

Biological Sampling Priority Matrix

Created in February 2017
For FY2018, FY2019

*Our vision is to be the principal source of fisheries-dependent information
on the Atlantic coast through the cooperation of all program partners.*

Biological Review Panel recommends:



- Species in the upper 25% of the priority matrix should be considered for funding.
- Sampling projects which cover multiple species within the upper 25% are highly recommended.

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Biological Review Panel recommendations

based on matrix*:

* UPPER 25% OF MATRIX

New Species																
Species	Overfished	Overfishing	Most Recent Stock Assessment	Current/Next Stock Assessment	Council Priority	ASMFC Priority	State Priority	NMFS Priority	Fishery Managed	Sig. change in landings w/in 24 mo	Sig. change in mgmt w/in 24 mo	Adequacy of level of sampling	Stock Resilience	Seasonality of Fishery	TOTAL	
Atlantic halibut <i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>	U	U	2015	2017	4.0	0	1.1	4.0	1	5	1	4	5	3	28.07	
Atlantic Smooth Dogfish <i>Mustelus canis</i>	N	N	2015		3.0	3	1.3	3.0	1	3	3	3	2	3	25.29	
American Eel <i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	Y	Y	2012	Update 2017	0.0	5	3.5	0.0	1	1	5	4	5	1	25.50	
American Lobster <i>Homarus americanus</i>	N	N	2015		0.0	5	2.6	3.0	1	1	3	3	4	1	23.57	
Atlantic Menhaden <i>Brevoortia tyrannus</i>	N	N	2015	Update 2017	0.0	5	2.1	3.0	1	1	5	2	3	1	23.14	
Black Sea Bass <i>Centropristis striata</i>	N: MA N:SA	N: MA N:SA	2016	2017	5.0	5	3.4	5.0	1	1	4	3	3	1	31.36	
Bluefin Tuna <i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	Y	N	2014	2017	0.0	0	1.6	5.0	1	5	5	3	3	1	24.64	
Blueline Tilefish <i>Caulolatilus microps</i>	N	Y	2013	Benchmark 2017	5.0	0	1.1	5.0	1	3	5	4	3	3	30.14	
Cobia <i>Rachycentron canadum</i>	N	N	2012	2020	5.0	4	1.4	3.0	1	1	3	4	3	3	28.36	
Dolphin <i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	U	U			5.0	0	1.3	3.0	1	3	3	3	1	3	23.29	
Gag Grouper <i>Mycteroperca microlepis</i>	N	N	2014	2020	5.0	0	0.9	4.0	1	1	2	3	4	3	23.93	
Gray Triggerfish <i>Balistes capriscus</i>	U	U	2016		5.0	0	1.0	4.0	1	5	4	4	2	3	29.00	
Red Drum <i>Sciaenops ocellatus</i>	U	N	2017		1.0	5	1.2	1.0	1	5	0	3	3	3	23.21	
Red Grouper <i>Epinephelus morio</i>	Y	Y	2010	2017	5.0	0	1.0	4.0	1	1	0	4	4	3	23.00	
Red Snapper <i>Lutjanus campechanus</i>	Y	Y	2016		5.0	0	0.7	5.0	1	1	1	2	5	5	25.71	
Scamp <i>Mycteroperca phenax</i>	U	U		2020	5.0	0	0.9	3.0	1	1	3	4	4	3	24.86	
Snowy Grouper <i>Epinephelus niveatus</i>	Y	N	2013	2019	5.0	0	1.1	5.0	1	3	4	4	5	3	31.14	
Spanish Mackerel <i>Scomberomorus maculatus</i>	N	N	2012	2019	5.0	2	1.4	4.0	1	1	3	3	2	1	23.36	
Tilefish <i>Lopholatilus chamaeleonticeps</i>	N: MA N:SA	N: MA Y:SA	2016		5.0	0	1.7	4.0	1	1	2	4	4	3	25.71	
Winter Flounder <i>Pleuronectes americanus</i>	Y: GB U: GOM Y: SNE/MA	Y: GB U: GOM Y: SNE/MA	2016	Update 2017	5.0	2	2.4	5.0	1	3	0	2	4	1	25.43	
Winter Skate <i>Raja ocellata</i>	N	Y	2016		4.0	0	0.9	3.0	1	5	1	3	5	1	23.86	

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Bio-sampling Priority Matrix



		Biological Sampling Adequacy	
		Adequate (0 - 2)	Inadequate (3 - 5)
Averaged Priority Columns	High (≥ 3.0)	Winter Flounder	Black Sea Bass - Cobia - Spanish Mackerel
	Low (< 3.0)	Red Snapper - Atlantic Menhaden	Atlantic Halibut - Atlantic Smooth Dogfish - American Eel - American Lobster - Bluefin Tuna - Blueline Tilefish - Dolphin - Gag Grouper - Gray Triggerfish - Red Drum - Red Grouper - Scamp - Snowy Grouper - Tilefish - Winter Skate

Grouping of species in upper 25% of total matrix score, based on sampling adequacy and average priority (average of ASMFC, Council, NMFS and State priorities).

- Red Snapper and Atlantic Menhaden are being sampled adequately and have low priority so additional sampling is not needed.
- Projects that target multiple upper quartile species should be given a higher priority.

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