

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council Research Priorities

- Current process and future directions

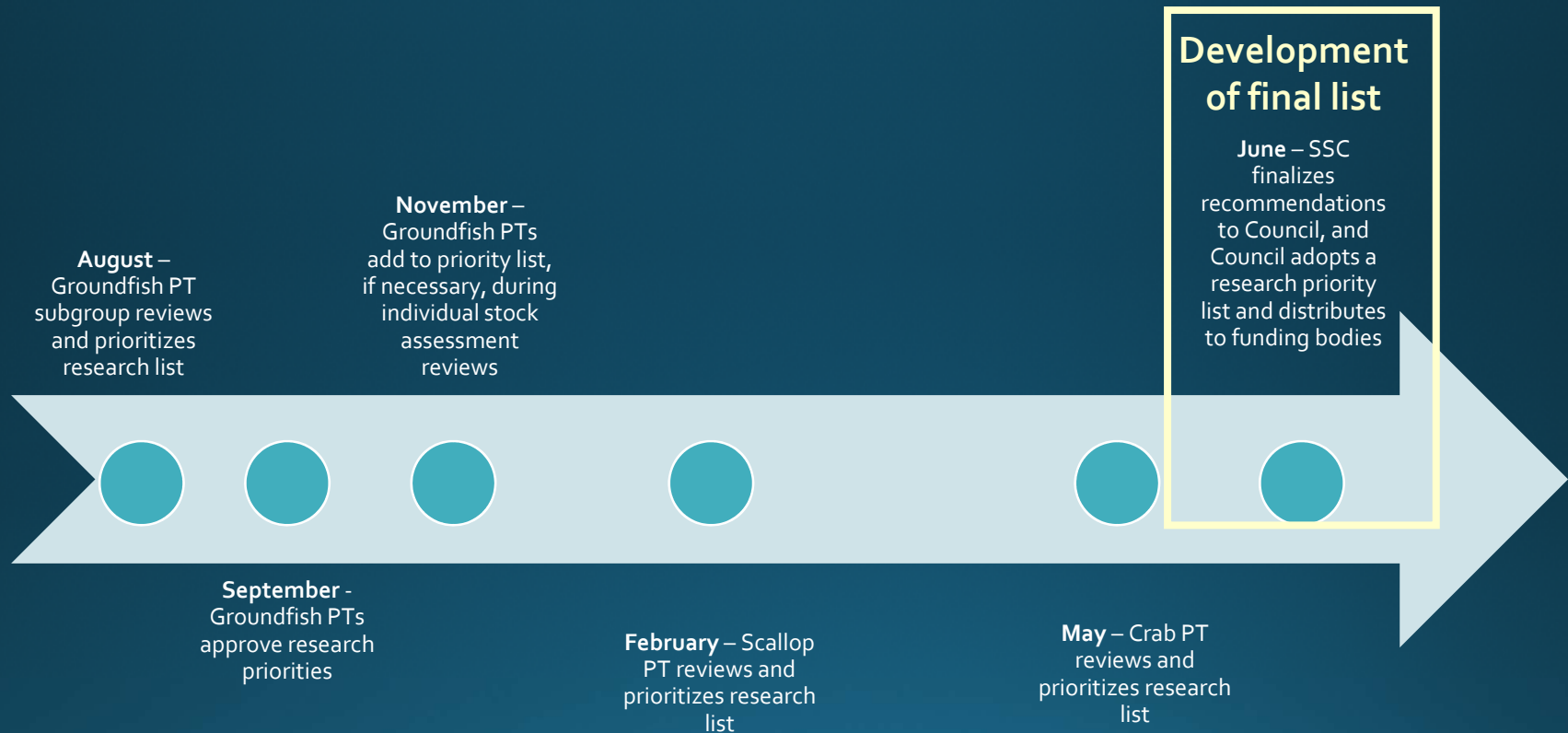
# MSA Mandate

“Each Council shall, in accordance with the provisions of this Act —

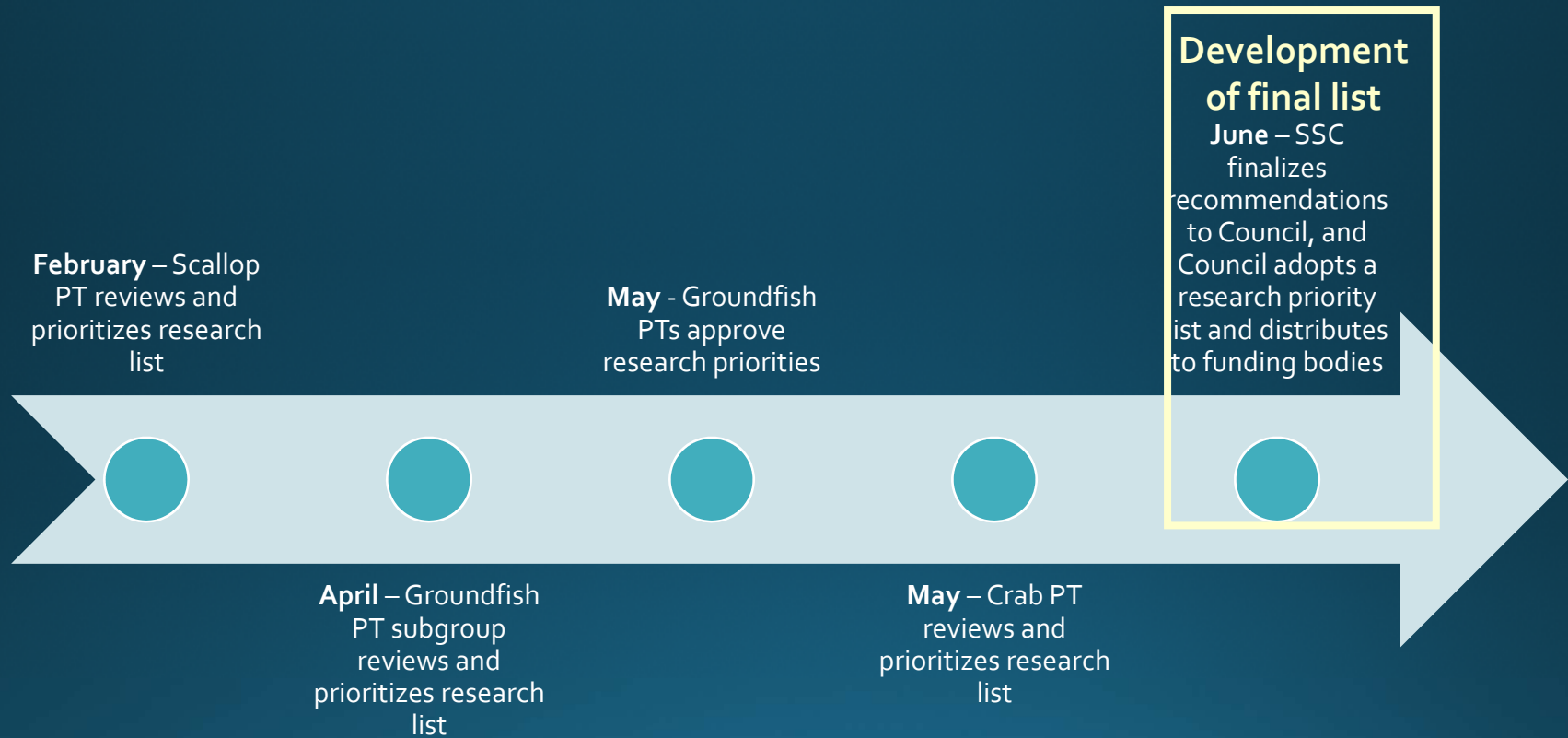
(7) develop, in conjunction with the scientific and statistical committee, multi-year research priorities for fisheries, fisheries interactions, habitats, and other areas of research that are necessary for management purposes, that shall—

- (A) establish priorities for 5-year periods;
- (B) be updated as necessary; and
- (C) be submitted to the Secretary and the regional science centers of the National Marine Fisheries Service for their consideration in developing research priorities and budgets for the region of the Council; ”

# Annual research priority process



# Actual research priority process



# Management Priorities

- Annual April Review
- Programmatic EIS for Groundfish (2002)
- 9 General Priorities
  - Prevent Overfishing
  - *Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Communities\**
  - Preserve Food Web
  - Manage Incidental Catch and Reduce Bycatch and Waste
  - Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Seabirds and Marine Mammals
  - Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Habitat
  - Promote Equitable and Efficient Use of Fishery Resources
  - Increase Alaska Native & Community Consultation
  - Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement
- 45 Management Objectives



# Revised Categories / Definitions

**CRITICAL ONGOING MONITORING:** Information provided by monitoring activities in this category (1) provide an essential management function; (2) cannot likely be acquired through other means; or (3) are required by regulation. This is monitoring essential to maintaining our compliance with federal requirements, including National Standards, or necessary for the ongoing management of the fishery. Postponement would have a significant and immediate impact on management.

**URGENT:** Research that is essential for compliance with federal requirements, including National Standards, or that has been identified by management as necessary to aid decision-making. It is expected that a one or two year project would meet the information need. Postponement would have a significant impact on management.

# Revised Categories / Definitions

**IMPORTANT (Near Term):** Obtaining a new set of data or research result that is likely to aid in the evaluation of a near term management goal. The research might be a several year program. Postponement will not have an immediate impact on fishery management; however, the information generated will likely inform near term (e.g., <5 year) Council actions.

**STRATEGIC (Future Needs):** Research that is valuable but is not associated with an immediate need or near-term (e.g., <5years) Council action.

