

MSI Scoping Committee Mtg

January 6, 2020

Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Kurtz Building

9am – 1:45PM

---

Attendance:

\*need to confirm attendance

Committee Member	Affiliation
Rob O'Leary	Chair
Abigail Archer	Academic
Scott Soares	NGO
Iris Pickard	Aquaculture
Eli Powell	Municipal
Steve Kirk	NGO
Sean Bowen	State
Rob Curtis	Wild Fisheries
Jared Silva	State (replaces Chris Schillaci)

Supporting Staff: Sean McNally, Dan McKiernan, Jeff Kennedy

Other: Harriet Booth (Cape Cod Cooperative Extension) Bethany Gibbons (Orleans Shellfisherman), Gabe Lundgren (DMF), Melissa Sanderson (CCCFA)

---

Rob O'Leary thanked everyone for attending, expressed hope to wrap up document today, and turned over to Sean.

**1. Minutes from previous meetings**

Abigail Archer made a motion to approve 11/1/19 Scoping Committee minutes, second by Rob Curtis, no further discussion, unanimous approval.

Abigail Archer made a motion to approve 11/25/19 Scoping Committee minutes, second by Rob Curtis. Discussion: Schillaci comment on last page needs correction/further explanation, regarding dumping product: previous comment was truncated. It referenced that a lot of product is dumped on the market in the fall and the pricing swings wildly.

- Context: Group discussed impacts that increased volumes of shellfish would have on the market, related to municipal activity that could increase volume more the historic fall glut that already happens. Even if a grower doesn't dump product in the fall, they are impacted by the lower prices.
- Revised language: "Schillaci made the point that seasonal price drops and market saturation has historically occurred independent of the 208 plans. Many growers dump their product on the market to deal with icing issues, every single year the market deals with this issue."

Abigail Archer made a revised motion to approve the 11/25/19 Scoping Committee minutes as amended. Second by Scott Soares, no further discussion, unanimous approval.

## 2. Committee discussion and deliberation of goals and strawman report

Scott has analyzed the comment bins and distributed copies for **review (see attachments at end of minutes)**. Intent was to return Committee to Task Force (TF) charge, since the last meetings were much more granular (which is okay, but let's first focus on completing TF charge). He reviewed the 192 comments that Chris and Sean previously binned. Scott binned the comments based on the 11 statements developed at last minutes and created corresponding pie chart. Scott did this because he was struggling with organizing the committee's work to date and moving forward to meet the TF charge. Scott's Suggestion:

- a. Rephrase to put "goal" in front of each of the 11 subcategories/statements to develop well defined goals based on comments received by the committee.
- b. If committee is comfortable with the comment bins spreadsheet and the subcategories under themes on the strawman, then we are much closer to completing charge of prioritizing goals
- c. Use the numbers assigned (number of comments in support for each bin) to help prioritize.
  - Caveat- when comments were unclear/poorly communicated, there were assumptions made about which bin to assign the comment.
  - Observation: spread on comments was pretty equitable. Was surprised to see only 4 comments that focused on need for more research.
- d. Question to committee: do we use Scott's work to provide focus to today's conversation, and/or update the spreadsheet (which will update the charts/numbers), and/or ignore his work and proceed differently.
- e. Discussion
  - Dan. If you want us to rise up a little higher and be less granular, where does the granularity come in? We can include the details/action suggestions, but first need to meet the charge. Based on the comments/discussion we can suggest how to achieve the goals. Give it back to TF, let them make new charge for marrying SC and AC work into strategic plan (could be new committee or revise existing committees' charges).
  - Abby. Awesome work, but what is the difference between Scott and Chris/Sean documents? The theme areas from TF was sent out to public comment. Some 192 comments were specific to theme areas, some were not. The second level goals (strawman, written by Chris and Sean) came out of binning of comments.

