Framework Adjustment 47

to the

Northeast Multispecies FMP

Appendix I

Summary of Past, Present, or Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions

APPENDIX V

The actions summarized in the table below are presented in chronological order, and codes indicate whether an action relates to the past (P), present (Pr), or reasonably foreseeable future (RFF). When any of these abbreviations occur together, it indicates that some past actions are still relevant to the present and/or future. A brief explanation of the rationale for concluding what effect each action has (or will have) had on each of the VECs is provided in the table and is not repeated here.

Table I-1. Impacts of Past, Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions on the five VECs. These actions do not include those which were considered to have little impact on the fishery or actions under consideration in this framework.

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS						
[P] Prosecution of the groundfish fisheries by foreign fleets in the area that would become the U.S. EEZ (prior to implementation of the MSA)	Foreign fishing pressure peaked in the 1960s and slowly declined until passage of the MSA in 1974 and implementation of the Multispecies FMP	**Direct High Negative** Foreign fishing depleted many groundfish stocks	**Potentially Direct High Negative** Limited information on discarding, but fishing effort was very high and there were no gear requirements to reduce bycatch	**Potentially Direct High Negative** Limited information on protected resources encounters, but fishing effort was very high	**Potentially Direct High Negative** Limited information on habitat, but fishing effort was very high	**Potentially Indirect Negative** Revenue from fishing was split between foreign and domestic communities, rather than just domestic communities
[P] Original FMP implemented in 1977	Established management of cod, haddock and yellowtail via catch quotas, quota allocations by vessel class and catch limits	**Direct Positive** Provided slight effort reductions and regulatory tools available to rebuild and manage stocks	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort on cod, haddock and yellowtail which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Indirect Positive** Increased probability of long term sustainability

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
[P] Interim Plan (1982)	Implemented GB seasonal closed areas, minimum fish size requirements in GB and GOM and permit requirements	**Direct Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Indirect Positive** Increased probability of long term sustainability
[P] Multispecies Plan (1986)	Revised FMP to include pollock, redfish, winter flounder, American plaice, witch flounder, windowpane flounder and white hake. Allowed additional minimum fish size restrictions, extended GB spawning area closures and a SNE closure to protect yellowtail flounder	**Direct Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort and provided the opportunity to manage additional groundfish species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Indirect Positive** Increased probability of long term sustainability

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
[P] Amendments 1-4 to the Multispecies FMP (1987-1991)	Implemented closure in SNE/MA to protect yellowtail, extended GB RMA, added minimum mesh size requirements to SNE, excluded scallop dredge vessels from SNE closure, incorporated silver hake, red hake and ocean pout into the FMP	**Direct Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort and provided the opportunity to manage additional groundfish species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Indirect Positive** Increased probability of long term sustainability
[P] Multispecies Emergency Action (1994)	Implemented 500-lb haddock trip limit, expanded CA II closure time and area, prohibited scallop dredge vessels from possessing haddock from Jan-Jun and prohibited pair-trawling for multispecies	**Direct Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Indirect Positive** Increased probability of long term sustainability

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
[P, Pr] Amendment 5 to the FMP (1994)	Made the above Emergency Action measures permanent, enacted a moratorium on new participants in the fishery, reduced DAS for most vessels by 50% over a 5-7 year period, implemented mandatory reporting and observer requirements, etc.	**Direct High Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort and capped the number of participants allowed to direct on the fishery	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability by limiting the number of participants in the directed fishery. However, there was a negative impact for fishermen and communities where participation was reduced
[P, Pr] Emergency Action (1994)	Implemented additional closed areas, prohibited scallop vessels from fishing in the closed areas, disallowed any fishery using mesh smaller than minimum mesh requirements, prohibited retaining regulated species with small mesh, etc.	**Direct High Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability but effort reductions result in short term lost revenues for fishermen and communities

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
[P, Pr] Framework 9 (1985)	Made the above Emergency Action measures permanent	**Direct High Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability but effort reductions result in short term lost revenues for fishermen and communities
[P, Pr] Amendment 7 to the Multispecies FMP (1996)	Accelerated Amendment 5 DAS reduction schedule, implemented seasonal GOM closures, implemented 1,000 lb haddock trip limit, expanded the 5% bycatch rule, etc.	**Direct High Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability but effort reductions result in short term lost revenues for fishermen and communities