# Management Priorities

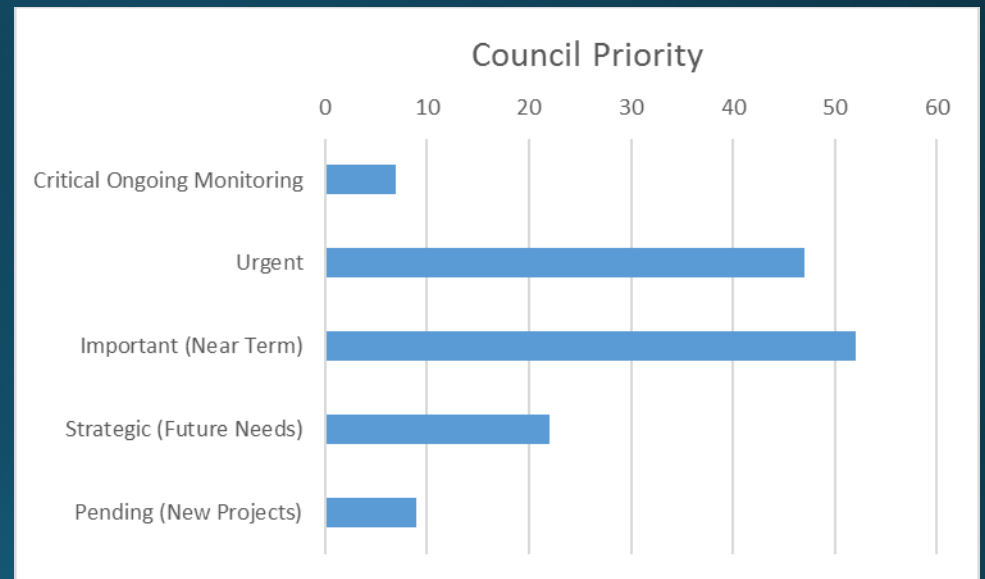
Management Priority	N Projects
Prevent Overfishing	49
Preserve Food Web ("EBFM")	33
Protected Species	13
Data Quality / Enforcement	10
Economics	10
Bycatch	9
Habitat	8
Communities	5
Total	137





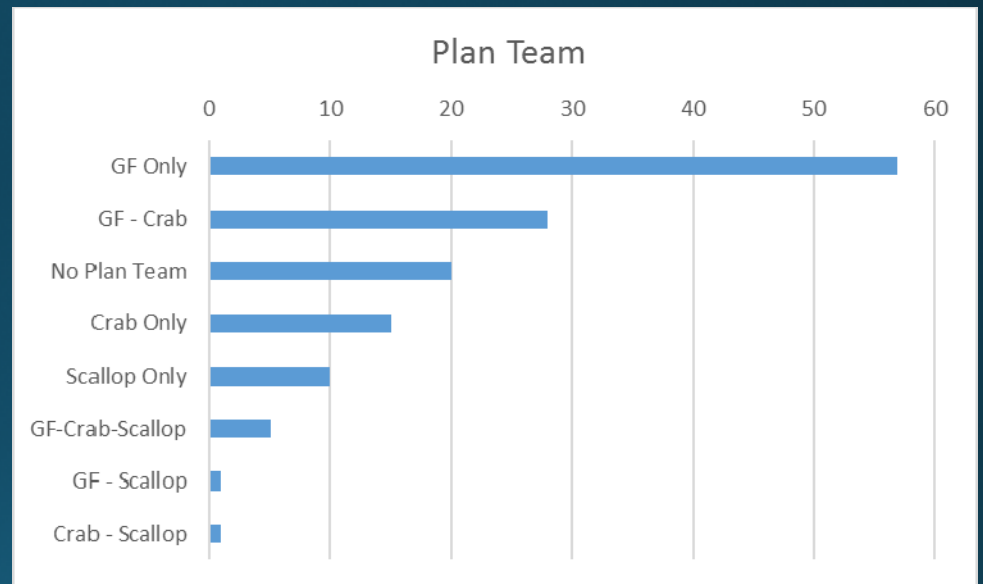
# Priority Categories

Council Priority	N Projects
Critical Ongoing Monitoring	7
Urgent	47
Important (Near Term)	52
Strategic (Future Needs)	22
Pending (New Projects)	9
Total	137



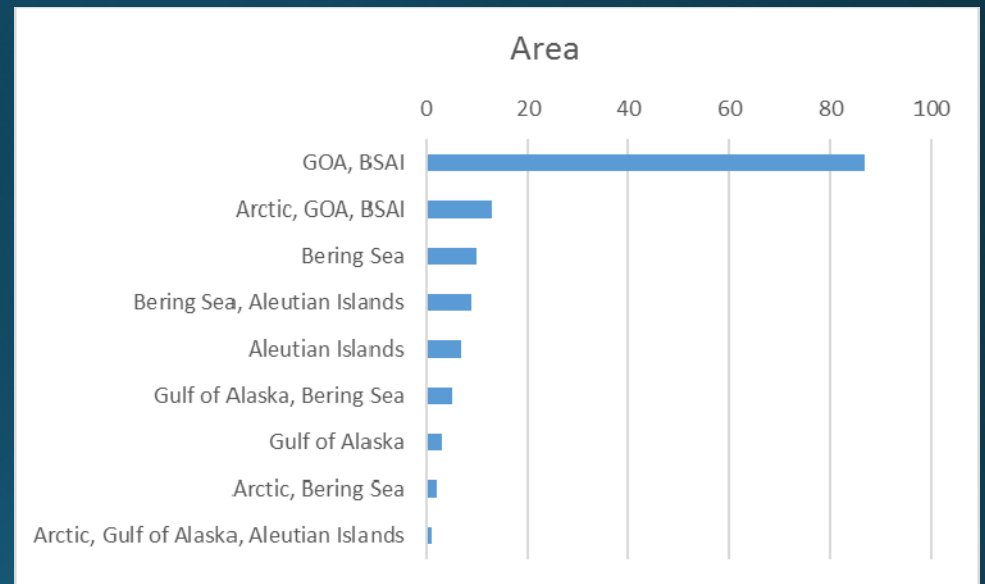
# Plan Teams

Plan Team	N Projects
GF Only	57
GF - Crab	28
No Plan Team	20
Crab Only	15
Scallop Only	10
GF-Crab-Scallop	5
GF - Scallop	1
Crab - Scallop	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>



