

Council Staff Workload and Timeline of Council Actions

Updated 12/2/2013

GROUND FISH ISSUES

	Council Staff	NMFS Input	Discussion Paper	Initial Review	Final Action	Notes
GOA Trawl Bycatch Management	Darrell Brannan, Sam Cunningham, others	major contributor; GC input	Apr-14			A very big project for council staff, also M&E input from NMFS staff and possible GC input
GOA trawl Data Collection	Darrell Brannan, Sam Cunningham	major contributor; GC input		Jun-13	Oct-13	
Chinook salmon PSC for GOA non-pollock trawl fisheries	Sam Cunningham	sections on M&E		Dec-12	Jun-13	Regulations in preparation
Rockfish program chinook cap rollover	Sam Cunningham	sections on M&E		Oct-13	Dec-13	
BSAI Halibut PSC	Jane DiCosimo, contractor	contributor	Feb-14			Potential major analysis if initiated
SSL EIS	Steve MacLean	lead; GC input		Apr-13	1-Oct-13	EIS and BiOp development
AI cod CV allocation and regional delivery requirements	Jon McCracken	major contributor	Feb-14			
Grenadiers	Jane DiCosimo	AKRO lead	Jun-12	Dec-13		
Octopus fishery	Diana Stram	inseason management input	Dec-13			
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			Preliminary discussion paper in February
Round Island Transit Zones	Steve MacLean	M&E input, USFW input	Dec-12	Dec-13		
Groundfish ACL uncertainty	Jane DiCosimo, Diana Stram	AFSC lead				
Crab bycatch limits/closures in BSAI groundfish fisheries	Diana Stram	AFSC, AKRO input on M&E	Feb-13			Expanded discussion paper on PSC and closures for BBRCK, SMBKC, Tanner and snow crab.
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			On hold pending 2013 EM deployment results, Enf committee to report in April
PSEIS SIR	Diana Evans	AFSC contributor	Dec-12	Feb-14		Council staff to synthesize AFSC contributions
BSAI Crab PSC to Weight	Diana Stram	input on M&E	on deck			Not yet scheduled; combine with bycatch limits or pursue separately ON DECK
GOA cod pot sector participation	Sam Cunningham	tracking	Feb-14			
EGOA Skate Fishery	Diana Stram	inseason management input	Dec-13			
GOA tendering	Jon McCracken, Diana Evans	AKRO	Feb-14			Issue may involve observer coverage too
Bering Sea Canyons: Science and Fishery Information	Steve MacLean	AFSC report	?			Staff to develop a discussion paper on management measures to be considered for conserving areas of coral conservation. Meet with AFSC and stakeholders.

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		Parties to work together to resolve issues
BSAI Crab Modeling Workshop	Diana Stram	tracking; AFSC input	Jan-14			January 14-17 in Anchorage.
BSAI crab control rules and uncertainty	Diana Stram	tracking; AFSC input				Ongoing work by Plan Team
BSAI Crab Co-op Provisions for Crew	Sarah Marrinan	major contributor, GC input	Dec-14			Cooperatives to report annually on measures to facilitate share acquisitions by active participants, factors affecting high lease rates and crew compensation.

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	Apr-14	Will require coordination with ADF&G and IPHC
Halibut - Recreational Quota Entity common pool	Jane DiCosimo	on M&E				Pending proposal from stakeholders. ON DECK
Allow Sablefish pots in the GOA	Jane DiCosimo	tracking	6/13;2/14; December 2013			
Increase limits on sablefish A share cap	Jane DiCosimo	tracking	Jun-13			Deferred to IFQ Committee to discuss December 2013

OTHER MANAGEMENT ISSUES						
	Council Staff	NMFS RO Staff	Report	Initial Review	Final Action	Notes
Salmon EFH revisions	Diana Evans	NMFS HD, AFSC science input				Not yet scheduled - awaiting NMFS HD staff availability; originated from EFH 5-yr review
EFH 5-Year Review	Diana Evans	NMFS HD, AFSC science input				Scheduled for 2015
Ecosystem Committee EBFM initiative	Diana Evans	n/a	Oct-13			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	Jon McCracken Sarah Marrinan	tracking	Dec-13	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	Dec-13			Develop workplan in December
Observer Program	Diana Evans, Chris Oliver	lead	Oct-13	n/a	n/a	Updates as needed; Annual performance and deployment plan - Considerable Council staff involvement through 2013; 1.25% observer fee reevaluation in 2015
Observer Regulatory Amendments	Diana Evans	lead	Feb-14	n/a	n/a	Identify main issues to allow prioritization
EFH Consultation Process	Diana Evans	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-13	n/a	n/a	At every December meeting; requires ADF&G staff analysis
Research Priorities	Diana Stram Diana Evans	n/a	6/13; 2/14	n/a	n/a	Developing a new tracking report for research priorities
Crab, Scallop, Groundfish plan team and SAFE reports	Diana Stram, Jane DiCosimo	AFSC	most meetings	n/a	n/a	Major Council staff workload
BS Chinook Salmon	Diana Stram	AFSC	Oct-13	n/a	n/a	Report on update AEQ and Chinook bycatch in Bering Sea; action as necessary
Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP)	Diana Evans	AFSC	Feb-14			

Current Other Projects

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.
MONF 3 follow through	David Witherell	MONF3 review of draft proceedings.
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 preparing 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 (IPHC, NPFC, ICC, CCC)	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
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 2013 - considerable workload in responding to various draft legislation in 2013 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