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
[P, Pr] Framework 20 (1997)	Implemented GOM cod daily trip limit of 1,000 lb, increased the haddock daily trip limit to 1,000 lb and added gillnet effort-reduction measures such as net limits	**Mixed** Reduced directed fishing effort but allowed for an increase in haddock landings	**Mixed** Gillnet restrictions and reduced effort on cod helped reduce discards/bycatch but this may have been offset by increased effort on haddock	**Indirect Positive** Although the haddock daily trip limit increased, gillnet restrictions provide an overall positive impact	**Mixed** Reduced cod daily trip limit would be offset by increase haddock daily landing limit	**Mixed** Reduced revenues from a smaller cod daily trip limit could be offset by the increased haddock daily landing limit but gillnet effort reductions also have negative eco/soc impacts
[P, Pr] Framework 24 (1998)	Implemented an adjustment to GOM cod daily trip limit by requiring vessels to remain in port and run their DAS clock for a cod overage and implemented the DAS carryover provisions	**Direct Low Positive** Implemented minor effort reductions	**Indirect Low Positive** Implemented minor effort reductions which resulted in minor discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Low Positive** Slightly reduced fishing effort, thus reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Low Positive** Reduced fishing effort, thus reduced gear interactions with habitat	**Mixed** Vessels must remain in port with their clock running for a cod overage which has a negative impact but vessels may carryover DAS from one fishing year into the next.
[P, Pr] Framework 25 (1998)	Implemented GOM inshore closure areas, the year-round WGOM closure, the CLCA and reduced the GOM cod daily trip limit to 700 lb	**Direct Low Positive** Implemented effort reductions via reduced cod trip limit and closure areas	**Indirect Low Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Effort controls result in reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect High Positive** Closure areas and effort controls reduce gear interactions with habitat	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability but short term negative eco/soc impacts

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr Framework 26 (1999)	Expansion of April GOM inshore closure area and, additional seasonal inshore GOM and GB area closures	**Direct Low Positive** Implemented effort reductions via closure areas	**Indirect Low Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard bycatch reductions	**Indirect Positive** Effort controls result in reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect High Positive** Closure areas and effort controls reduce gear interactions with habitat	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability but short term negative eco/soc impacts
P, Pr, RFF Amendment 11 (1998)	Designated EFH for all species in the multispecies FMP and required Federal agencies to consult with NMFS on actions that may adversely effect EFH	**Indirect Low Positive** A consultation with NFMS that leads to the protection of multispecies EFH is beneficial to multispecies stocks	**Indirect Low Positive** A consultation with NFMS that leads to the protection of multispecies EFH is beneficial to other stocks that share the same EFH as multispecies stocks	**Indirect Low Positive** Consultation with NFMS that leads to the protection of multispecies EFH is beneficial to protected resources that share a need for the same habitat that multispecies stocks require	**Direct High Positive** Consultation with NMFS on activities that may adversely effect habitat provides NMFS the opportunity to mitigate or even prevent EFH impacts	**Indirect Low Positive** For instances where NMFS consults on projects impacting multispecies EFH, the overall health of the stocks should improve which would lead to long term sustainability

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr Framework 27 (1999)	Established large GOM rolling closures, modified CLCA, decreased GOM daily trip limit to 200 lb with subsequent reduction to 30 lb, increased haddock trip limit to 2,000 lb and increased minimum mesh size	**Mixed** Reduced directed fishing effort while also allowing the haddock trip limit to increase	**Mixed** A reduction in directed effort helped minimize bycatch and discards but increased haddock trip limit was somewhat offsetting	**Mixed** Reduced directed effort helps minimize protected species encounters but this was somewhat offset by the increased haddock trip limit	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed effort and closed areas help improve habitat, this may be slightly offset by the increased haddock trip limit	**Mixed** Short term negative from closed areas and the reduced cod trip limit which were not offset by the increased haddock trip limit. Long term positive because of increased probability of sustainable stocks
P Interim Rule (1999)	Revised GOM cod trip limit to 100 lb/day up to 500 lb max and revised the DAS running clock to allow a 1-day overage only	**Direct Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Low Positive** Effort controls result in reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect Low Positive** Effort controls result in reduced habitat interactions	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability but short term negative eco/soc impacts
P, Pr, RFF Amendment 9 (1999)	Prohibited used of brush sweep trawl gear, added halibut to the FMP with a 1-fish per trip possession limit	**Direct Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort	**Indirect Positive** Reduced directed fishing effort which resulted in discard/bycatch reductions	**Indirect Low Positive** Effort controls result in reduced interactions with protected species	**Indirect High Positive** Effort controls result in reduced habitat interactions	**Mixed** Increased probability of long term sustainability but short term negative eco/soc impacts