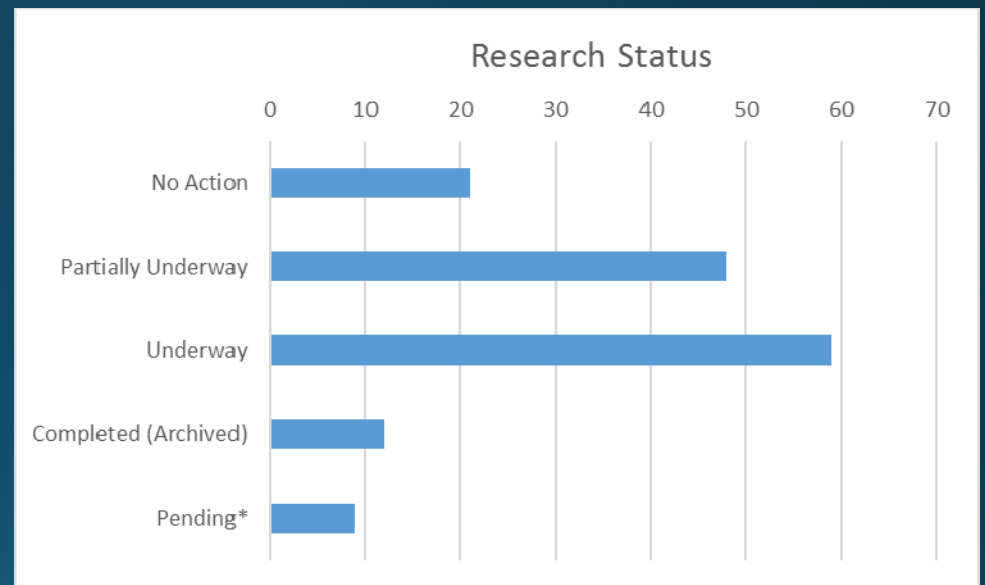
# Management Areas

Area	N Projects
GOA, BSAI	87
Arctic, GOA, BSAI	13
Bering Sea	10
Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	9
Aleutian Islands	7
Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea	5
Gulf of Alaska	3
Arctic, Bering Sea	2
Arctic, Gulf of Alaska, Aleutian Islands	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>



# Research Status

Research Status	N Projects
No Action	21
Partially Underway	48
Underway	59
Completed (Archived)	12
Pending*	9
Total	149



# Status vs. Priority

	C.O.M	Urgent	Important	Strategic
No action		6	8	6
Partially underway	3	13	16	12
Underway	4	25	22	4

(18 projects with pending "status" or "priority")



# Priorities by Subject Area

	Priority				
Major Issue	Critical	Urgent	Important	Strategic	Total
Assessment Inputs		13	21	5	39
Ecosystem Assessments		1	9	4	14
At Sea Survey	6	4	3		13
Habitat		2	5	1	8
Protected Species		4	2	2	8
Halibut		4	3	1	8
Economic Analysis	1	2	1	3	7
PSC Management		6	1		7
Management		4		1	5
Communities		1	4		5
Climate Change			1	4	5
Steller Sea Lion		3	1		4
Fishery Interactions		2	1		3
Data Quality		1		1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>128</b>

# Protected Resource and Halibut Priorities

Plan Team	N Projects
GF Only	57
GF - Crab	28
No Plan Team	20
Crab Only	15
Scallop Only	10
GF-Crab-Scallop	5
GF - Scallop	1
Crab - Scallop	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>