- Jeff. Where will the granularity show up in report? Start: introduction, methods. Then proposed MSI goals, prioritized. Then add in all the granularity/justification. Ditch main recommendations (not our job to make recommendations); put any recommendations into background/justification section. Actual Comments included as appendices.
- Dan. Can we combine any of the 11 goals?? Get fewer? Scott didn't want to go past the 11 identified in the report, but committee could make more granular or merge as appropriate, during today's discussion.
- Steve. Agree that there is some overlap. Maybe need headers to simplify.
- Scott. Reminder that TF created the theme areas, not the committee. Charge: identify goals and prioritize them.
- Sean. Report is not changing significantly, just re-organizing. More of a focus on prioritizing. Prevent us from getting hung up on granularity.
- Scott. Good that we got granular, b/c provides background to decisions. We need to continue getting into that level of detail but restructure in the report.
- Rob O. I want to push back b/c I'm the granular guy. Struck by universal or widespread support for some issues, and other issues that are landmines. Why are we not addressing landmines? Let's be transparent about them.... You don't see them in the report unless you get into the granular details. Let's also include the different points of view on items that we don't have consensus on.
  - i. Rob Curtis agrees with Rob.
  - ii. Scott- those non-consensus items are there, but they are veiled b/c committee didn't want to make goals around things that didn't have consensus. The context/granular justification will get into those weeds. Do we want to get really specific and throw out direct hand grenades? Example: "Prohibit the commercial sales of any shellfish grown by municipalities." How bold do we want to go??
- Process question: Charge is to develop refined and prioritized goals. What does it mean to prioritize? Is it the number of comments or is it filtered through the committee expertise?
  - i. Sean doesn't think it should be just numbers.
  - ii. Sean B. Public gave us the goals in response to the theme areas. Those goals/comments have been refined down into 11 goals.
  - iii. Sean: we need to decide how to prioritize as a committee.
  - iv. Scott: if we come out using language of "recommendations" from the SC, it will be perceived as official MSI recommendations. Let's use "observation"
  - v. Steve: clearly explain and call out hand grenades. Clearly explain where there is consensus. Propose: Here is what we heard, the committee thinks that the MSI should do XYZ... create new committee, write strategic plan, have a two day workshop on 208 oysters, etc. Focus on process, not final solution to individual issues.
  - vi. Sean: what is committee comfortable with for prioritization process?
    - 1. Sean B: not comfortable with numbers only for prioritizing.
    - 2. Dan: Scott did great job accelerating the process, the 11 bullets are inter-related and could be cleaner.
    - 3. Rob O: is everyone comfortable working off Scott's list?
    - 4. Sean B: public input is great, but need to take opportunity of SC expertise to add/adjust to public results.

5. No objections to working off Scott's list.
6. Scott's additional proposal: go back to the report, look at comments that are aligned with 11 goals. This is not MAA work, this is the committee's past work, in a reframed format.
7. Rob C: thanks to Scott for good work, but feel like wild harvest is not well represented and that is a problem.
  - a. 11 goals came from comment bins.... So let's add expertise from SC members to make sure wild harvest is represented.
  - b. Come back to comments, then roundtable on additional items.
8. Dan: useful for 1-2 people to give elevator speech on what the goals represent. Example: 208 plan fits into two goals, so where does it live? Language is too policy focused.... Simplify, what does it really mean?

### **Review of Strawman Document:**

NOTE: assigned numbers below are not a reflection of priority but labeling to make it easier to organize and review the document.

#### **1.1**

Sentence was written based off binned/interpreted comments. Let's look at 15 comments related to 1.1 and make sure that they were binned correctly.

- Sean B: contention over MSI transparency/communication vs. how state managers communicate. This is not about MSI process, but about state and local managers communicate with stakeholders long term. Are the comments about managers or MSI?? Let's not worry about number of comments; is still valuable base on our expertise. Should we lump or split? Should it go with communication theme (of inter-agency, #6).
- Rob Curtis wants communication with stakeholders to be high priority; it is a really high priority that fishermen can talk to managers.
- Abby: Are we picking up or starting over in the document? Starting over with different context of each of these as goals. Abby thought that sentences/statements created by committee were goals; others did not. What are we trying to do? Confusion around what committee members should be doing/preparing for at each meeting. Email told us to focus on sections that hadn't been discussed during last meeting.
- Rob O: we are collecting comments, reviewing them, discussing/binning/summarizing the comments. Working on the report that will go to the TF. Today's goal: get consensus around goals/language for report to TF. Everyone is now on the same page related to process for today.
- Are we all comfortable with 1.1?? Should we merge with interagency?
- Sean: But context for the goal is different, under different theme areas. Does committee care?
- Jeff: keep them separate. He has ranked goals by # of comments and is surprised where it falls out. Suggest grouping by three priorities. Put bolster economics as first level, others at second level, etc.
- **Committee agrees that #1.1 goal language is okay and should be, for now, kept separate from #6 (may revisit when get to #6)**
- ***1.1 Improving how local and state managers communicate and engage with stakeholders***

Process: everyone agrees that we agree on goal language then switch focus on priority and merging.