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
[P, Pr] Framework 31 (2000)	Increased GOM Daily limit to 400 lb/day up to 4,000/lb per trip, added Feb GOM inshore closure and extended 1999 Interim Rule running clock measure	**Mixed** Increased cod directed fishing effort while also reducing effort via closure area and cod running clock measure	**Mixed** Increased effort on cod could lead to greater discards/bycatch which would be somewhat offset by effort reductions via closure area and cod running clock measure	**Mixed** Increased cod effort could increase interactions but somewhat offset by effort reductions via closure area and cod running clock measure	**Indirect Low Positive** Minor positive impacts from inshore closure area	**Mixed** Short term positive from increased cod trip limit but long-term sustainability of the cod resource was effected
[P, Pr] Framework 33 (2000)	Added GB seasonal closure area, added conditional GOM closure areas and increase haddock trip limit to 3,000 lb	**Mixed** Increased haddock directed fishing effort while also reducing effort via closure areas	**Mixed** Increased effort on haddock could lead to greater discards/bycatch which would be somewhat offset by effort reductions via closure areas	**Mixed** Increased haddock effort could increase interactions but somewhat offset by effort reductions via closure areas	**Indirect Low Positive** Minor positive impacts from closure areas	**Mixed** Short term positive from increased haddock trip limit but negative impacts resulting from closure areas

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Interim Action (Settlement Agreement; 2002)	Restricted DAS use, modified DAS clock for trip vessels, added year-round closure of CLCA, expanded rolling closures, prohibited front-loading DAS clock, increased GOM trawl and gillnet mesh size, added new limitations on Day gillnets and further restricted charter/party vessels	**Direct High Positive** Implemented substantial directed fishing reductions	**Indirect High Positive** Implemented substantial directed fishing reductions which also reduced discards/bycatch	**Indirect Positive** Fishing reductions and expanded closure areas reduce protected species interactions	**Indirect High Positive** Fishing reductions and expanded closure areas reduce negative impacts to habitat	**Mixed** Short term impacts due to restrictions were highly negative but positive regarding the long term sustainability of the fishery

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Interim Action (Settlement Agreement Continued; 2002)	Continued above interim measures, further reduced DAS allocations, prohibited issuance of additional handgear permits, eliminated GOM Jan and Feb closures, increased SNE trawl and GB/SNE gillnet mesh sizes, further limited day and trip gillnets, added longline gear restrictions, added possession limit and restrictions on yellowtail catch and increased GOM cod daily trip limit to 500/4,000 lb max	**Direct High Positive** Implemented substantial directed fishing reductions	**Indirect High Positive** Implemented substantial directed fishing reductions which also reduced discards/bycatch	**Indirect Positive** Fishing reductions reduce protected species interactions	**Indirect Positive** Fishing reductions reduce negative impacts to habitat	**Mixed** Short term impacts due to restrictions were highly negative but improving the long term sustainability of the fishery was positive