Protected Resources: 12

Halibut: 8

# SSC / Council Differences

Research ID	Title	Description	Council Priority	SSC Priority	Updated Plan Team Priority	Research Status
148	Spatial distribution and movement of crabs relative to life history events and fishing	There is a need to characterize the spatial distribution of male snow crab at time of mating relative to reproductive output of females in the middle domain of the EBS shelf. Additionally there is a need to investigate spatial stock dynamics and population connectivity for Tanner Crab (2 stocks).	Urgent	Important	GF: --, Crab: Urgent, Scallop: --	Partially underway
163	Conduct routine fish, crab, and oceanographic surveys in the northern Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean	Dynamic ecosystem and environmental changes in the northern Bering Sea and Arctic are occurring. Assessment of the current baseline conditions and trophic interactions is important. This effort should not supplant the regular surveys in the BSAI and GOA, which are of critical importance to science and management.	Urgent	Critical	GF: Important, Crab: Important, Scallop: --	Partially Underway
165	Conduct routine surveys of subsistence in the northern Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean	Conduct routine surveys of subsistence use of marine resources in the northern Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean. These surveys will become increasingly important under ongoing warming ocean temperatures because range expansions of harvested fishery resources may occur. If range expansions or shifts occur, data will be needed to adjust standard survey time series for availability.	Urgent	Critical	GF: Urgent, Crab: Strategic, Scallop: --	Partially underway
178	Develop a framework for collection of economic information	Develop a framework for collection of economic information on commercial, recreational, and charter fishing, as well as fish processing, to meet the requirements of the MSFCMA sections 303(a)(5, 9, 13), 303(b)(6), and 303A.	Urgent	Critical	GF: Urgent, Crab: Urgent, Scallop: --	Partially underway
192	Collect, analyze, and monitor diet information	Collect, analyze, and monitor diet information (species, biomass, energetics), from seasons in addition to summer, to assess spatial and temporal changes in predator-prey interactions, including marine mammals and seabirds. The diet information should be collected on the appropriate spatial scales for key predators and prey to determine how food webs may be changing in response to shifts in the range of crab and groundfish.	Important	Critical	GF: Important, Crab: --, Scallop: --	Underway
203	Improve discard mortality rate estimates for scallops	Field and laboratory studies are needed to estimate Alaskan scallop discard mortality by evaluating relationship between capture, release condition and deck time, and subsequent survival.	Urgent	Critical	GF: --, Crab: --, Scallop: Urgent	Partially underway
207	Analyses of fishery effort and observer data for scallops	As fishery independent surveys are conducted on only a few beds in Central Region, it is important to confirm the validity of fishery-dependent CPUE as an index of local abundance. Concerns about the utility of CPUE as an abundance index for fishery management are compounded by the limited number of vessels in the current fishery. Emerging methods from other data-limited stock assessments should be explored as alternatives to CPUE as indices of stock status.	Urgent	Critical	GF: --, Crab: --, Scallop: Urgent	No action

# SSC / Council Differences

Research ID	Title	Description	Council Priority	SSC Priority	Updated Plan Team Priority	Research Status
209	Investigate factors affecting the guided angler sector of the halibut fishery	Continue to investigate factors that affect angler demand and trip supply in the guided angler sector of the halibut fishery.	Important	Critical	GF: Strategic, Crab: --, Scallop: --	Underway
211	Benefits and costs of directed halibut catch and halibut PSC utilization	Research the benefits and costs of directed halibut catch and halibut PSC utilization in different fishing sectors. For halibut and other PSC and bycatch species, conduct research to better identify where regulations restrict the utilization of fish from its most beneficial use and evaluate how changes in existing regulations would affect different sectors and fisheries	Urgent	Important	GF: Urgent, Crab: --, Scallop: --	Underway
226	Continue to evaluate the economic effects from fishery policy changes on coastal communities.	Continue to evaluate the economic effects from fishery policy changes on coastal communities. This includes understanding economic impacts (both direct and indirect) and how the impacts are distributed among communities and economic sectors.	Critical	Urgent	GF: Critical, Crab: Important, Scallop: --	Partially underway
228	Conduct studies documenting the subsistence harvest (patterns, norms, quantities) in communities affected by Council actions.	Conduct studies documenting the subsistence harvest patterns, norms and quantities in communities that depend upon resources that may be affected by Council action.	Important	Critical	GF: Important, Crab: --, Scallop: --	Partially underway
249	Assess the movement of Steller sea lions and northern fur seals	Assess the movement of Steller sea lions and northern fur seals in response to environmental variability to understand the spatial changes of predator-prey interactions.	Urgent	Critical	GF: --, Crab: --, Scallop: --	Partially underway
364	Updated sperm whale stock assessment	Updated sperm whale abundance estimates are needed. Sperm whale depredation interactions with longline fisheries have increased, but little is known about sperm whale populations. Updated population estimates and defined PBR's are needed to effectively respond if a take occurs in the longline fishery.	Urgent	Critical	GF: --, Crab: --, Scallop: --	No action
381	Effects of changes to the observer program	Evaluate the effects of changes to data collection protocols that occur because of observer restructuring. Ensure that data can be compared easily to the previous data collection methods and time series remain intact.	Urgent	Important	GF: Urgent, Crab: --, Scallop: --	No action
390	Assess the population status of harbor seals in the Aleutian Islands and determine factors affecting their population trajectories	Assess the population status of harbor seals in the Aleutian Islands and determine factors affecting their population trajectories	Strategic	Critical	GF: --, Crab: --, Scallop: --	No action

# New Plan Team Projects

Research ID	Title	Description	Council Priority	SSC Priority	Updated Plan Team Priority	Research Status
511	Computerized image analysis of current camera sled data	Assessment of existing database of camsled images is needed to provide scallop counts and sizes, contributing to abundance estimates. Additionally, sediment and habitat type and presence of other organisms can be assessed.	Urgent	Important	Scallop PT - Priority: Urgent	Underway
513	Evaluate extent and importance of parasites in scallop populations	Samples from Bering Sea scallops with weak meats were collected and sent to the ADF&G Anchorage Pathology Lab for analysis of any evidence of diseases and/or parasites. The results showed that the scallops were infected with an apicomplexan-like parasite. To further evaluate the geographic extent and infection rates of this parasite, a sampling effort was initiated in July 2015 to collect samples from select locations across the state, from Yakutat to the Bering Sea.	Important	Important	Scallop PT - Priority: Important	Partially underway
531	Collect growth data for Bering Sea crab stocks	Pending feedback from PT	Urgent	Urgent	Crab PT - Priority: Urgent	Partially underway
532	Natural mortality estimation for crab stocks	Pending feedback from PT	Important	Important	Crab PT - Priority: Important	No action
533	Explore geospatial approaches for time series of survey data	Develop criteria necessary for using Thorson's geostatistical model as an alternative to the designed-based estimates for abundance indices used in stock assessments. Assess whether there are certain life history characteristics or levels of aggregation where this model should be used.	Urgent	Urgent	Joint Groundfish PT - Priority: Critical	Partially underway



