

comments. Appendix III also has a summary of the comments and the Councils' response.

### **3.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 FMP Goals**

The Councils adopted four management goals in the original FMP. These are:

1. To end and prevent overfishing; rebuilding and maintaining a healthy spawning stock.
2. To optimize yield and maximize economic benefits to the various fishing sectors.
3. To prevent increased fishing on immature fish.
4. To allow the traditional incidental catch of monkfish to occur.

These four goals were intended to ensure adequate spawning and the highest possible yields without radically altering the fisheries for other species, or causing extensive regulatory discards. In addition, they addressed the problem of the intensified fishing effort directed on small monkfish that occurred during the 1990's.

#### **3.2 Goals for this Amendment**

In addition to complying with the goals of the Magnuson Act, generally, and the Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) amendments, specifically, the goals of this amendment are:

- I.** Prevent overfishing or rebuild overfished stocks as necessary.
- II.** Address problems created by the implementation of the FMP.  
**Objectives:**
  - 1) Reconsider the limited entry program for the monkfish fishery south of 38° N
  - 2) Address problems for deepwater fisheries resulting from the disapproval of the running clock in the original FMP
  - 3) Address the problem of multispecies or sea scallop permit holders having to use a multispecies or sea scallop day at sea (DAS) when using a monkfish DAS
  - 4) Establish appropriate exemptions for vessels fishing for monkfish outside of the EEZ (in the NAFO Regulated Area)
- III.** Promote improved data collection and research on monkfish
- IV.** Comply with CEQ (Council on Environmental Quality) Guidelines to update Environmental Documents
- V.** Address deficiencies in meeting Magnuson Act requirements  
**Objectives:**
  - 1) Meet Magnuson Act requirements for Essential Fish Habitat
  - 2) Address known bycatch issues, specifically due to trip limits and minimum fish size
- VI.** Address protected resources/fishery interactions  
**Objective:** specifically address the turtle/gillnet interaction
- VII.** Reduce FMP complexity where possible.

The following table identifies the alternatives associated with each of the goals and objectives outlined above, and includes reference to the decision document contained in Appendix I.

| GOAL  | OBJECTIVE  | DECISION (Appendix I)               |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| I. Prevent overfishing or rebuild overfished stocks as necessary        | N/A  | All decisions                       |
| II. Address problems created by the implementation of the FMP.          | 1) Reconsider the limited entry program for the monkfish fishery south of 38°N   | Decision 9                          |
|   | 2) Address problems for deepwater fisheries resulting from the disapproval of the running clock in the original FMP        | Decisions 1 and 8                   |
|   | 3) Address the problem of multispecies or sea scallop permit holders having to use a MS or scallop DAS when using a MF DAS | Decision 1, 8 and 14                |
|   | 4) Establish the appropriate exemptions for vessels fishing for monkfish outside of the EEZ                                | Decision 10                         |
| III. Promote improved data collection and research on monkfish.         | N/A  | Decisions 1, 3, 6, 8, 12, and 14    |
| IV. Comply with CEQ Guidelines to update environmental documents.       | N/A  | Decisions 1, 3, 4, and 6            |
| V. Address deficiencies in meeting MAGNUSON-STEVENSON Act requirements. | 1) Meet MAGNUSON-STEVENSON Act requirements for EFH  | Decisions 11, 12 and 14             |
|   | 2) Address bycatch issues, specifically due to trip limits and minimum fish size   | Decisions 2, 3, 4, 6, 12, 14 and 17 |
| VI. Address protected resources/fishery interactions.                   | Specifically address the turtle/gillnet interaction  | Decisions 12 and 17                 |
| VII. Reduce FMP complexity where possible.                              | N/A  | Decisions 6 and 13                  |

**Table 8 DSEIS alternatives and their relationship to specific goals and objectives, including reference to decision document in Appendix I.**