

Appendix A. Summary of major NEFSC action items and schedule

Major theme	Action number	Action description	NEFSC Divisions	Deadline
1. Increase the usage of NCRP data products and services	1a	The NEFSC will convene workshops to communicate the value of cooperative research and improve awareness and integration of NCRP products and services.	FMRD	Spring 2017
	1b	The NEFSC will ensure that every science Division has cross-cutting activities with the NCRP and is detailed in the NEFSC 2021 Labor Planning.	FMRD, Directorate	Spring/Summer 2017
	1c	The NEFSC will ensure that the Data Management System Division has cross-cutting activities with the CRB and is detailed in the NEFSC 2021 Labor Planning.	FMRD, Directorate	Spring/Summer 2017
	1d	The NEFSC will continue to support and emphasize FDDV; continue to develop and support electronic data transfer from fishing vessels.	FMRD, Directorate	Spring/Summer 2017
2. Examine the organizational structure and the administrative oversight provided by the NCRP for the Research Set-Aside Program	2a	The NEFSC will work with the Council(s) and GARFO to further evaluate improvements to the RSA programs. The NEFSC will engage in this joint comprehensive review of RSA programs.	FMRD, Directorate, external partners	Spring/Summer 2017
	2b	The NEFSC will develop a joint work plan with the Council(s) and GARFO to further evaluate how awards are made and tracked within the RSA programs.	FMRD, Directorate, external partners	Spring/Summer 2017
	2c	The recommendation to improve tracking of the performance of the projects and increase transparency and accountability will be discussed as part of the joint RSA review.	FMRD, Directorate, external partners	Spring/Summer 2017
	2d	The recommendation to adjust the funding life-cycle will be further discussed in the joint RSA Program review.	FMRD, Directorate, external partners	Spring/Summer 2017
3. Improve communications about the roles and functions of the NCRP both internally and externally	3a	The NEFSC should increase opportunities for cooperative research to be presented to staff of the NEFSC, by NCRP staff and other project collaborators, on at least a biennial basis.	FMRD, Directorate	2018
	3b	Expand the Cooperative research curriculum in the Marine Resource Education Program (MREP) to focus on the role of the NCRP, ongoing projects, and recent success stories.	FMRD, external partners	Fall 2017
	3c	Using a variety of outreach tools (NCRP website, press releases, social media, email lists, tradeshow), NEFSC will provide more timely information about ongoing NCRP projects and success stories, video interviews/podcasts. CRB will engage in regular meetings with Social Media specialist and GARFO port agents, and reference the results noted in the NEFSC External Communication Strategy.	FMRD, OMI, external partners	Ongoing
	3d	CRB will update the NCRP website to include a list of NCRP projects, with metadata summarizing how the information from these projects has been used in science and management applications, and listing project contacts.	FMRD, OMI	Fall 2017
	3e	The NEFSC will re-establish regular reports from the NCRP at the MAFMC and NEFMC meetings.	Directorate	Fall 2017
4. Develop organizational structure within the NCRP to better deal with the geographically dispersed nature of program staff	4a	Explore creating supervisory contract positions within the CRB, which can be further evaluated through standing up the new Division (FMRD) structure and NEFSC labor planning for 2021.	FMRD	Spring 2017
	4b	NEFSC Branch Chiefs and Division Chiefs will work with the contract staff COTR and Staff Advisory Council at the NEFSC to ensure that mentoring and training opportunities are understood, offered, and designed within the scope of acceptable contract activities.	FMRD, Directorate	Summer 2017
	4c	To the extent possible, as additional Federal employees are hired within CRB, they should be located in a facility common to either their supervisor or direct reports.	FMRD	Ongoing
	4d	In lieu of relocation, which is not favored, the two senior CRB Federal employees should host the other at their facility for a couple of days each month. This would encourage the exchange of ideas and help bridge gaps in communication.	FMRD	Ongoing
	4e	The FMRD and NEFSC will consider succession plan for CRB in the 2012 labor planning process.	FMRD	Spring 2017
	4f	The FMRD will consider organizational structure and strategic geographic placement of CRB staff in the 2021 labor planning process.	FMRD	Spring 2017
	4g	In the short term, CRB would explore opportunities and resource availability to bring on temporary analytical support through a post-doctoral position.	FMRD	Spring/Summer 2017
5. Explore synergies between the Cooperative Research Branch (CRB) and Fisheries Sampling Branch (FSB) within the newly created Fisheries Monitoring and Research Division (FMRD)	5a	The FMRD will explore the development of a database to contain information on commercial fishing vessels suited for cooperative research projects.	FMRD, DMS	Fall 2017
	5b	A FMRD representative will engage with the FDDV, which is a project to modernize, integrate, standardize, adapt, and reduce redundancies with fisheries dependent data collections, keeping the utility and applications of FLDRS and PTNS in mind.	FMRD, DMS, Directorate	Ongoing
	5c	FMRD will ensure that considerations of existing and evolving ER are included in EM developments.	FMRD, DMS, external partners	Ongoing
	5d	The NEFSC will ensure that cross-cutting activities, including administrative, IT, safety, and outreach support with the CRB, is detailed in the NEFSC 2021 Labor Planning.	FMRD, DMS, OMI, Directorate	Ongoing