# New Plan Team Projects

Research ID	Title	Description	Council Priority	SSC Priority	Updated Plan Team Priority	Research Status
534	Develop technical interaction model for BSAI MSE	A multi-species management strategy evaluation (MSE) with technical interactions among species is being developed to explore the potential implications of alternative harvest policies as was done for the Programmatic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (PSEIS). The approach of using an MSE with technical interactions is useful and unique in that the whole cycle of a fishery system is modeled: “true” status of several fish stocks in the fishery (Pacific cod, pollock, yellowfin sole, and Pacific halibut) are simulated; data are generated based on the “true” status of each stock, stock assessments are performed using the generated data; catch limits and bycatch limits are calculated, and the management system and fleet dynamics are mimicked to simulate the decision-making process that occurs when allocating catch limits among stocks within the constraint of the 2 million ton cap.	Urgent	Urgent	Joint Groundfish PT - Priority: Urgent	Underway
535	Development and evaluation of data poor and data moderate methods	Several methods are currently in use around the country for setting harvest specifications for data-poor and data-moderate stocks (corresponding, respectively, to Tiers 6 and 4-5 of the BSAI and GOA groundfish harvest control rules), several others are currently under development, and still others could be developed in the future. There is a need to continue development of such methods and to conduct comparative performance tests of the methods.	Urgent	Strategic	Joint Groundfish PT - Priority: Strategic	Underway
536	Evaluate incorporation of climate change impacts into stock assessments	Climate change impacts are becoming an increasingly important consideration for long term planning and should be included in projections of exploitable fish stocks and associated ecosystem components. Incorporation of climate-based parameters into fish stock assessments will allow for exploration of harvest scenarios in the context of evolving climate conditions. Research is needed to explore how these parameters can be integrated into fishery stock assessments.	Strategic	Strategic	Joint Groundfish PT - Priority: Strategic	Underway
	Identification of best practices for long term storage of ageing structures.	Archived ageing structures such as otoliths can deteriorate over time unless they are stored in appropriate media. Loss of archived structures reduces the potential for obtaining information through techniques such as micro-chemical analysis. Best practices for long term storage are currently not well	Strategic	Strategic	Joint Groundfish PT - Priority:	Partially

# New SSC Projects

Research ID	Title	Description	Council Priority	SSC Priority	Updated Plan Team Priority	Research Status
551	Estimate scallop survey catchability	Catchability of scallops in the fishery independent survey is needed to generate abundance estimates of scallops. Currently the survey provides only CPUE data.	Urgent	Urgent		No action
552	Expand statewide scallop survey	The State of Alaska fishery independent dredge survey has been conducted in a limited number of known beds. Expansion of the survey beyond the edges of known beds into previously un-surveyed areas will improve knowledge of bed size and true scallop distribution..	Critical	Critical		Underway
553	Population structure of scallops	Currently scallop beds are monitored independently. Knowledge of source/sink dynamics and meta-populations processes will improve the ability to manage weathervane scallops at the stock level.	Important	Important		No action
554	Molt and mate timing for Norton Sound red king crab	Within the assessment, there are conflicting observations about molt timing in April/May versus August/September. Moreover these observations suggest the potential for biennial mating. These issues could have important consequences on the assessment model.	Important	Important		No action
555	Herring genetics on overwintering and spawning grounds	A comparison of genetic composition of herring on the overwintering grounds and on the spawning grounds is needed to evaluate population structure.	Important	Important		No action
556	Herring PSC estimation in groundfish fisheries	Recent observer estimates of herring PSC in the groundfish trawl fishery should be used to explore the seasonal migration of herring in relation to variability in climate and oceanographic conditions. This may provide information to re-evaluate the appropriateness of the current Herring Savings Areas and may also provide insights regarding implications of climate change.	Important	Urgent		No action

# Database Issues

Separation of SSC  
and Council  
Recommendations

**Alaska Fisheries Information Network**  
HOME

### North Pacific Fishery Management Council: Research Priorities

[Query List](#) [Reports](#)

Research Priorities Query and Records List [Export](#)

Plan Teams ▾  
☐ Joint Groundfish PT  
☐ Crab PT  
☐ Scallop PT

Council Actions ▾

Ecosystem Area ▾  
☐ Gulf of Alaska  
☐ Bering Sea  
☐ Aleutian Islands  
☐ Arctic

Council Priority ▾


Research Status ▾

10 ▾ records per page Search:

