

Council Staff Workload and Timeline of Council Actions

Updated 5/27/2014

GROUND FISH ISSUES

	Council Staff	NMFS Input	Discussion Paper	Initial Review	Final Action	Notes
GOA Trawl Bycatch Management	Darrell Brannan, Sam Cunningham	major contributor; GC input	4/14, 10/14			Three papers for October: program structure and elements, CFA, adaptive management.
Observer Coverage on Small CPs	Diana Evans	lead	Dec-14			
Observer Coverage on BSAI Trawl CVs	Diana Evans	lead	Dec-14			
Observers for Tendering	Diana Evans	major contributor	12/13/2013 June 2014			
BSAI Halibut PSC Deck Sorting	Diana Evans	lead	Oct-14			Deck sorting discussion paper in October.
BSAI Halibut PSC stock impacts	Jane DiCosimo	IPHC lead	Jun-14			Stock impacts discussion paper in June
SSL EIS	Steve MacLean	lead; GC input		Apr-13	1-Oct-13	Secretarial draft in preparation
AI Pacific cod allocation	Jon McCracken	major contributor	Feb-14	Oct-14		
Grenadiers	Jane DiCosimo	AKRO lead	Jun-12	Dec-13	Feb-14	Regulations in preparation
Greenland Turbot Allocation	Steve MacLean	tracking	Jun-12			Lower priority. On hold pending 2013 season
CDQ Pacific cod directed fishery	Sarah Marrinan	major contributor	Feb-14	Jun-14		
Round Island Transit Zones	Steve MacLean	M&E input, USFW input	Dec-12	Dec-13	Apr-14	Regulations in preparation
Groundfish ACL uncertainty	Jane DiCosimo, Diana Stram	AFSC lead				Ongoing work by plan teams; workgroup to involve SSC members
MRA Enforcement Period	Jon McCracken	major contributor	Oct-14			
GOA Skate MRA	Diana Stram	major contributor		Oct-14		
BS Chinook&Chum Salmon Bycatch	Diana Stram	AFSC input	Jun-14			Changes to Chinook regulatory and IPA provisions plus management of chum salmon under IPAs

GROUND FISH ISSUES - continued

	Council Staff	NMFS Staff	Discussion Paper	Initial Review	Final Action	Notes
VMS Requirements	Jon McCracken	tracking	12/12; 12/13; 10/14			
PSEIS SIR	Diana Evans	AFSC contributor	Dec-12	Apr-14		Council determined a supplement to the PSEIS not needed; SIR being updated for NMFS final determination by Oct 2014
Crab bycatch limits/closures in BSAI groundfish fisheries	Diana Stram	AFSC, AKRO input on M&E	Oct-14			Analytical template using snow crab.
BSAI Crab PSC to Weight	Diana Stram	input on M&E	Oct-14			Combined with bycatch limits
GOA tendering	Jon McCracken	AKRO	Feb-14			Will revisit again in February 2015
Pribilof Canyon Corals	Steve MacLean	AFSC, AKRO	Apr-14			Council to receive comments on a range of alternatives in December 2014

CRAB ISSUES

	Council Staff	NMFS RO Staff	Discussion Paper	Initial Review	Final Action	Notes
BSAI Crab ROFR Aleutia PQS	Chris Oliver, Sarah Marrinan	input from RAM		Feb-13	Oct-14	Parties unable to resolve issues
BSAI Crab Modeling Workshop	Diana Stram	tracking; AFSC input	Jan-15			
BSAI crab control rules and uncertainty	Diana Stram	tracking; AFSC input	Oct-14			Discussion by Crab Plan Team (Oct)
Crab ROFR Contract Terms	Chris Oliver, Sarah Marrinan	lead		Jun-14	Oct-14	
BSAI Crab Norton Sound LLPs	Sarah Marrinan	input from RAM	Jun-14			

HALIBUT/SABLEFISH ISSUES

	Council Staff	NMFS RO Staff	Discussion Paper	Initial Review	Final Action	Notes
Halibut - federal definition of fishing guide	Jane DiCosimo	major contributor on M&E	Feb-13	Jun-13	Feb-14	Regulations in preparation
Halibut - Recreational Quota Entity common pool	Jane DiCosimo	on M&E	Oct-14			Review of CATCH proposal from stakeholders
Allow Sablefish pots in the GOA	Jane DiCosimo, Sam Cunningham	on M&E	6/13; 2/14; December 2013	Oct-14		
Increase limits on vessel caps	Jane DiCosimo	tracking	Jun-13			A revised discussion paper not yet scheduled

