommendations.	Changes are often proposed via Council members, letters, public comments, or advisory panel reports. The Executive Director works with the Executive Committee/Council Leadership to prioritize resources.	Major changes are considered through a formal priority setting process for each calendar year. The Council also may change priorities through a majority vote at a Council meeting. The public is invited to suggest priorities as part of the process beginning in September. Most changes result from ongoing regulatory requirements or committee/AP recommendations.
Are there any background documents prepared to scope out the issue before initiating an analysis?	Yes. Most new issues are explored with a discussion paper to find the nature and extent of the problem, interactions with other fisheries, and possible solutions. *Helps to define issue and reasonable alternatives.*	Yes. Most new issues are preliminarily investigated by staff to determine the scale and scope of the issue prior to initiating full analysis of an issue.	Yes. Most new issues are preliminarily investigated by staff or assigned to an advisory body to determine the scale and scope of the issue prior to initiating full analysis of an issue.	Yes. White papers with background information are prepared for every scoping meeting. Sometimes these documents include all possible alternatives to address a particular issue. These are provided to the public in advance to facilitate discussions at the scoping meetings.	Yes. We typically develop white papers or a draft scoping document with the issue and background information. Often, questions are outlined in the document to stimulate discussion.	Yes. The first step is to develop an options paper based on the proposed changes to management. The Council then decides which options should move forward and begin to be analyzed in a scoping document.	The Council may utilize preliminary analyses before commencing an action and in-depth analysis. For example, the Council recently used a ~35 page white paper to decide whether to proceed with an EIS to add river herrings as directly managed species.	Sometimes for unusual issues or those that cross several management plans.

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How do the purpose & need and alternatives get developed?	The Council motion to formally initiate an analysis includes a problem statement and an initial list of alternatives. *Provides objectives in writing.*	The purpose and need statement is develop between council staff and NMFS in preparing draft amendment and NEPA document.	The purpose and need statement is usually developed between council staff and NMFS, or by an assigned advisory body, in preparing draft amendment and NEPA document	The Council starts by requesting a scoping document to be prepared by staff with the issues and alternatives addressed, but with the caveat that alternatives could be expanded using comments received at public meetings.	Once the Council passes a motion to initiate work, and if the necessary scoping meetings have been completed, the Gulf Council will create an Interdisciplinary Planning Team (IPT) with staff appointed from the Council office, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, and Southeast Regional Office to draft the purpose and need and work on alternatives.	The IPT develops the draft purpose and need based on the discussion of the Council. The purpose and need language is reviewed, amended if necessary, and approved through a recommendation by the appropriate committee and finally the Council.	The Council provides initial direction to staff on the purpose, need, and alternatives based on initial Council discussions, preliminary analysis, and scoping/public comment. Staff then develops a preliminary range of alternatives. These alternatives are then reviewed and modified based on committee, advisory panel, public, and NMFS input.	Committees, guided by staff, develop draft purpose & need statements and alternatives for Council approval. The Council may add to the purpose & need and alternatives during the development process.
How is the initial draft analysis reviewed?	The SSC reviews the analysis for scientific merit, the AP reviews the analysis to recommend refinements in content or alternatives, and the Council makes decision on changes to be made. PPA may be identified. *Improves documentation and policy considerations.*	Same as NP but analysis can also be reviewed by Plan Team and other ad hoc committees established by the council.	Same as NP but analysis can also be reviewed by Plan Team and other advisory bodies, and state or tribal agencies	The analyses are prepare by the task teams (includes scientists from NMFS/SERO, SEFSC, Council staff, and local governments' scientists). These are submitted to SSC and/or AP to seek their recommendations to the Council.	The analyses are prepared by the IPT (which includes scientists from Council staff, NMFS/SERO, and SEFSC). These are submitted to the SSC and/or AP to seek their recommendations to the Council. Depending on the type of document (EA/EIS), the SEFSC will review and provide substantial and critical comments.	All amendments: Council staff, IPT, Science Center, NOAA GC, and internal review. Most amendments: Council staff, SSC review (usually brief), and AP review.	Draft analyses are reviewed by Fishery Management Action Teams (FMATs = NMFS + Council staff) for Amendments. Monitoring Committees (NMFS and Council staff but smaller than FMATs) review analyses for specifications. Council staff works cooperatively with relevant NMFS staff on framework analyses.	The draft analyses are developed by Plan Development Teams and reviewed by the committees, APs and Council. The Council may request an SSC review of any analyses if it feels it is necessary.

