

Council Motion  
D6 Research Priorities  
June 10, 2018

The Council adopts the SSC's recommendations on research priorities, and directs staff to communicate the priorities to the Secretary of Commerce, the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, in accordance with MSA mandates. The Council further directs staff to communicate the priorities with funding agencies and universities typically notified of research priority updates.

In anticipation of the allocation review of the Halibut Catch Sharing Plan, scheduled for 2021, the Council recommends two additional research priorities, categorized as Urgent:

- Develop comparable measures of net value, total value, and economic impacts for the Area 2C and 3A charter and commercial halibut fisheries.
- Conduct ethnographic research and collect information on the indirect effects of the Area 2C and 3A charter and commercial halibut fishing.

These priorities are described in D6 Research Priorities Supplement: Catch Sharing Plan Review.

The Council recognizes the continued importance of research priorities identified as *Critical Ongoing Monitoring*, and directs staff to post on the NPFMC website and include in the communication to the Secretary of Commerce the preamble developed by the SSC:

*Research priorities designated as Critical Ongoing Monitoring are of the highest priority level for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. These priorities create and maintain indispensable data that substantially contribute to our understanding and management of fish populations, fisheries, and the communities dependent upon those fisheries. Discontinuation or diminishment of the research that provides these datasets would leave a significant gap in the science needed to support sustainable and successful fisheries management in the North Pacific. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council and its Science and Statistical Committee continues to provide the utmost support for these priorities.*

The Council directs the Research Priorities Workgroup to explore ways to improve the Council and SSC's research priority review process. Improvements could include alternative review frequency, scheduled review of subsets of the priorities, less frequent review of "strategic" priorities. The workgroup should consider and recommend improvements in coordinating priorities with the NPRB.