OTHER MANAGEMENT ISSUES

	Council Staff	NMFS RO Staff	Report	Initial Review	Final Action	Notes
Salmon EFH revisions	Steve MacLean	NMFS HD, AFSC science input				to be incorporated into EFH 5-year review
EFH 5-Year Review	Steve MacLean	NMFS HD, AFSC science input	Apr-14			Scheduled for 2015
Ecosystem Committee EBFM action plan	Diana Evans	n/a	Feb-14			Long term development of EBFM
MPA nomination process	David Witherell	tracking	Dec-09	n/a	n/a	Awaiting NOAA Guidance on "Avoid Harm" before evaluating sites
Annual Co-op reports: AFA, Am 80, CGOA Rockfish, Crab	Jon McCracken Sarah Marrinan	tracking	Apr-14	n/a	n/a	Co-op reporting requirements disc paper in December. Annual Reports from Industry (April)
AM 80 5-year review	Jon McCracken	tracking	4/1/2014, Oct-14			Report being revised to be final in October 2014
Observer Program	Diana Evans, Chris Oliver	lead	2/1/2014, June-14	n/a	n/a	Updates as needed; Annual performance and deployment plan - Considerable Council staff involvement through 2014; 1.25% observer fee reevaluation in 2015
EM Initiative	Diana Evans, Chris Oliver	lead	Apr-14			Workgroup report in June
EFH Consultation Process	Steve MacLean	lead	6/13; 12/13	n/a	n/a	Biannual Reports from NMFS (Dec, June); standardized review procedure
Annual Halibut charter recommendations	Jane DiCosimo	tracking	Dec-14	n/a	n/a	Committee meeting after October Council meeting. Council develops recommendations every December meeting; requires ADF&G staff analysis
Research Priorities	Diana Stram Diana Evans	n/a	Jun-14	n/a	n/a	Developing a new tracking report for research priorities. Council reviews in June.
Crab, Scallop, Groundfish plan team and SAFE reports	Diana Stram, Jane DiCosimo	AFSC	most meetings	n/a	n/a	Major Council staff workload
Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP)	Diana Evans	AFSC	Oct-14			Scoping of objectives in June

CURRENT OTHER PROEJCTS

Strategic Planning	Chris Oliver, David Witherell	Working with the NMFS RO staff and NOAA GC to improve the analytical and implementation process.
Analytical template (EA/RIR/IRFA)	Diana Evans	We are developing a standardized analytical template to improve our analytical content and speed the regional and GC review process.
Community Profiles Glossy	Mike Fey, David Witherell	Similar to the groundfish and fleet profiles, we are preparing ing a overview of fishing communities affected by federal fishing regulations.
Protected Species Glossy	Steve MacLean, David Witherell	Similar to the groundfish and fleet profiles, we are preparinging a overview of protected species affected by federal fisheries.
Update Reference Manual, Personnel Rules, other guidance	Chris Oliver, David Witherell	These manuals need updating, but it has been a lower priority to date.
FMP Updates	Jane DiCosimo, Diana Stram	Ongoing updates of our FMPs with recently approved amendment language.
Groundfish FMP Summaries Glossy	Jane DiCosimo	Our 2012 summer intern (Ben Williams) revised groundfish FMP summaries to make them more accessible to the general public. Still needs work

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

Notes

Preparation for and attendance of staff at other agency meetings (IPHC, BOF, NPRB, PSMFC, AMSS, Council training, etc)	Liaison staff	Staff gives presentations and participates at meetings of partner agencies, and responds to requests for presentations at various venues.
Preparation and attendance at national and international meetings and symposia (IPHC, NPFC, ICC, CCC, Wakefield)	Chris Oliver, et al.	Significant obligations primarily for CCC related activities
Staffing and minutes preparation, briefing book and presentation preparation for Council meetings; preparation of newsletter	All staff	Each Council meeting effectively uses up 3 weeks of each staff persons time. Meeting minutes take several weeks to prepare. Significant workload
Staffing and minutes preparation for standing Council committees (Ecosystem, Enforcement, Charter Implementation, OAC, PNCIAC, SSLMC, ROC, etc.)	All staff	Staff plans and attends meetings of various Council committees, and prepares minutes of these meetings. Significant workload

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE WORK - continued

Notes

Document review, staff administration and oversight, correspondence, etc.	Chris Oliver, David Witherell	Administrative duties require a substantial portion of each day.
Website maintenance, Council minutes	Maria Shawback	Maintenance of the website requires regular updates and posting of new information.
Phones, wordprocessing, document compilation, copying, filing, office supplies, etc.	Peggy Kircher	Maintenance of the website requires regular updates and posting of new information.
Response to FOIA Requests and Administrative Records for litigation	Bendixen, Shawback, Kircher, Oliver, Witherell, other staff	Some requests for records can require long search and copying times (for which we are not reimbursed), as well as transcriptions of audio files.
Budgets, finance and operations; biennial audit	Gail Bendixen, Chris Oliver, David Witherell	Bills paid, bank statements reconciled, meeting arrangements/contracts, human resources, etc. Significant workload. Biennial audit April/May 2013
Miscellaneous professional obligations (NPRB reviews, participation on scientific and advisory committees, professional presentations and publications)	All staff	Staff participates on various Scientific/Advisory Committees, peer reviews NPRB proposals, publishes papers and presents at scientific meetings.
Fishery Evaluations, Reviews and Certifications	All staff	Staff contributes to reviews and status evaluations for MSC certifications, Global Trust Certifications, Fish Watch, CIE Reviews, etc.
Public Outreach	All staff	Staff prepares public outreach brochures, provides talks to students and delegations from other countries, and does rural outreach work as needed.
Legislation tracking and response	Chris Oliver, David Witherell	Potential for MSA reauthorization in 2014 - considerable workload in responding to various draft legislation in 2014 and beyond.

Note: While not a legal requirement, the **target** date for release of documents in advance of Council meetings is as follows:

Short Discussion Papers: 1 week

Initial Review Analyses: 2 weeks

Final Action Analyses: 4 weeks