

Groundfish Workplan

Priority actions revised in February 2007, status updated to current

General Priority	Specific priority actions	Related to mgmt objective:	Status (updated 9-29-14)	2014	
				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 BSIERP MSE modeling underway	█	█
	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 Grenadiers moved to ecosystem category in Feb 2014	█	█
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 BSIERP MSE modeling underway	█	█
	c. develop pilot Fishery Ecosystem Plan for the AI	13	FEP and brochure published 2007; AI ecosystem assessment developed in 2011 BS FEP scoping discussions Oct 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 papers in Oct 2014 BS Chinook/chum bycatch review Dec 2014	█	█
	b. explore mortality rate-based approaches to setting PSC limits in GOA and BSAI fisheries	20	partially addressed in BS Chinook bycatch EIS draft template for BSAI crab bycatch limits underway	█	█
	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 Dec 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 SSL EIS regulations underway</i>		
	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 ams approved Apr 2011 crab bycatch limits discussion paper addresses BBRKC</i>		
	c. consider call for HAPC proposals on 3-year cycle	27	<i>HAPC cycle changed to 5 years, adopted Apr 2011 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 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 GOA trawl bycatch mgmt discussion papers in Oct 2014</i>		
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 Council Outreach Committee meets periodically</i>		
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; EM Strategic Plan approved in 2013 annual program review in June and deployment plan in Oct EM cooperative research plan update - Oct 2014</i>		
	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 Enforcement Cttee to advise on advanced features - Dec 2014</i>		