

Five-Year Review of Crustaceans FMP

Amendment 9 to the Crustaceans FMP requires a review after 5-year following the implementation date. Specifically, it states:

5.1.6 Conduct five-year review

The Council has determined that a comprehensive review of the NWHI lobster management system should be undertaken after five years to evaluate the effectiveness of the management program. Although an annual fishery report would be prepared by the Plan Team, the five-year review would give the Council a broader perspective on whether, and how, the performance of the management program could be improved.

Appendix 7: Draft Proposed Regulations. (Sec. 681.30 Five-year review)

After five years from the effective date of the rule implementing FMP Amendment 9, the Council, in cooperation with the NMFS, will conduct a review of the effectiveness and impacts of the NWHI management program, including biological, economic and social aspects of the fishery.

A strategy for the review of the management program could include the following components:

- 1) Why Amd. 9 was implemented
- 2) Basic elements of Amd. 9
 - * archipelago-wide risk-based harvest rate
 - * pooled (archipelago fleet-wide) harvest guideline
 - * retain-all fishery
 - * framework provisions
 - * characterization of “uncertainty”
 - * escape vents
- 3) Review of modifications since Amd. 9
 - * spatial (bank-specific) management (benefits and impacts)
 - * SFA amendment provisions
- 4) Future considerations and needs
 - * Revised EISs currently being prepared for the Crustaceans FMP
 - * Effects of recent closures (NMFS, proposed no-take MPAs, President’s NWHI initiative)
 - * Implementation of control rule for MSY (SFA overfishing definition)
 - * Review of the NMFS research plan (including status of the stocks and population assessment models; assessment of larval drift model)

Implementation of the review could include contractors, with SOW to be developed based on the above components, and the convening of a technical review panel in early 2001. Alternatively, the review could be postponed considering recent events in the fishery.