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Amendment 13 (2004)	Adopted new rebuilding periods and a new rebuilding program that included periodic adjustments and default DAS reductions to reduce effort over time, allowed DAS to be leased or transferred, created sector allocation and special access programs to allow access to stocks that can support an increase in catch	**Direct High Positive** Implemented substantial directed fishing reductions	**Mixed** Implemented substantial directed fishing reductions which also reduced discards/bycatch. However, the mores stringent restrictions created pressure to direct on other stocks (e.g., monkfish)	**Indirect Positive** Fishing reductions reduce protected species interactions	**Indirect Positive** Fishing reductions reduce negative impacts to habitat	**Mixed** Short term impacts due to restrictions were highly negative but improving the long term sustainability of the fishery was positive
P, Pr, RFF Framework 40A (2004)	Created additional SAPs to target healthy stocks	**Direct Positive** Directing effort toward healthy stocks relieved pressure on stocks of concern	**Indirect Negative** Increased bycatch of monkfish and skates	**Negligible** Although effort increased slightly, no effort shifts impacting protected species are known to have occurred	**Negligible** Although effort increased slightly, no effort shifts impacting habitat are known to have occurred	**Indirect Positive** Provided vessels the opportunity for greater revenue while relieving pressure on stocks of concern

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Framework 40B (2005)	Relaxed DAS leasing and transfer requirements, created new yellowtail flounder SAP, provided greater opportunity for vessels to participate in the GB Cod Hook Sector, removed the net trip limit for gillnets, etc.	**Negligible** Mix of alternatives, some of which slightly increased effort and others that slightly decreased effort. Overall, changes did not threaten rebuilding targets established by Amendment 13	**Indirect Low Negative** Mix of alternatives that primarily had little impact on discards/bycatch with the exception of removing the net trip limit for gillnets which increased monkfish effort	**Negligible** Slight effort changes did not have measurable impacts to protected species	**Negligible** Slight effort changes did not have measurable impacts to habitat	**Indirect Low Positive** Slight changes to the leasing and transfer programs along with greater opportunities to participate in SAPs provides an opportunity for greater revenue
P, Pr, RFF Framework 41 (2005)	Allowed for participation in the Hook Gear Haddock SAP by non-Sector vessels	**Direct Low Positive** Encouraged effort on haddock, a healthy stock, and thus away from other stocks of concern	**Indirect Low Negative** Although directed effort shifted to a healthier stock, there was an overall effort increase resulting in a greater opportunity for bycatch/discards	**Negligible** Slight effort changes did not have measurable impacts to protected species	**Negligible** Slight effort changes did not have measurable impacts to habitat	**Indirect Low Positive** Greater opportunity to fish for a healthy stock provides increased revenue

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[P] Emergency Action (2006)	Implemented differential A DAS of 1.4:1, restricted the B Regular DAS program and US/CA Haddock SAP and reduced trip limits on cod, yellowtail, etc.	**Direct High Positive** Implemented effort reductions that anticipated achieving mortality reductions needed to keep stocks on track to rebuild	**Mixed** Effort reductions lead to reduced discards/bycatch but the B Regular DAS program increased monkfish and skate bycatch	**Negligible** Effort changes did not have measurable impacts to protected species	**Negligible** Effort changes did not have more than minimal impacts to habitat	**Mix** Short term effort reductions have a negative impact on revenues but increase long term sustainability of stocks
MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Framework 42 (2006)	Reduced the number of A DAS available, modified differential DAS counting to 2:1 in the GOM and SNE, reduced trip limits for several stocks, increased recreations minimum fish sizes, required use of VMS by all vessels, modified the SAPs, limited the bycatch of monkfish and skates for vessels using a haddock separator trawl, etc.	**Direct High Positive** Implemented effort reductions that anticipated achieving mortality reductions needed to keep stocks on track to rebuild	**Indirect Positive** Effort reductions lead to reduced discards/bycatch and measures were implemented to control monkfish and skate bycatch	**Indirect Low Positive** Overall effort reductions have a positive impact, particularly to protected species in high use areas such as the GOM and SNE where strict differential counting rules are in effect	**Indirect Low Positive** Overall effort reductions have a positive impact	**Mixed** Effort reductions have a significant negative impact to vessel owners and communities, primarily due to loss of revenues. Over the long term however, stocks should remain sustainable

