

Groundfish Workplan

At its February 2018 meeting¹, the Council conducted its annual review of the Programmatic Groundfish Management Policy², as required under the GOA and BSAI Groundfish FMPs. The review highlighted Council activities in 2017 that reflect continued fulfillment of the Groundfish Management Policy. The Groundfish Workplan³ is a tool that tracks Council actions within the year in the context of the Management Policy and is updated for every meeting. The workplan has grown in size since it was created in 2004, making it somewhat unwieldy for within-year tracking. The table below is provided to track Council actions within calendar year 2018.

2018		February	April
General Priority	Management Objective	Council Actions	
3. Preserve Food Web	13. Incorporate ecosystem-based considerations into fishery management decisions, as appropriate.	Conduct ecosystem workshop, recommendations for BSFEP	
4. Manage Incidental Catch and Reduce Bycatch and Waste	14. Continue and improve current incidental catch and bycatch management program.	Initial review - GOA CV Chinook PSC limit adjustments	Salmon bycatch: Pollock ICA/IPA Reports; Update on Salmon Genetics and BSAI salmon Adult Equivalency Initial review - GOA CV Chinook PSC limit adjustments Halibut ABM development
	21. Reduce waste to biologically and socially acceptable levels.		Initial Review - Halibut retention in BSAI sablefish pots
5. Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Seabirds and Marine Mammals	22. Continue to cooperate with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to protect ESA-listed species, and if appropriate and practicable, other seabird species.		Seabird conservation update
7. Promote Equitable and Efficient Use of Fishery Resources	33. Provide for adaptive management by periodically evaluating the effectiveness of rationalization programs and the allocation of access rights based on performance.	Final action on small sideboards for AFA and CR programs IFQ discussion papers, IFQ Committee recommendations	Co-op Reports (AFA, AM 80, GOA Rockfish, BSAI Crab)

¹ http://legistar2.granicus.com/npfmc/meetings/2018/2/971_A_North_Pacific_Council_18-02-05_Meeting_Agenda.pdf

² <https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/node/33552>

³ <https://www.npfmc.org/wp-content/PDFdocuments/fmp/ProgWorkplan2018-02.pdf>

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9. Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement	38. Increase the utility of groundfish fishery observer data for the conservation and management of living marine resources.	EM and Observer Tasking Priorities	
	39. Develop funding mechanisms that achieve equitable costs to the industry for implementation of the North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program.	Observer Fee Analysis	
	40. Improve community and regional economic impact costs and benefits through increased data reporting requirements.	Economic SAFE Reports	