

Groundfish Workplan

Priority actions revised in February 2007, status updated to current

| General Priority (in no particular) | Specific priority actions | Related to mgmt objective: | Status (updated 12-3-13) | ## | 2014 | | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------------|--|----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | Dec | Feb | Apr | Jun | Oct | Dec |
| Prevent Overfishing | a. continue to develop management strategies that ensure sustainable yields of target species and minimize impacts on populations of incidentally-caught species | 5 | Aggregate ABC/OFL for GOA 'other species' in 2008; BSAI skates TAC breakout in 2009; ecosystem component created in 2010 ACL II discussion paper under preparation | | | | | | | |
| | b. evaluate effectiveness of setting ABC levels using Tier 5 and 6 approaches, for rockfish and other species | 4 | AFSC responding to CIE reviews as part of harvest specifications process | | | | | | | |
| | c. continue to develop a systematic approach to lumping and splitting that takes into account both biological and management considerations | 5 | report from non-target species committee in Dec 09 Grenadier management initial review in Dec 2013 | | | | | | | |
| Preserve Food Web | a. encourage and participate in development of key ecosystem indicators | 10 | Ecosystem SAFE presented annually GOA ecosystem assessment for 2014; EBS and AI ecosystem assessments developed in 2010, 2011 | | | | | | | |
| | b. Reconcile procedures to account for uncertainty and ecosystem considerations in establishing harvest limits, for rockfish and other species | 11 | ACL II discussion paper under preparation | | | | | | | |
| | c. develop pilot Fishery Ecosystem Plan for the AI | 13 | FEP and brochure published 2007; AI ecosystem assessment developed in 2011 BS FEP discussion paper in Feb 2014 | | | | | | | |
| Manage Incidental Catch and Reduce Bycatch and Waste | a. explore incentive-based bycatch reduction programs in GOA and BSAI fisheries | 15 | partially addressed in BS Chinook bycatch EIS, Kodiak Tanner crab closures (2010); GOA pollock and non-pollock Chinook PSC limits (2011, 2013), GOA halibut PSC limit reduction (2012) GOA trawl bycatch mgmt discussion paper in Oct 2013 BS Chinook/chum bycatch review Apr 2014 | | | | | | | |
| | b. explore mortality rate-based approaches to setting PSC limits in GOA and BSAI fisheries | 20 | partially addressed in BS Chinook bycatch EIS discussion paper on BSAI crab bycatch limits for 4 spp | | | | | | | |
| | c. consider new management strategies to reduce incidental rockfish bycatch and discards | 17 | partially addressed in rockfish program | | | | | | | |
| | d. develop statistically rigorous approaches to estimating bycatch in line with national initiatives | 14, 19 | National Bycatch Report revised in 2011 restructured observer program to be implemented in 2013 | | | | | | | |
| | e. encourage research programs to evaluate population estimates for non-target species | 16 | Included in research priorities, adopted in June 2007 | | | | | | | |
| | f. develop incentive-based and appropriate biomass-based trigger limits and area closures for BSAI salmon bycatch reduction, as information becomes available | 14, 15, 20 | bycatch limits for BS Chinook adopted Apr 09; BS Chinook/chum bycatch review Apr 2014 | | | | | | | |
| | g. assess impact of management measures on regulatory discards and consider measures to reduce where practicable | 17 | partially addressed by arrowtooth MRA analyses (GOA - 2007, BSAI - 2010) | | | | | | | |

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| Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Seabirds and Marine Mammals | a. continue to participate in development of mitigation measures to protect SSL through the MSA process including participation in the FMP-level consultation under the ESA | 23 | <i>RPA from final NMFS Biological Opinion implemented by Secretarial action for Jan 2011</i> SSL EIS update - Dec 2013 | | | | | | | |
| | b. recommend to NOAA Fisheries and participate in reconsideration of SSL critical habitat | 23 | | | | | | | | |
| | c. monitor fur seal status and management issues, and convene committee as appropriate | 24, 25 | <i>monitoring through the Protected Species Report</i> | | | | | | | |
| | d. adaptively manage seabird avoidance measures program | 22 | <i>seabird avoidance measures in 4E in 2008</i> | | | | | | | |
| Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Habitat | a. evaluate effectiveness of existing closures | 26 | partially addressed in crab bycatch limits discussion paper | | | | | | | |
| | b. consider Bering Sea EFH mitigation measures | 27 | <i>BS habitat closures in 2007; BS flatfish trawl sweep mods required in 2009; EFH 5-year review/omnibus amds approved Apr 2011</i> crab bycatch limits discussion paper addresses BBRKC | | | | | | | |
| | c. consider call for HAPC proposals on 3-year cycle | 27 | <i>HAPC cycle changed to 5 years, adopted Apr 2011</i> <i>HAPC skate nurseries, adopted Feb 2013</i> | | | | | | | |
| | d. request NMFS to develop and implement a research design on the effects of trawling in previously untrawled areas | 27 | <i>Included in research priorities, adopted in June 2007</i> <i>Development of NBSRA research plan halted</i> | | | | | | | |
| Promote Equitable and Efficient Use of Fishery | a. explore eliminating latent licenses in BSAI and GOA | 32 | <i>Trawl LLP recency in 2008; GOA fixed gear latent licenses in 2009</i> | | | | | | | |
| | b. consider sector allocations in GOA fisheries | 32, 34 | <i>GOA Pcod sector allocations in 2009; GOA rockfish program renewed in 2010</i> GOA trawl bycatch mgmt discussion paper in Apr 2014 | | | | | | | |
| Increase Alaska Native & Community Consultation | a. Develop a protocol or strategy for improving the Alaska Native and community consultation process | 37 | <i>protocol approved in 2008</i> | | | | | | | |
| | b. Develop a method for systematic documentation of Alaska Native and community participation in the development of management actions | 37 | <i>outreach plans for BSAI salmon bycatch actions</i> Council Outreach Committee meets periodically | | | | | | | |
| Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement | a. expand or modify observer coverage and sampling methods based on scientific data and compliance needs | 38, 39 | <i>improvements adopted in 2008, restructuring approved in 2010;</i> <i>EM Strategic Plan approved in 2013</i> annual program review in June and deployment plan in Oct EM development discussions ongoing | | | | | | | |
| | b. explore development programs for economic data collection that aggregate data | 40 | <i>partially addressed in BS Chinook bycatch in 2009, also Amd 80</i> | | | | | | | |
| | c. modify VMS to incorporate new technology and system providers | 41 | <i>VMS exemption for dinglebar Jun 08</i> Enforcement Cttee to advise on advanced features Feb 2014 | | | | | | | |