

## Groundfish Programmatic Workplan

The Council conducted its most recent *comprehensive* review of its Programmatic Groundfish Management Policy<sup>1</sup> (Policy) at its February 2019 meeting<sup>2</sup>, highlighting Council activities in calendar year 2018 that continue to fulfill the Priorities and Objectives established in the Policy. Annual Policy review is a requirement of the GOA and BSAI Groundfish FMPs, and the Council fulfills that requirement through the Programmatic Workplan, a concise tool that presents Council actions relative to Policy Objectives and is provided at every Council meeting. As determined by the Council in February 2019, comprehensive review of the Policy is done on a three-year cycle in order to accommodate the multi-year lifespan of major Council actions. The next 3-year comprehensive review will be conducted at the Council’s February 2022 meeting.

The table below provides a two-meeting (previous and current) snapshot of the Programmatic Workplan, listing only Council actions relate to the Groundfish FMPs and indicating their correspondence to Programmatic Management Objectives. Those Management Objectives were intended to support decision-making under the Groundfish FMPs. Although the Policy’s EBFM approach is reflected in actions outside of the Groundfish FMPs, these other actions are not included in the table. The tabular presentation of the Programmatic Workplan below as well as prior versions of the table are available on the Council website: ([www.npfmc.org](http://www.npfmc.org)).

\*\* Not included in the Table: Scallop SAFE, BSAI Crab SAFE, SMBKC rebuilding, Cook Inlet Salmon.

2020		Council Actions	
General Priority	Management Objective	February 2020 (and May 2020)	June 2020
<b>1. Prevent Overfishing</b>	1. Adopt conservative harvest levels for multi-species and single species fisheries and specify optimum yield.	Charter Halibut Annual Management Measures for Area 3A	
	2. Continue to use the optimum yield caps for the BSAI and GOA groundfish fisheries.		
	3. Provide for adaptive management by continuing to specify optimum yield as a range.		
	5. Continue to improve the management of species through species categories.	Sculpin/Squid Product Types – <i>Initial Review</i>	
<b>2. Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Communities</b>	6. Promote conservation while providing for optimum yield in terms of the greatest overall benefit to the nation with particular reference to food production, and sustainable opportunities for recreational, subsistence, and commercial fishing participants and fishing communities.	BSAI Halibut ABM – Discuss stakeholder ideas, alternatives	

<sup>1</sup> <https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/node/33552>

<sup>2</sup> <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/363>

2020		Council Actions	
General Priority	Management Objective	February 2020 (and May 2020)	June 2020
2. Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Communities	7. Promote management measures that, while meeting conservation objectives, are also designed to avoid significant disruption of existing social and economic structures	<p>CGOA Rockfish Program Reauthorization – <i>Final Action</i></p> <p>Social Science Planning Team – Report</p> <p><i>May 2020 - Request to modify IFQ transfer provisions of the Halibut and Sablefish IFQ Program</i></p> <p><i>May 2020 - Request regarding halibut charter measures in 2C and 3A</i></p> <p><i>May 2020 - Request to waive halibut and sablefish vessel use caps in Bering Sea and GOA areas</i></p> <p><i>May 2020 - Request to increase IFQ end-of-year rollover provisions</i></p> <p><i>May 2020 - Request to extend the halibut and sablefish season to a year-round fishery</i></p>	
	9. Promote increased safety at sea.	USCG Report	USCG Report
3. Ecosystem - based Fishery Management	10. Develop indices of ecosystem health as targets for management.	BS FEP Climate Change Taskforce - <i>Report</i>	
	11. Improve the procedure to adjust acceptable biological catch levels as necessary to account for uncertainty and ecosystem factors.		
	13. Incorporate ecosystem-based considerations into fishery management decisions, as appropriate.		
4. Manage Incidental Catch and Reduce Bycatch and Waste	14. Continue and improve current incidental catch and bycatch management program.	<p>BSAI Halibut ABM – Discuss stakeholder ideas, alternatives</p> <p>Charter Halibut Annual Management Measures for Area 3A</p> <p>Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology in FMPs – Review</p>	
	20. Control the bycatch of prohibited species through prohibited species catch limits or other appropriate measures.		
	21. Reduce waste to biologically and socially acceptable levels.		

2020		Council Actions	
General Priority	Management Objective	February 2020 (and May 2020)	June 2020
<b>5. Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Seabirds and Marine Mammals</b>	24. Encourage programs to review status of endangered or threatened marine mammal stocks and fishing interactions and develop fishery management measures as appropriate.	Protected species report Marine Mammal Conservation Status – N. Fur Seal	Marine mammal conservation status – report to SSC
<b>6. Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Habitat</b>	27. Identify and designate essential fish habitat and habitat areas of particular concern pursuant to Magnuson-Stevens Act rules, and mitigate fishery impacts as necessary and practicable to continue the sustainability of managed species.		EFH 5-year review modeling workplan report to the SSC
<b>7. Promote Equitable and Efficient Use of Fishery Resources</b>	31. Provide economic and community stability to harvesting and processing sectors through fair allocation of fishery resources.	BSAI Halibut ABM – Discuss stakeholder ideas, alternatives  Charter Halibut Annual Management Measures for Area 3A  CGOA Rockfish Program Reauthorization – <i>Final Action</i>	
	32. Maintain the license limitation program, modified as necessary, and further decrease excess fishing capacity and overcapitalization by eliminating latent licenses and extending programs such as community or rights-based management to some or all groundfish fisheries.		
	33. Provide for adaptive management by periodically evaluating the effectiveness of rationalization programs and the allocation of access rights based on performance.		
<b>8. Increase Alaska Native &amp; Community Consultation</b>	36. Consider ways to enhance collection of local and traditional knowledge from communities, and incorporate such knowledge in fishery management where appropriate.	BS FEP LK TK Taskforce– Progress Report	
	37. Increase Alaska Native participation and consultation in fishery management.		
<b>9. Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement</b>	38. Increase the utility of groundfish fishery observer data for the conservation and management of living marine resources.		Observer update with respect to Covid-19 response
	40. Improve community and regional economic impact costs and benefits through increased data reporting requirements.	Economic Data Reports Economic SAFE Reports Multi Regional Social Accounting Matrix tool (MRSAM)	

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<b>9. Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement</b>	45. Continue to cooperate and coordinate management and enforcement programs with the Alaska Board of Fish, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Fish and Wildlife Protection, the U.S. Coast Guard, NMFS Enforcement, International Pacific Halibut Commission, Federal agencies, and other organizations to meet conservation requirements; promote economically healthy and sustainable fisheries and fishing communities; and maximize efficiencies in management and enforcement programs through continued consultation, coordination, and cooperation.	NMFS Management Report NOAA GC Report AFSC Report ADF&G Report USCG Report USFWS Report	NMFS Management Report NOAA GC Report AFSC Report ADF&G Report USCG Report USFWS Report