



**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council**  
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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | G. Warren Elliott, Vice Chairman  
Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** September 26, 2019  
**To:** Executive Committee  
**From:** Chris Moore  
**Subject:** 2020 Implementation Plan

The Executive Committee will meet on Monday, October 7 to receive an update on the 2019 Implementation Plan and discuss the 2020 Implementation Plan.

Behind this memo is an updated list of 2019 deliverables, with additions shown in blue text and deletions in red text. A list of proposed deliverables for 2020 will be posted as a supplemental item on the meeting page (<http://www.mafmc.org/briefing/october-2019>) and emailed to Committee members prior to the meeting.

The complete 2019 Implementation Plan and other related documents are available on the Council's website at <http://www.mafmc.org/strategic-plan>.

# PROPOSED 2019 DELIVERABLES

*This section provides an overview of deliverables expected by the end of the implementation plan period. Since many of the proposed implementation activities cannot be measured with traditional metrics, the list of deliverables establishes a mechanism for measuring the Council's progress toward achieving the goals and objectives of the strategic plan.*

## SUMMER FLOUNDER, SCUP, BLACK SEA BASS

- 2019 specifications for summer flounder (revise)
- [2020 interim specs for scup and black sea bass \(develop and approve\)](#)
- 2020-2021 specifications for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass (develop and approve)
- 2020 recreational management measures for summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass
- Advisory panel fishery performance reports
- Revisions to recreational management system for summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass ([in progress](#))
- Evaluation of commercial scup discards
- Evaluate mesh size regulations for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass ([expected by end of year](#))
- Summer flounder commercial/recreational allocation study update (contract)
- Summer flounder commercial issues amendment (final action)
- [Summer flounder recreational management strategy evaluation \(contract\)](#)

## MACKEREL, SQUID, BUTTERFISH

- Chub mackerel amendment
- [2020 specifications for ~~mackerel~~, squids, and butterfish \(review\)](#)
- [2020 specifications for mackerel \(revise\)](#)
- Advisory panel fishery performance reports
- Butterfish cap review
- Illex* permit and MSB goals and objectives amendment (scoping and development)
- HMS chub mackerel diet study (contract; ongoing)
- Establish working group for real time *Illex* management

## RIVER HERRING AND SHAD

- RH/S cap for Atlantic mackerel fishery for 2020 (~~review~~[revise](#))
- RH/S progress update

## BLUEFISH

- 2020-2021 specifications for bluefish (develop and approve)
- [2020 interim specs for bluefish \(develop and approve\)](#)
- [2020 recreational measures for bluefish \(develop and approve\)](#)
- Advisory panel fishery performance report
- Bluefish allocation amendment

## GOLDEN AND BLUELINE TILEFISH

- 2020 specifications for golden tilefish (review)
- 2020 specifications for blueline tilefish (review)
- Advisory panel fishery performance reports

- Private recreational permitting and reporting (GARFO lead) ([status unknown](#))

## SURFCLAMS AND OCEAN QUAHOGS

- 2020 specifications for ocean quahogs (review)
- 2019 and 2020 specifications for surfclams (~~review~~[revise](#))
- Advisory panel fishery performance reports
- Excessive shares amendment ([final action expected in December](#))
- ITQ review project (contract)
- Surfclam genetic study (contract; ongoing)

## SPINY DOGFISH

- 2020 spiny dogfish specifications (review)
- Advisory panel fishery performance report

## ECOSYSTEM AND OCEAN PLANNING/HABITAT

- EFH redo (ongoing)
- Regional habitat assessment (ongoing)
- EAFM conceptual model development
- EAFM risk assessment
- Offshore development and ocean uses

## GENERAL

- 2020-2024 strategic plan development (contract)
- Commercial fisheries eVTR framework
- Allocation review criteria for all FMPs

## COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

- Implementation of council communication and outreach plan (ongoing)
- Council action web pages
- Fact sheets and outreach materials

## SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

- Federal fishery dependent data initiative (GARFO lead)
- Risk policy framework
- SSC OFL CV guidelines
- SSC membership review
- [Comprehensive five-year \(2020-2024\) research ~~plan~~\[priorities\]\(#\) development](#)
- [Joint Council-SSC meeting](#)

## POSSIBLE ADDITIONS

- Tilefish survey development ([ongoing](#))
- ~~Aquaculture FMP (initiate)~~
- Mid-Atlantic regulations and enforcement
- Implement law enforcement/for-hire workshop recommendations
- ~~ACT control rules for monitoring committees~~
- Evaluate federal trip limits for spiny dogfish
- ~~Summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass allocations (possible amendment)~~

- ~~Review red crab and lobster fishery exemptions for discrete deep sea coral protected zones~~
- Review and consider redevelopment of RSA program
- ~~Action to address right whale issues~~