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Is a revised draft analysis reviewed again before taking action?	Yes, the Council reviews any analysis at least twice. After initial review, the draft is revised based on SSC, AP and Council comments and if ready, is released for another public review prior to the Council taking final action (choosing a preferred alternative). *A second review improves decision making.*	The Council uses a two meeting process with review opportunities of analysis provided at each, including by the SSC at a minimum.	The Council reviews analyses at least twice: after initial review, the draft is revised based on SSC, advisory body, agency and public comments and if ready, is released for another public review prior to the Council taking final action. The Council normally adopts a range of alternatives and preliminary preferred alternative if possible, at the first meeting, and a selects a final alternative at the second meeting.	If new information is provided by any person that warrants a review of the analyses, the document is submitted again to SSC, AP and Council. Sometimes it may require a public input via public meetings.	Yes. The Council typically reviews an action at several meetings. Once they have selected a preferred alternative and are ready to take final action, modifications to the regulations are deemed necessary and appropriate. If, after Council review, there are substantial changes to the regulations, the chair of the Council is asked to review the regulations prior to final transmittal.	Yes, each revised version of the document is provided to the Council for review and made available to the public. Significant revisions may receive further review from the IPT, NOAA GC, SSC and AP before action is taken.	Usually.	Revised draft analyses also are reviewed by the committees, APs and Council or the SSC, if requested.
How is the analysis made available to public, and how long in advance of the meeting is it available?	The analyses are posted on the website at least 2 weeks before initial review and 4 weeks before final action. *Provides time to read and digest analysis.*	Draft amendment documents, including analysis, or summary documents are made available for public access at least one week prior to the Council meeting.	Draft amendment documents, including analysis, or summary documents are made available for public access at least one week prior to the Council meeting.	Documents with the analyses are submitted by mail to the public and announced as available for public inspection at the webpage and any other appropriate media, e.g. newspapers.	The analyses are posted on the website 1-3 weeks before Council meetings and sent directly to the Council members when available. If the Council is slated to take final action, documents are usually provided within 2 weeks of final action.	Draft documents with analyses and proposed actions are posted to the website 2 weeks prior to public hearings/scoping meetings and 2 weeks before Council meetings (when feasible). Hard copies of the public hearing summary documents with references to analysis are available at all hearings.	Analyses are made available on the Council website, generally at least 1 week before the relevant Council meeting, but usually 10 days or more.	Analyses are made available 10 days before each Council meeting on the website.

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How long does it take from identification of a problem to Council taking final action?	For some issues, it may take a year or so, but can be much longer for more complex actions. *Provides time between meetings for analytical work by staff.*	Same as NP	Depending on the complexity of the issue(s), anywhere from two meetings to two or more years.	If the issue is sort simple, a year. For others it may take two or three years.	For some issues, it takes six months to a year, but for more complex actions it can take much longer, due to the IPT process, data requests, and analysis, public hearings, and timing of Council meetings.	For some simple issues, management measures can be proposed at one meeting and final action taken at the following Council meeting. However, usually it takes a year to complete an amendment but complex issues can take a number of years.	4 months for a simple framework to several years for complex amendments with EISs.	Simple specifications can take as little as six months from when the Council receives the needed scientific information. Most other actions take more than one year but can be much longer for more complex actions.
