

ADVISORY PANEL
Motions and Rationale
June 4; 7-9, 2024 - Kodiak, AK

D5 Research Priorities

Motion

The AP appreciates the work by the SSC, SSC Subgroup, Plan Teams, other review bodies, and council staff for all the work to refine and implement the RP selection process and structure.

The AP recommends the Council adopt the Top 12 list of unranked Research Priorities (RPs) as presented and recommended by the SSC.

The AP recommends the description of the Research Priority (RP) ID number 809, and others as necessary, be updated to include language that identifies that it addresses a data gap identified, in part, by the UFM Work Group Report.

**The AP recommends the description of RP ID number 811 read as follows:
Examine the economic, social, and cultural effects of fisheries and fishery management policy on coastal communities over time (including impacts from fishery policy changes and Tribal citizen and Tribal Nation reliance on, participation in, and impacts of federally managed fisheries) (811).¹**

The AP recommends the Council adopt the 21 Critical Ongoing Monitoring (COM) priorities identified in 2021 with no changes.

The AP recommends the Council adds the general statement, as presented, to the Critical Ongoing Monitoring category in the Research Priorities definition descriptions write up regarding Traditional Knowledge:

The Council has adopted the LKTKS Protocol and has committed to incorporating LKTKS information into ongoing management decision making processes when available and relevant. Research focused on ongoing monitoring of the incorporation of LKTKS would increase the transparency and identify gaps in inclusivity of the process. There are numerous ways Traditional Knowledge will strengthen all Research Priorities, including offering new frameworks for analysis; fostering relationships between Indigenous and Western scientific researchers and communities.

Amendment 1 passed: 21/0

Main Motion passed: 21/0

Rationale in Favor of Amended Main Motion:

- *Past NPFMC Research Priorities (RPs) have resulted in research that produced data that has substantially contributed to the understanding and management of fish populations and their interactions with fleets and dependent communities.*
- *The SSC, SSC Subgroup and other review bodies incorporated public input and worked efficiently to provide the top 12 RPs the AP was shown in the presentation. These RPs identify targeted research essential for compliance with MSA National Standards, and encourage potential funding opportunities.*
- *The Unobserved Fishing Mortality (UFM) Working Group report is an agenda item at this meeting. However, while the AP took up the RP agenda item prior to the UFM Working Group report, the AP notes that many data gaps were identified in that report, and RPs seems to be an appropriate place to signal the continued research efforts that could fill those data gaps and allow for future funding opportunities. While it is understood that some RPs indirectly address some data gaps related to UFM, adding the relevancy to UFM to the description is responsive to discussion and comments by AP members and the public.*
- *Since there was limited time for in-depth review of the Continued Ongoing Monitoring (COM) priorities, the 2021 top COM priorities were retained with no changes for this cycle. It will be important these and the suggestions from the SSC Sub group that were made but unable to be fully addressed, be reviewed and revised in the 2027 Research Priority cycle .*
- *The specific inclusion of the LKTKS Protocol, according to the SSC, didn't fit well as a standalone RP but is important to the process and should be included at least in statement form for the opportunity to include LKTKS in future research.*

Rationale in favor of Amendment 1:

- *The SSC member who presented the RP report to the AP indicated during questioning that the inclusion of “coastal” was not meant to be used to the exclusion of non-coastal communities that are affected by NPFMC actions. AP members felt that by striking the word “coastal” it provides support for this intention and to be more inclusive of all of those impacted by RPs, especially those in Tribal/Subsistence groups.*