



Council Action on Unmanaged Forage Species

Julia Beaty

June 10, 2015

Virginia Beach, VA

Outline

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



Round herring (NEFSC)

FMAT membership

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

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

Draft scoping Document

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”

Draft scoping Document

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?

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3. Issues for consideration

a. Which type of action?

- FMP amendment
- New FMP
- Update list of approved fisheries and gears
- Other

50 CFR 600.725

Fishery	Authorized gear type
16. Coastal Gillnet Fishery (Non-FMP)	Gillnet
17. Recreational Fishery (Non-FMP)	Rod and reel, handline, spear, hook and line, hand harvest, bandit gear, powerhead, gillnet, cast net.
27. Commercial Fishery (Non-FMP)	Trawl, pot, trap, gillnet, pound net, dredge, seine, handline, longline, hook and line, rod and reel, spear.

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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)

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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



Draft scoping Document

3. Issues for consideration

d. What type of fishing to regulate?

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

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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?

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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?

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3. Issues for consideration

g. How to allow new fisheries to develop?

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

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4. Instructions for providing comment
 - Written (mail, online, email, fax)
 - In-person (scoping hearings)



Bay anchovy (Nicholls State University)

Draft scoping Document

5. Scoping schedule

August – September 2015

- Narragansett, RI
- East Setauket, NY
- Cape May, NJ
- Ocean City, MD
- Newport News, VA
- Washington, NC
- Webinar

Draft timeline, part 1

Status	Date	Action	Location
✓	December 11, 2014	Council passes motion to protect unmanaged forage fish	Council meeting Baltimore, MD
✓	April 14, 2015	Council discusses next steps	Council meeting Long Branch, NJ
✓	May 2015	FMAT formed	---
In progress	June 10, 2015	Council reviews progress on action and approves scoping plan	Council meeting Virginia Beach, VA
Planned for	June 23, 2015	FMAT begins development of initial alternatives	Webinar
Planned for	August-September 2015	Scoping hearings	7 locations from Rhode Island to North Carolina

Draft timeline, part 2

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

Questions?



Bay anchovy (VIMS)