How long does it take from Council final action to implementation of regulations?	For some actions it takes about a year, but may be 2 years or more if complex issue or changes to monitoring are needed. *Provides time for drafting regulations, regional review, GC review, DOC review and rulemaking.*	Implementation varies greatly depending on complexity and political will of NMFS to move. At a minimum, actions take more than 1 year and typically 2-3 years to implement.	A minimum of six months if an EIS is involved, often longer depending on the workload and priorities of NMFS and Council staff.	Now we work directly with NMFS personnel along the whole process, so it takes less than a year. Before it was about a year and half, average.	In the Gulf it may take six months to one year depending on the complexity of the issues and type of NEPA requirements (i.e., Environmental Assessment versus Environmental Impact Statement).	It depends on the expediency of the management being addressed, ranging from months to years. More recently, under regulatory streamlining, the time between final action and implementation has decreased.	From 2 months for a simple change (e.g. butterfish quota in 2012) to several years for complex amendments with EISs.	From five months for simple specifications to two years for complex actions, particularly if changes to monitoring are needed. Major habitat actions take more than five years.
Documents								
Does the Council and NMFS staff meet early in the process to identify concerns/pitfalls (i.e., action planning or frontloading)? Is there an Action Plan developed before an analysis is prepared?	Yes. For each issue, a Council lead and NMFS staff identified to work closely together. Work teams are issue dependent rather than a standing analytical planning team. A formal action planning process in development. *Frontloading identifies implementation and other issues early in process.*	Yes. The ED meets prior to and post Council meeting w/RA and SC Director to discuss actions, priorities and responsibilities. Assigned staff from Council and NMFS then meet to coordinate tasks involved with preparing amendment or regulatory amendments.	Yes. Council staff closely coordinates with regional office and science center staff during all phases.	Yes. We have task or plan teams that identify the issues and schedule the personnel and actions to be taken to prepare the documents for the Council to consider. There is a formal schedule for monitoring ACL-related information to make adjustments to fishing seasons, recently adopted.	Yes, in the Gulf we have IPTs, as described above, that work together to complete an action. Sometimes these teams are not formed until after an Options Paper has be prepared and presented to the Council by Council staff.	Yes, the IPT meets at the beginning and several times during the process. Some issues are discussed over email and in conference calls. There is no formal action plan, but IPT leads coordinate writing and review assignments, along with the timeline for the amendment.	Yes. Council staff closely coordinates with regional office and center staff during all phases.	Yes. The Council uses a Plan Development Team (PDT), which includes NMFS, for each action. However, it often is very difficult to get NMFS to identify issues and solutions to in the plan development process. Many components of NMFS and NOA GC prefer to wait until formal documents are submitted before providing input.

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Do you have integrated analyses? Are the different laws/EOs addressed in separate sections?	Yes, with separate sections for NEPA, EO12866, RFA, MSA. *Allows different NMFS "gatekeeper" reviewers to signoff on assigned sections.*	Same as NP	Same as NP	Yes, there are separate sections for other applicable laws and processes that are addressed by the different NMFS components.	Yes, there are separate sections for other applicable laws and executive orders that the IPT process tries to address. Often NMFS/SERO staff may be more involved with these analyses.	Yes, with separate appendixes (e.g., RFA, RIR, FIS, Other Applicable Law, technical analyses as appropriate). This allows these sections to be completed by technical staff and then they are summarized in the body of the amendment.	These analyses are contained within a single submission document but with separate sections as necessary to meet statutory requirements.	These analyses are contained within a single submission document but with separate sections for analyses to meet NEPA, EO12866, RFA, MSA and other statutory requirements.
Do you have a standard template for preparing analyses?	Yes. *New analytical template will ensure all requirements addressed and speed review by NMFS region and GC.*	Yes. Newly developed documents have the same sections included based upon what is needed for analysis.		No.	No. Only an outline for document formatting and sections needed based on NEPA requirements. This was prepared in coordination with Council staff and NMFS-SERO staff.	We try to use a standard format, but in many cases it depends on the analysis/writer on the IPT.	Not officially, but prior actions often provide a template to some degree.	No. Most issues and data do not lend themselves to a standard approach or templates.