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Framework 43 (2006)	Established a haddock incidental bycatch limit in the herring fishery on GB	**Mixed** While the incidental haddock allowance allows some legal catch of haddock which has a negative impact, the area is closed after the bycatch cap is reached which prohibits further harvest (positive impact)	**Negligible** The herring fishery is fairly clean and the increased haddock bycatch problem arose from strong 2003 and 2004 year classes. Allowing legal retention of haddock bycatch should not alter fishing practices in a manner that would impact species taken as bycatch	**Negligible** Although attaining the bycatch cap could reduce effort on GB, the extent of this reduction was not expected to have an overall impact on protected species	**Negligible** Gear used to target herring have been found not to have an impact on habitat	**Mixed** Allowing herring vessels to continue fishing practices on GB has a positive impact on those vessels and communities. However, the loss of the potential haddock catch has a negative impact on fishermen targeting groundfish
P, P, RFF Amendment 16 (2010)	Modified rebuilding mortality targets and status determination criteria, adopted ACL/AM requirements, modified effort controls, expanded sector policies, implemented 17 additional sectors, modified SAPs, changed DAS leasing and transfer programs	**Direct High Positive** Suite of measures reduces fishing mortality on groundfish stocks to continue rebuilding	**Indirect Positive** Reduced effort from common-pool and sector measures expected to reduce discards of non-target species	**Indirect Low Positive** If common pool and sector measures reduce overall groundfish fishing effort, this will likely reduce protected species impacts	**Direct Low Positive** Fishing effort reductions from common pool and sector measures should reduce interactions with EFH	**Mixed** Combination of effort controls and sector measures likely to reduce number of vessels, crew, communities participating in fishery, but remaining participants may be more profitable

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Framework 44 (2010)	Specified OFLs/ABC/ACLs for groundfish, FY 2010-2012; authorized in-season adjustments for common pool vessels; adopted YTF allocations for scallop fishery	**Positive** Established catch limits consistent with mortality targets and measures to insure targets are not exceeded	**No impact/neutral**	**Mixed** YTF allocations may reduce scallop effort if they limit fishery, reduce interactions with protected species	**Negligible**	**Minor/Mixed** Revenues should increase over time but short term losses expected
P, Pr, RFF Framework 45 (2011)	Adopted minor modifications to sector program, revised specifications for some stocks and effort control measures including a cod spawning protection area	**Positive** Continue stock rebuilding	**Negligible**	**Negligible** Analysis not complete but minimal impacts expected	**Negligible** Analysis not complete but minimal impacts expected	**Minor/Mixed** Revenues should increase over time but short term losses expected
P, Pr, RFF Framework 46 (2011)	Modified portion of GB and GOM haddock ACL that can be caught by the herring fishery	**Negligible** Did not modify overall catch limits	**Negligible** Should not alter fishing practices in a manner that would impact species taken as bycatch	**Negligible** A possible slight increase in herring fishing was not expected to have an overall impact on protected species	**Negligible** Gear used to target herring have been found not to have an impact on habitat	**Mixed** Allowing herring vessels to continue fishing has a positive impact on that fishery. However, loss of potential haddock catch has a negative impact on fishermen targeting groundfish

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MULTISPECIES FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Sector EAs (Annually 2010-)	Sector EAs are prepared for each sector approved under the FMP. These documents assess impacts from exemptions granted to individual sectors that go beyond the universal exemptions	**Negligible** Because exemptions granted to sectors must strive to have neutral impacts compared to common pool vessels, impacts would be negligible	**Negligible** Because exemptions granted to sectors must strive to have neutral impacts compared to common pool vessels, impacts would be negligible	**Negligible** Because exemptions granted to sectors must strive to have neutral impacts compared to common pool vessels, impacts would be negligible	**Negligible** Because exemptions granted to sectors must strive to have neutral impacts compared to common pool vessels, impacts would be negligible	**Low Positive** Because one of the intents of sectors is to provide participants greater freedom to maximize their operations, revenues would be expected to be slightly higher
Pr, RFF Amendment 17 (2011)	Established the operation of NOAA-sponsored, state-operated permit banks	**Negligible** Action not considered to have any impacts beyond those anticipated by Amendment 16	**Negligible** Action not considered to have any impacts beyond those anticipated by Amendment 16	**Negligible** Action not considered to have any impacts beyond those anticipated by Amendment 16	**Negligible** Action not considered to have any impacts beyond those anticipated by Amendment 16	**Negligible** Action not considered to have any impacts beyond those anticipated by Amendment 16
RFF Amendment 18 (In development)	Consider accumulation limits and measures to maintain fleet diversity	**Negligible** Will not change total groundfish catch	**Minor/Mixed** Will not change total catch but could conceivably divert effort into other fisheries	**Minor** May change types and locations of fishing activity	**Minor** May change distribution of catch by gears used in the fishery	**Mixed** While some communities may support ownership caps or other measures to maintain fleet diversity, others my view this as an inefficient way to manage

