Council Action on Unmanaged Forage Species

Julia Beaty
June 10, 2015
Virginia Beach, VA
Outline

- FMAT
- Draft scoping document
- Draft schedule for action development
# FMAT membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Role/Expertise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julia Beaty</td>
<td>MAFMC</td>
<td>FMAT Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Seagraves</td>
<td>MAFMC</td>
<td>Advisor as necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanna Madsen</td>
<td>ASMFC</td>
<td>State fisheries and fisheries science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carly Bari</td>
<td>GARFO</td>
<td>Policy and legal issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. David Stevenson</td>
<td>GARFO</td>
<td>Habitat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jerome Hermsen</td>
<td>GARFO</td>
<td>Fisheries-dependent data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Laurel Smith</td>
<td>NEFSC</td>
<td>Fisheries biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Min-Yang Lee</td>
<td>NEFSC</td>
<td>Socioeconomics</td>
</tr>
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Draft scoping Document

1. Introduction
2. Why is this action being proposed?
3. Issues for consideration
4. How to provide comments
5. Schedule of scoping hearings
6. Draft timeline for action
1. Introduction

2. Why is this action being proposed?

“Prohibit development of new, or expansion of existing, directed fisheries on unmanaged forage species until adequate scientific information is available to promote ecosystem sustainability”
3. Issues for consideration
   a) Which type of action?
   b) Which provisions?
   c) Which species to include?
   d) What type of fishing to address?
   e) What geographic scope?
   f) How to prohibit expansion of existing fisheries?
   g) How to allow new fisheries to develop?
Draft scoping Document

3. Issues for consideration

a. Which type of action?

- FMP amendment
- New FMP
- Update list of approved fisheries and gears
- Other
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fishery</th>
<th>Authorized gear type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16. Coastal Gillnet Fishery (Non-FMP)</td>
<td>Gillnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Recreational Fishery (Non-FMP)</td>
<td>Rod and reel, handline, spear, hook and line, hand harvest, bandit gear, powerhead, gillnet, cast net.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27. Commercial Fishery (Non-FMP)</td>
<td>Trawl, pot, trap, gillnet, pound net, dredge, seine, handline, longline, hook and line, rod and reel, spear.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Issues for consideration

b. Which provisions?

- Ecosystem Component species
- Stocks “in the fishery”
- Components of Essential Fish Habitat
- Other
Ecosystem Component Species

EC species should:

- Be non-target species
- Not be subject to overfishing, not be overfished or approaching overfished
- Not be likely to become subject to overfishing or overfished in the absence of conservation and management measures
- Not generally be retained for sale or personal use
Ecosystem Component Species

May be included in FMPs for:

- Data collection purposes
- Ecosystem considerations related to specifications of OY for the associated fishery
- As considerations in the development of conservation and management measures for the associated fishery
- To address other ecosystem issues
Ecosystem Component Species

- Not considered “in the fishery”
  - Don’t require MSY, OY, EFH, AMs, ACLs
  - Discretionary provisions allowed

- Should monitor to determine if should be re-classified as “in the fishery”

- Should minimize bycatch
Stocks “in the fishery”

- MSA requires MSY, OY, EFH, AMs, ACLs for stocks “in the fishery”

- Could prohibit fisheries by setting OY or ACL to 0
Component of EFH

- **EFH definition**

- **Required to minimize negative effects**

Sand Lance (Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada)
3. Issues for consideration

c. Which species to include?

- White paper
  - Starting point
  - Fish species only, no invertebrates
- Others?
Forage Fish White Paper

- Bay anchovy
- Striped anchovy
- Silver anchovy
- Round herring
- Thread herring
- Spanish sardine
- Sand lance
- Atlantic silverside
3. Issues for consideration

d. What type of fishing to regulate?

- All directed fishing?
- Commercial only?
- Catches above a certain size?
Draft scoping Document

3. Issues for consideration

e. What geographic scope?

- Would depend, in part, on type of action
- Mid-Atlantic EEZ only?
- State waters?
- New England?
- South Atlantic?
3. Issues for consideration

f. How to best prevent expansion of existing fisheries?

- What is the extent of existing fisheries?
- How will we know if they are expanding?
- How to allow existing fisheries to remain unchanged?
3. Issues for consideration

g. How to allow new fisheries to develop?

- Exempted Fishing Permits?
- What information is needed to “promote ecosystem sustainability”?
Draft scoping Document

4. Instructions for providing comment

– Written (mail, online, email, fax)

– In-person (scoping hearings)

Bay anchovy (Nicholls State University)
5. Scoping schedule

August – September 2015

- Narragansett, RI
- East Setauket, NY
- Cape May, NJ
- Ocean City, MD
- Newport News, VA
- Washington, NC
- Webinar
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>December 11, 2014</td>
<td>Council passes motion to protect unmanaged forage fish</td>
<td>Council meeting Baltimore, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>April 14, 2015</td>
<td>Council discusses next steps</td>
<td>Council meeting Long Branch, NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td>FMAT formed</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In progress</td>
<td>June 10, 2015</td>
<td>Council reviews progress on action and approves scoping</td>
<td>Council meeting Virginia Beach, VA</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>plan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned for</td>
<td>June 23, 2015</td>
<td>FMAT begins development of initial alternatives</td>
<td>Webinar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned for</td>
<td>August-September</td>
<td>Scoping hearings</td>
<td>7 locations from Rhode Island to North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
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## Draft timeline, part 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planned</td>
<td>October 2015</td>
<td>Presentation on and consideration of public comments</td>
<td>Council meeting Philadelphia, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned</td>
<td>October 2015</td>
<td>Ecosystem and Ocean Planning Committee and other relevant committees review alternatives developed by FMAT</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned</td>
<td>December 2015</td>
<td>Reports from FMAT and relevant committees; Council selects preferred alternatives</td>
<td>Council meeting Annapolis, MD</td>
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<td>February 2016</td>
<td>Final action</td>
<td>Council meeting New Bern, NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned</td>
<td>March 2016</td>
<td>Documents submitted to NMFS for secretarial approval</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Summer 2016</td>
<td>Final rule effective</td>
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Questions?

Bay anchovy (VIMS)