Does each analysis contain an Executive Summary?	Yes. Also, a decision matrix is provided in the executive summary to quickly compare across the alternatives. *Provides concise summary of issue for public and decision making.*	Yes, also including a matrix of options/alternatives considered.	Almost always.	Yes, and tables are prepared for comparison purposes.	An executive summary is only completed for an EIS; however, the Gulf Council writes abstracts for EA and EIS documents.	Yes.	Almost always.	It depends on the need. Only long analyses might contain an executive summary.

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Strategic Planning								
Is there strategic planning regarding timing and tasking of issues?	Yes. Discussions between ED and SF after each meeting about tasking and scheduling. *Provides coordination and prioritization.*	Yes. The ED regularly meets with Region and Center prior to and post Council meetings to discuss issues and actions.	Yes, there is an agenda and workload planning agenda item at the conclusion of each Council meeting, and a follow-up call the week after with Region, Science Center, and Council staff to coordinate activities/assignments. ED and SF meet periodically to discuss timing and tasking issues.	Yes. ED, NMFS/SERO and SEFSC key personnel exchange information to schedule the needed actions.	Yes. We have an Action Schedule that the Council ED or DD discuss at every Council meeting. It is also provided in the briefing book materials in advance of the Council meetings, and it is updated regularly with priority actions and stages of development.	Yes. We use a ROA document of schedules and deliverables to plan our work. This is developed by Council staff and then to NMFS SERO for review and concurrence. The Council reviews this document at each Executive Committee meeting. Also an activities schedule (tied to the budget) is approved at each December meeting for the next year.	Yes, the Council has recently completed a Visioning, Strategic Planning, and Implementation Planning process. The Executive Director, in coordination with plan coordinators, works with Council leadership and management partners regarding overall timing and tasking.	Yes. The Executive Committee reviews timelines for Council actions before each Council meeting with NMFS senior staff. This group also reviews priorities in detail before making recommendations annually. The Northeast Regional Coordinating Council also coordinates stock assessments and joint activities among the NEFMC, MAFMC, ASMFC and NMFS.
How far out does the Council plan its meeting agenda items?	A 3-meeting outlook is prepared. *Provides public with notice of likely agenda items 3 meetings in advance.*	Activities from Council actions are discussed weekly by staff from which potential agenda items for the next Council are identified and include in the next meeting agenda.	Fairly detailed preliminary agendas are adopted for the next Council meeting at the end of the current meeting. A year-long view is also considered at that time.	Now, at the Dec meeting each we prepare a tentative schedule of meetings. Agenda items are requested 45 days in advance of a meeting and the agenda is posted around 30 days prior to the meeting.	An agenda is developed prior to every Council meeting and posted on website 4 weeks in advance. Our Action Schedule described above, along with other information posted on our website, help the Council and public follow the development of the various documents.	Draft agendas are prepared for 3-meetings and are contained in our ROA document. The document also contains a full year of activity for each amendment/action; this is used to track progress on each amendment/action.	Agenda items are set 2-3 months in advance of meetings, however action plans for Amendments may designate Council action up to 2-3 years in advance. Recurring agenda items like specifications are listed in an annual "planned meetings document."	A 3-meeting outlook is prepared, but published Council timelines may encompass two years with target decision dates for the Council.
Does the Council have long term strategic plan or vision statement?	No. There is a list of programmatic objectives for managing groundfish, but no overall vision or plan.	Yes.	Yes, for the groundfish fishery.	No. To be quick and flexible, planning is done from year to year on actions that need to be taken by the Council. We have research plans for 5 years, but FMP development varies in terms of schedule.	No. We have not developed a list of objectives or strategic plan. This is something the new ED intends to work on with the Council chair.	Work in progress. The Council is developing a vision and long term strategic plan for the snapper grouper fishery. It will serve as the template for our other fisheries as the visioning process is expanded.	Yes, see 2 rows above.	No, but there are objectives for each FMP or action.