1.2 Notetaker took bathroom break and missed first part of discussion... replace this with anything that was missed.

- Dan: we should make clear that we want to bolster money/resources sent to other groups besides state agencies, like CCCE, seagrant, SEMAC.
- Should we get more specific in the goal? No, leave it to TF when CZM/DEP review. Is it too broad to present to TF; will they understand what we're getting at?
- Sean B: should we include aquaculture or is shellfish resources inclusive of aquaculture? Comfortable with adding aquaculture, OR add appendix that defines "shellfish resources" "shellfisheries" etc. Shellfisheries includes all fisheries including aquaculture. **Final consensus: Keep as is "shellfish resources, strike shellfisheries" and define terms.**
- *1.2 Increase public support and awareness around the economic and ecological value of shellfish resources and shellfisheries*

### 2.1

- What does bolster mean? Increase capacity to manage: people, money
- For consistency, strike shellfisheries? Shellfish resources is shellfish in ground, fisheries are the people/interactions/infrastructure for wild, recreational and aquaculture. Keep both. Expand on definitions in granular section. In re-writing shellfish regs, DMF uses shellfishery to encompass recreational, commercial wild, aquaculture. Committee should define for context of report; conform with Chapter 130 to maintain consistency. **Final consensus: Take DMF definitions and translate into report.**
- Eli: Could simplify and just use "...manage shellfish in the face of increasing management challenges" No, leave it. Does shellfish mgmt include DPH/sanitation? Dan suggestion: "manage shellfish fisheries". Was DPH included in original MSI scope? Yes, all agencies involved in shellfish were included. It should include the industry... wholesalers/dealers have not been targeted and are not on the SC. Recommendation could be to better engage dealers. DPH is on TF, Sherman (ICO) is on TF. All TF members have been asked to nominate people to committees. **Final consensus: Need to keep resources and shellfisheries. Do not simplify. Definition: shellfish fisheries includes aquaculture.**
- *2.1 Bolstering state and local capacity to effectively manage shellfish resources and shellfish fisheries in the face of increasing management challenges*

### 2.2

- Dan: so much of this is regional/local in nature, or federal... broadening goal to include "local, state, and federal." Committee okay with this addition for 2.2.
- Dan: is this level of granularity (references individual comments) going to be in the report? Yes, but prefaced by executive summary.
- *2.2 Support for research focused on issues impacting shellfish resource health, public health, and shellfish production at the local, state and federal level*

### 2.3

- Industry development.... Need to define "industry." Commercial shellfish fishery = industry? **Keep as industry and define**
- Rob C. this one is big for wild harvest. Need to brand and promote product. Do everything we can to support industry. Create more demand for product then we don't need to worry about gluts of product. If you can catch a ton of shellfish in open area, no one will go into closed areas. Promote industry, plant a lot of shellfish. High priority goal.

- Which comment produced the sentence “it was suggested that such dedicated commercial resource may reduce user group conflict that may be limited shellfish opportunities in some communities”?? This could be a Landmine. Let’s clean up and specify OR strike sustenance b/c confusing? “That which may reduce user group conflict. “
- *2.3 Support for resources that promote industry development, communication, market opportunities, and resiliency*