ID	Title	Council/SSC Priority	Research Status	Ecosystem Area	Related Council Action
144	District-wide survey for demersal shelf rockfish in Southeast Alaska	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	No action	Gulf of Alaska	Harvest specifications
145	Continuation of State and Federal annual and biennial surveys	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
146	Improve surveys in untrawlable habitat, particularly for rockfish, Atka mackerel, and sculpins	Urgent	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
147	Life history research on data poor or non-recovering crab stocks	Important	No action	Bering Sea	Harvest specifications
148	Spatial distribution and movement of crabs relative to life history events and fishing	Urgent	Partially underway	Bering Sea	Harvest specifications
149	Improve handling mortality rate estimates for crab	Important	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
150	Maintain the core biological and oceanographic data (e.g., biophysical moorings, stomach data, zooplankton, age 0 surveys) ...	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Arctic	Ecosystem impacts

# Database Issues

## Old Categories in Report Generator

**Alaska Fisheries Information Network**

HOME

North Pacific Fishery Management Council: Research Priorities

[Query List](#) [Reports](#)

Research Priority Reports by Priority

[All](#) [Low](#) [Medium](#) [High](#) [Critical](#)

Summary Change Report

Select a set of dates to serve as the base to generate the summary report from. Any record changes in the selected range will be shown.

to

[View Summary Report](#) [Export Summary Report to PDF](#)

Detailed Change Report

Select a set of dates to serve as the base to generate the detailed report from. Any record changes in the selected range will be shown.

to

[View Detail Report](#) [Export Detail Report to PDF](#)

Council Reports

Select a set of dates to serve as the base to generate the Council Report from. Any record changes in the selected range will be shown.

This report will show the state of the research record given the date range provided. If you check the **Show Priority Changes** checkbox, the previous priority will be shown also where applicable.

to

[Export Council Report](#)

☐ Show Priority Changes

# Database Issues

Old Terms in Query  
Tool

**Alaska Fisheries Information Network**

HOME

North Pacific Fishery Management Council: Research Priorities

[Query List](#) [Reports](#)

Research Priorities Query and Records List [Export](#)

Plan Teams ▾

☐ Joint Groundfish PT

☐ Crab PT

☐ Scallop PT

Council Actions ▾

Ecosystem Area ▾

Council Priority ▾

☐ Critical

☐ Critical Ongoing Monitoring

☐ Urgent

☐ High

☐ Medium

☐ Important

☐ Strategic

☐ Low

☐ Pending

Research Status ▾

10 ▾ records per page


Search:

ID	Title	Council/SSC Priority	Research Status	Ecosystem Area	Related Council Action
171	<a href="#">Acquire basic life history information (e.g., natural mortality, growth, size at maturity) for data-poor stocks</a>	Urgent	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
172	<a href="#">Develop and validate aging methods for crabs.</a>	Urgent	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
173	<a href="#">Expand studies to identify stock and management boundaries</a>	Urgent	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
228	<a href="#">Conduct studies documenting the subsistence harvest (patterns, norms, quantities) in communities affected by Council actions. ...</a>	Important	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Fishery Dependent Community Assessments
229	<a href="#">Evaluate the effectiveness of setting ABC and OFL levels for data-poor crab stocks</a>	Urgent	Partially underway	Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
214	<a href="#">Evaluate the impact of seabird bycatch in fisheries on bird populations, and methods to reduce</a>	Important	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Other mammal/seabird interactions



# Database Issues

“Underway” glitch


**Alaska Fisheries Information Network**

HOME

### North Pacific Fishery Management Council: Research Priorities

[Query List](#)
[Reports](#)

Research Priorities Query and Records List [Export](#)

**Plan Teams**

- ☐ Joint Groundfish PT
- ☐ Crab PT
- ☐ Scallop PT

**Council Actions**
**Ecosystem Area**
**Council Priority**
**Research Status**

- ☐ Pending
- ☐ No action
- ☐ Listed on RFPs
- ☐ Partially underway
- ☐ Underway
- ☐ Completed

10 records per page
Search:

ID	Title	Council/SSC Priority	Research Status	Ecosystem Area	Related Council Action
171	Acquire basic life history information (e.g., natural mortality, growth, size at maturity) for data-poor stocks	Urgent	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
172	Develop and validate aging methods for crabs.	Urgent	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
173	Expand studies to identify stock and management boundaries	Urgent	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
228	Conduct studies documenting the subsistence harvest (patterns, norms, quantities) in communities affected by Council actions. ...	Important	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Fishery Dependent Community Assessments
229	Evaluate the effectiveness of setting ABC and OFL levels for data-poor crab stocks	Urgent	Partially underway	Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
214	Evaluate the impact of seabird bycatch in fisheries on bird populations, and methods to reduce	Important	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Other mammal/seabird interactions


