



Status of Council Actions Under Development

AS OF 5/18/2018

FMP	Action	Description	Status	Staff Lead
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass	Summer Flounder Commercial Issues Amendment	The Council and ASMFC are developing this joint amendment to consider revisions to the FMP goals and objectives for summer flounder and commercial management measures and strategies, including federal commercial moratorium permit requalification, commercial allocation, and landings flexibility FMP framework provisions. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/summer-flounder-amendment	The Council will review and approve a draft EIS at the June 2018 Council meeting. Public hearings are tentatively scheduled for September 2018.	Dancy
	Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Recreational Management Framework	The Council and the ASMFC are developing a joint framework action and addendum to consider adding the following management options to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan: (1) Conservation equivalency for the recreational black sea bass fishery, (2) Summer flounder conservation equivalency rollover, (3) Transit provisions for Block Island Sound for all three species, and (4) Slot limits for recreational fisheries for all three species. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/sfsbsb-recreational-management-fw	A draft public hearing document will be presented at the Council and Board's August joint meeting, with final action tentatively scheduled for December 2018.	Beaty
	Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Commercial Accountability Measures Framework	This framework considers alternatives to the existing commercial accountability measures for the commercial summer flounder, scup and black sea bass fisheries, with a focus on evaluating and accounting for commercial discards. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/sfsbsb-commercial-am-framework	The Council selected preferred alternatives and approved the framework at the Feb 2018 meeting. Staff is preparing the EA for submission to NMFS	Muffley
	Recreational Black Sea Bass Wave 1 Letter of Authorization Framework	This framework considers opening the Wave 1 black sea bass fishery under a Letter of Authorization (LOA) program. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/bsb-wave-1-loa-framework	For 2019, a Wave 1 fishery will be considered through the recreational specification process. Staff will continue development of the LOA framework for potential implementation in 2020.	Muffley

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Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish	Chub Mackerel Amendment	This amendment considers adding Atlantic chub mackerel to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squids, and Butterfish FMP. The amendment will consider potential catch limits, accountability measures, and other conservation and management measures required for stocks to be considered “in the fishery.” http://www.mafmc.org/actions/chub-mackerel-amendment	Staff is developing alternatives.	Beaty
	Atlantic Mackerel Rebuilding Framework	This framework action considers rebuilding options for the Atlantic mackerel fishery. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/atlantic-mackerel-rebuilding-framework	The Council reviewed an initial range of alternatives in April 2018. Final action is expected in August 2018.	Didden
	2018 Mackerel Closure Provisions Framework	This framework action will consider recommending that NOAA Fisheries implement a 5,000 or 10,000 pound trip limit when 100% of the commercial quota for Atlantic mackerel is reached. This action is being considered to allow for the continued operation of the Atlantic herring fishery in the event of a mackerel closure. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/atlantic-mackerel-closure-provisions-framework	Final action will be considered at the June 2018 Council meeting.	Didden
Bluefish	Bluefish Allocation Amendment	This amendment considers potential revisions to the allocation of Atlantic bluefish between the commercial and recreational fisheries and the commercial allocations to the states. As part of this amendment the Council and ASMFC will also review the goals and objectives of the bluefish FMP and the quota transfer processes. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/bluefish-allocation-amendment	Staff is developing a scoping document. Scoping is expected to begin in late May 2018.	Seeley
Surfclams and Ocean Quahogs	Excessive Shares Amendment	This amendment considers options to ensure that no individual, corporation, or other entity acquires an excessive share of the Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) privileges. In addition, the goals and objectives for the SCOQ FMP will be reviewed and potentially revised. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/scoq-excessive-shares-amendment	Staff is continuing to refine the range of alternatives for Council consideration in June 2018	Montañez

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Omnibus	Industry-Funded Monitoring Amendment	This amendment considers measures that would allow the Council to implement industry-funded monitoring coverage in some FMPs above levels required by the Standard Bycatch Reporting Methodology in order to assess the amount and type of catch, monitor annual catch limits, and/or provide other information for management. The Amendment also considers specific coverage levels for the Atlantic mackerel fishery. http://www.mafmc.org/actions/omnibus-observer-funding	Action was postponed until completion of NMFS' electronic monitoring pilot project being conducted by NMFS. The Council expects to receive an update and discuss next steps in October 2018.	GARFO/ Didden
	Commercial Fisheries eVTR Framework	This framework considers requiring electronic submission of vessel trip reports for commercial vessels with permits for Council-managed species.	Staff is preparing initial analyses for Council consideration in October 2018.	Didden
	Risk Policy Framework	The purpose of this framework action is to provide for a review of the ABC control rule framework and Council Risk Policy established in 2010 and to recommend any changes.	Development of the MSE model for summer flounder is continuing with a focus on further incorporation of social and economic factors. The Council will review initial MSE results later in 2018.	Muffley
	Omnibus Amendment for Data Modernization	This amendment will address the regulatory changes needed to fully implement the Agency's Fishery-Dependent Data Visioning Project	The Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) and the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) are continuing to work on the Fisheries Dependent Data Visioning (FDDV) project	GARFO/ NEFSC