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OTHER FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS						
[P] Prosecution of herring fisheries by foreign fleets in the area that would become the U.S. EEZ (prior to implementation of the M-S Act)	Foreign fishing pressure peaked in the 1960s and slowly declined until passage of the M-S Act and implementation of the FMP	**Negative** – high bycatch and fishing mortality rates	**High Negative** – declining population and crash on Georges Bank	**Potentially Negative** - given high bycatch in DWF mackerel and squid fisheries	**Low Negative** – unknown impacts from foreign fishing practices	**Low Negative** – value from fishery cycling to foreign businesses
[P, Pr] Interstate FMP beginning in 1983 and ASMFC Atlantic Herring FMP in 1993, ASMFC FMP actions in 1998 and 2000	Management in state waters; Address growth in the fishery, allocate IWP; Define overfishing, estimate MSY, spawning closures, days out; Redefine spawning areas, impose landing restriction from spawning areas	**Neutral**	**Positive** – establish management in State waters to ease overfishing pressure and rebuild stock	**Low Positive** – limited fishing effort	**Positive**	**Positive** – establish IWP, more available to local economies
[P, Pr, RFF] Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP – a series of amendment and framework actions from the mid-1990s through the present	Implementation of the Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP and continued management of the fishery, primarily through effort controls	**Direct Positive** Effort reductions taken over time have resulted in a sustainable scallop fishery	**Indirect Positive** Effort reductions taken over time also reduced bycatch, including gear modifications that improved bycatch escapement	**Mixed** Effort reductions taken over time reduced interactions with protected species however, turtle interactions remain problematic	**Indirect Positive** Effort reductions reduced gear contact with habitat and the current rotational access program focuses fishing effort on sandy substrates which are less susceptible to habitat impacts	**Indirect Positive** Initial negative impacts due to effort reductions have been supplanted by a sustainable, profitable fishery

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OTHER FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Monkfish FMP – a series of amendment and framework actions from implementation of the FMP in 1999 through the present	Implementation of the monkfish FMP and continued management of the fishery, primarily through effort controls	**Direct Positive** Effort reductions have resulted in a fishery that is no longer overfished, nor is overfishing occurring	**Indirect Positive** Effort reductions taken over time also reduced bycatch	**Indirect Positive** Reducing effort reduced opportunities for interactions with protected species	**Indirect Positive** Reducing effort reduced opportunities for habitat interactions	**Indirect Positive** Reducing effort has created a sustainable fishery
P,P,RFF NEFMC Atlantic Herring FMP and subsequent amendments	Establish TACs, management areas, reporting requirements, permits, complement state management	Low Positive – reduced bycatch	**Positive** – establish complementary Federal management to protect stock	**Positive** – established overall TAC and area TACs	**Low Positive** – limit fishing effort	**Neutral** – support local economies, but limit catch with TAC
Pr, RFF Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Amendment (2008)	Removed the DAM program, implement sinking ground lines for lobster gear, includes more trap/pot and gillnet fisheries under the protection plan and requires additional markings on gear to improve information on where and how entanglements occur	**Negligible** Changes implemented through the amendment are not expected to have substantial changes on groundfish	**Negligible** Changes implemented through the amendment are not expected to have substantial changes on non-groundfish species	**Direct Positive** New regulations implemented to protect large whales are expected to have a positive impact on large whales by reducing incidental takes	**Negligible** Changes implemented through the amendment are not expected to have substantial changes to habitat	**Indirect Negative** Changes implemented through the amendment require some gear changes for gillnet fisheries which have minor negative economic impacts