# Database Issues

ResearchID	Title	Current Plan Team Priority	Group 1 Priority Edits				Research Status	Group 1 Status Edits			
			Hanselman	Lunsford	Stichert	FINAL		Hanselman	Lunsford	Stichert	FINAL
145	Continuation of State and Federal annual and biennial surveys	Critical	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Underway	Underway	Underway	Underway	Underway
202	Methods for reliable estimation of total removals	High	Important	Important	Important	Important	Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway
219	Monitor skate egg case concentrations every 2 to 3 years using non-invasive research design, such as in situ observation	Low	Strategic	Strategic	Strategic	Strategic	No action	No Action	No Action	No Action	No Action
382	Investigate in situ methods of tagging species that experience barotrauma	Low	Strategic	Strategic	Strategic	Strategic	No action	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Don't Know	Partially Underway
194	Identification and integration of archived data	Medium	Don't Know	Important	Important	Important	Partially underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway
146	Improve surveys in untrawlable habitat, particularly for rockfish, Atka mackerel, and sculpins	Medium	Important	Important	Important	Important	Partially underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway
193	Improve species identification	Medium	Important	Important	Important	Important	Partially underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway
218	Survey capability for forage fish	Medium	Don't Know	Important	Important	Important	Partially underway	Don't Know	No Action	Don't Know	Don't Know
169	Studies on factors that affect catchability particularly for King and Tanner crab	Medium	Don't Know	Don't Know	Important	Important	Underway	Don't Know	Don't Know	Underway	Underway
168	Assess seasonal diets and species interactions of fish and shellfish	Medium	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Partially underway	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know
220	Research on survey analysis techniques for species that exhibit patchy distributions	Medium	Important	Important	Important	Important	Partially underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway
221	Collect maturity scans during fisheries that target spawning fish	Pending	Strategic	Strategic	Strategic	Strategic	Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway	Partially Underway
165	Conduct routine surveys of subsistence in the northern Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean	Low	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Partially underway	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know
386	Investigate long term effects of fishing on Pacific halibut	Pending	Important	Important	Important	Important	Underway	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know	Don't Know
381	Effects of changes to the observer program	Critical	Urgent	Urgent	Urgent	Urgent	No action	Underway	Underway	Underway	Underway

Multiple Simultaneous Editor Functionality

# Database Issues

Open Query  
Functionality

Alaska Fisheries Information Network

HOME

North Pacific Fishery Management Council: Research Priorities

[Query List](#) [Reports](#)

Research Priority Reports by Priority

[All](#) [Low](#) [Medium](#) [High](#) [Critical](#)

Summary Change Report

Select a set of dates to serve as the base to generate the summary report from. Any record changes in the selected range will be shown.

to

[View Summary Report](#) [Export Summary Report to PDF](#)

Detailed Change Report

Select a set of dates to serve as the base to generate the detailed report from. Any record changes in the selected range will be shown.

to

[View Detail Report](#) [Export Detail Report to PDF](#)

Council Reports

Select a set of dates to serve as the base to generate the Council Report from. Any record changes in the selected range will be shown.

This report will show the state of the research record given the date range provided. If you check the **Show Priority Changes** checkbox, the previous priority will be shown also where applicable.

to

[Export Council Report](#)

☐ Show Priority Changes

# Database Issues

Scroll  
Functionality

**Alaska Fisheries Information Network**

HOME

North Pacific Fishery Management Council: Research Priorities

[Query List](#) [Reports](#)

Research Priorities Query and Records List [Export](#)

Plan Teams ▾  
☐ Joint Groundfish PT  
☐ Crab PT  
☐ Scallop PT  
Council Actions ▾  
Ecosystem Area ▾  
☐ Gulf of Alaska  
☐ Bering Sea  
☐ Aleutian Islands  
☐ Arctic  
Council Priority ▾  
Research Status ▾

10 ▾ records per page Search:

ID	Title	Council/SSC Priority	Research Status	Ecosystem Area	Related Council Action
144	District-wide survey for demersal shelf rockfish in Southeast Alaska	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	No action	Gulf of Alaska	Harvest specifications
145	Continuation of State and Federal annual and biennial surveys	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
146	Improve surveys in untrawlable habitat, particularly for rockfish, Atka mackerel, and sculpins	Urgent	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
147	Life history research on data poor or non-recovering crab stocks	Important	No action	Bering Sea	Harvest specifications
148	Spatial distribution and movement of crabs relative to life history events and fishing	Urgent	Partially underway	Bering Sea	Harvest specifications
149	Improve handling mortality rate estimates for crab	Important	Partially underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands	Harvest specifications
150	Maintain the core biological and oceanographic data (e.g., biophysical moorings, stomach data, zooplankton, age 0 surveys) ...	Critical Ongoing Monitoring	Underway	Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Arctic	Ecosystem impacts



# RESEARCH PRIORITIES

## Research Priorities are determined through:

- Review of identified NPFMC priorities
- Direct solicitation of priorities from specific management agencies
- Solicitation from the research community and industry through an online portal for suggestions (June-August)

## Priorities informed through the NPFMC and other entities and individuals include:

- North Pacific anomalous warming
- Development and application of new quantitative assessment approaches
- Estimation of life history parameters to improve stock assessment
- Analyses of selectivity survey design to inform estimates of catchability
- Assessment of data poor stocks
- Depleted and declining marine mammal populations
- Development of new tools, models, and frameworks to understand and predict implications of policy and management decisions
- Monitoring from industrial platforms, infrastructure or vessels
- Data management





## CURRENT RESEARCH THEMES

- Oceanography/Lower Trophic Levels
- Fish Habitat
- Fish and Invertebrates
- Marine Mammals
- Seabirds
- Human Dimensions
- Other Prominent Issues
- Technology Development
- Cooperative Research with Industry
- Community Involvement

## POTENTIAL REVISED RESEARCH THEMES

- Monitoring
- Habitat
- Ecosystems
- Population assessment
- Fishery management
- Protected Species
- Human Dimensions
- Other Prominent Issues
- Technology Development
- Cooperative Research with Industry
- Community Involvement



# Action

- Provide input on GFPT annual review process