

## 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)).

2019		Council Actions	
General Priority	Management Objective	December 2019	February 2020
1. Prevent Overfishing	1. Adopt conservative harvest levels for multi-species and single species fisheries and specify optimum yield.	Final Groundfish Specifications  Charter Halibut Management Measures for Areas 2C and 3A	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.		
	4. Provide for periodic reviews of the adequacy of F40 and adopt improvements, as appropriate.	NS1 Tech. Guidance on ABC Control Rule Provisions	
	5. Continue to improve the management of species through species categories.		Sculpin/Squid Product Types – <i>Initial Review</i>
2. Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Communities	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.	Halibut ABM Workplan  Halibut Rental Boat Registration – <i>Initial Review</i>	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>

2019		Council Actions	
General Priority	Management Objective	December 2019	February 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	BSAI Cod Parallel Waters Limitation – <i>Final Action</i> CGOA Rockfish Program Reauthorization Aleutian Islands Community Follow-up	CGOA Rockfish Program Reauthorization – <i>Final Action</i> Social Science Planning Team – Report
	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.	Halibut ABM Workplan Charter Halibut Management Measures for Areas 2C and 3A Small Sablefish Discards	BSAI Halibut ABM – Discuss stakeholder ideas, alternatives Charter Halibut Annual Management Measures for Area 3A Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology in FMPs – Review
	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.		
5. Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Seabirds and Marine Mammals	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	Protected species report Marine Mammal Conservation Status – N. Fur Seal
7. Promote Equitable and Efficient Use of Fishery Resources	31. Provide economic and community stability to harvesting and processing sectors through fair allocation of fishery resources.	Halibut ABM Workplan Charter Halibut Management Measures for Areas 2C and 3A BSAI Cod Parallel Waters Limitation – <i>Final Action</i> CGOA Rockfish Program Reauthorization	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.		

2019		Council Actions	
General Priority	Management Objective	December 2019	February 2020
7. Promote Equitable and Efficient Use of Fishery Resources	33. Provide for adaptive management by periodically evaluating the effectiveness of rationalization programs and the allocation of access rights based on performance.	Aleutian Islands Community Follow-up	
8. Increase Alaska Native & Community Consultation	36. Consider ways to enhance collection of local and traditional knowledge from communities, and incorporate such knowledge in fishery management where appropriate.	Community Engagement Committee – Report	BS FEP LK TK Taskforce–Progress Report
	37. Increase Alaska Native participation and consultation in fishery management.		
9. Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement	40. Improve community and regional economic impact costs and benefits through increased data reporting requirements.	Community Engagement Committee – Report	Economic Data Reports Economic SAFE Reports Multi Regional Social Accounting Matrix tool (MRSAM)
	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

\*\* Not included in the Table: BSAI Crab specifications and other crab fishery measures.