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
OTHER FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
RFF Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan Amendment (~2010)	Options are currently under development to reduce takes of harbor porpoise toward the long-term zero mortality rate goal	**Unknown** If current measures such as closure areas and the use of pingers are expanded upon or modified, it could impact groundfish	**Unknown** If current measures such as closure areas and the use of pingers are expanded upon or modified, it could impact non-groundfish species	**Direct Positive** Changes to protect harbor porpoise have a positive impact on protected species	**Unknown** If current measures such as closure areas and the use of pingers are expanded upon or modified, it could impact habitat	**Unknown** If current measures such as closure areas and the use of pingers are expanded upon or modified, it could impact human communities
RFF Essential Fish Habitat Omnibus Amendment (~2010/2011)	This amendment would revised EFH designations for all New England fisheries, possibly establish new HAPCs and consider measures to further protect critical habitat; may revise multispecies closed areas	**Unknown** If new measures are implemented to protect habitat, they would likely have a positive impact on groundfish	**Unknown** If new measures are implemented to protect habitat, they could have a positive impact non-groundfish species	**Unknown** If new measures are implemented to protect habitat, they could potentially impact protected species	**Direct Positive** New measures implemented to protect habitat would have a positive impact on habitat	**Unknown** If new measures are implemented to protect habitat, they would likely impact human communities
P, Pr RFF Amendment 3 to the Skate FMP (2010)	This amendment addresses rebuilding of winter and thorny skates and reduce mortality on little and smooth skates; reduces trip limits, adopts ACLs and AMs	**Minor Negative** Lower skate possession limits and closures may cause vessels to use DAS for groundfish	**Mixed** Actions taken to reduce skate mortality; they could lead to increased targeting of non-groundfish species	**Unknown** If actions are taken to reduce skate mortality, they could impact protected species	**Unknown** If actions are taken to reduce skate mortality, they could impact habitat	**Minor negative** Actions taken to reduce skate mortality negatively impact human communities

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
NON FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS						
P, Pr, RFF Agriculture runoff	Nutrients applied to agriculture land are introduced into aquatic systems	**Indirect Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Direct Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Reduced habitat quality negatively affects resource viability and can lead to reduced income from fishery resources
P, Pr, RFF Port maintenance	Dredging of wetlands, coastal, port and harbor areas for port maintenance	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality	**Direct Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Reduced habitat quality negatively affects resource viability in the immediate project area
P, Pr, RFF Offshore disposal of dredged materials	Disposal of dredged materials	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Direct Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Reduced habitat quality negatively affects resource viability in the immediate project area

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
NON FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
P, Pr, RFF Beach nourishment	Offshore mining of sand for beaches	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Direct Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Mixed** Positive for mining companies, possibly negative for fisheries
	Placement of sand to nourish beach shorelines	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Direct Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Positive** Improves beaches and can help protect homes along the shore line
P, Pr, RFF Marine transportation	Expansion of port facilities, vessel operations and recreational marinas	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Direct Negative** Reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Mixed** Positive for some interests, potential displacement for others
P, Pr, RFF Installation of pipelines, utility lines and cables	Transportation of oil, gas and energy through pipelines, utility lines and cables	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Potentially Direct Negative** Initially reduced habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Mixed** End users benefit from improved pipelines, cables, etc., but reduced habitat quality may impact fisheries and revenues

Action	Description	Impacts on Regulated Groundfish Stocks	Impacts on Non-groundfish species	Impacts on Endangered and Other Protected Species	Impacts on Habitat – Including Non-fishing Effects	Impacts on Human Communities
NON FISHERY-RELATED ACTIONS CONTINUED						
Pr, RFF Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals (w/in 5 years)	Transportation of natural gas via tanker to terminals located offshore and onshore (Several LNG terminals are proposed, including ME, MA, NY, NJ and MD)	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Potentially Direct Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality possible in the immediate project area	**Mixed** End users benefit from a steady supply of natural gas but reduced habitat quality may impact fisheries and revenues
RFF Offshore Wind Energy Facilities (w/in 5 years)	Construction of wind turbines to harness electrical power (Several facilities proposed from ME through NC, including off the coast of MA)	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Indirect Negative** Initially localized decreases in habitat quality in the immediate project area	**Potentially Direct Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality possible in the immediate project area	**Potentially Direct Negative** Localized decreases in habitat quality possible in the immediate project area	**Mixed** End users benefit from a clean energy production but reduced habitat quality may impact fisheries and revenues