### **3.1**

- Landmine here is homerule. Some comments suggest that homerule sucks and should be abolished; others were very supportive of homerule.
- Rob C: if your town doesn’t take care of shellfish, then homerule is not supported.
- Does consistency mean the same as homerule? Is this an attack on municipal governing? This is opportunity to call out lack of consensus, identify issue for TF. Reference house 746 and comments about municipal authority (both sides of issue).
- Elevator speech of what isn’t working: “It is not equitable. You can’t execute the business because your town doesn’t provide resources.... Fishermen have no control over their own destiny.” Can’t keep some (Wellfleet Duxbury Chatham) happy by turning back on smaller communities (Bourne/Sandwich). Disparity in management is seen as obstacle to success.
- Rob C is not trying to do away with home rule but wants MSI recommendations to try to make home rule better for towns where it isn’t working for shellfish.
- Last part of sentence is call out to home rule. In the body of details/background call out differing opinion. Some felt 746 was beneficial and others thought it was detrimental.
- Subtle discrepancies among towns.... Different from cutler bill. Inconsistencies should be described so it is clear.
- Is the intent of legislature delegation for the benefit of the municipality or for the benefit of the resource? Both?
- Rob O: Add Language: state encourages towns to promote shellfish opps?
- **Replace allows with encourage What about incentivize?**
- What does management framework mean? State oversight? Do we need? Change to “support for sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish....” No, b/c then not true to comments... there are other ways mgmt. framework can benefit outside of homerule issues: Providing technical resources, monitoring/labs, planning support. There is precedent for legislation that incentivizes activity/provides funding if community opts in (Green communities, etc. )
- Wordsmith: “Encourage sustainable economic opportunities.....” Committee okay with this change.
- *3.1 Encourage economic opportunities around shellfish, but ensures they are managed in a way that is consistent with the character and interests of individual communities*

### **3.2**

- Strike the whole thing since it is repetitive. No. We need two b/c each is bottom up vs. top down. 3.2 is focused on non-cutler suggestions.
- New mgmt. strategies implies novel.... Comments reflect minor tweaks. Use **improve and refine** instead.
- Are we too prescriptive for other agencies? Yes, but it reflects the comments.
- Sustainable is loaded word... needs definition/context.
- Do we want public health? Is it already embedded.
- All comments reflect state level regulations.... Specify so towns know this goal isn’t for them.

- All are comfortable with refined goal language.
- **3.2 Improve and refine existing state management strategies that increase sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish resources and shellfisheries while balancing shellfish sanitation concerns.**

#### **4.1**

- Dan: concerned that the line “there was a disproportionate focus on aquaculture from MSI” is not needed. Yes, it was a concern/mischaracterization, but ultimately provided false for the MSI process. Abby feels that we should keep it. It was in 3 of the written comments and discussed at public meetings. How to weigh comments? Dan will yield.
- Jared suggested change was accepted by the committee, to remove line but add “marginalization of wild harvest shellfish interests” to end of previous line.
- Rob C. concerned over Wet storage disparity between aquaculture and wild harvest. It was addressed above.
- Jared- concerned about penultimate sentence; Steve recalls that the environmental issues were supporting background for challenges to shellfish historic uses. Environmental concerns are not specific to wild harvest. Damian’s comments specifically reference differences among historical uses.
- Do we need to add climate change issues? Should that be an additional goal? We heard about that; people are concerned. This is covered in the research section.
- Concern from public hearing: didn’t want to lump commercial wild and aquaculture groups. When their goals are the same, DMF lumps them, and when different, DMF splits them.
- Jeff: “similarly some expressed concerns...”. Is that to evaluate or minimize impacts? Damian was saying industry is getting brunt of impacts and responsibilities when public should be engaged in getting to solutions.
- Abby- comments focus on habitat... need to add “habitat quality” . Is “cultural” too vague?
- Rob C likes cultural. But cultural could reference a home owner’s traditional “open view” of the water. What about Subsistence? Wild Harvest? Why Coastal waters? Comments reflected need for access to coastal waters. But cultural use of coastal waters could be yacht club. Could be different interpretation. Final consensus: keep cultural and be okay that could be interpreted differently.
- Committee is okay with wordsmithing, except Jared- he may come back with revisions.
- **4.1 Protect public access to coastal waters and habitat quality in support of cultural uses of shellfish resources**

#### **5.1**

- Focus of 5.1 is on mitigating 208 shellfish. That is why there are two under 5.
- Jared: Add “adverse” before economic impacts. Be consistent throughout with this change.
- Dan: Make sure reader understands what is meant by 208 plan
- Do we need to specify “if shellfish are sold”?
- Rob O: Is there proof of volatile market fluctuations? YES. However, data does not support the extreme fluctuations as reported by industry. It is as strong word, do we keep it? Yes. It is accurate and reflects comments. CCCE hears a lot of concerns about this issue. Rob C: markets are more stable than they were 10-20 yrs ago. But still need to market Mass. Shellfish. Would market instability be better? Can we define volatile? It is always in one direction, it’s a depression of price, not volatility in supply. Also price changes currently focused on oysters, not quahogs, but there are 208 quahogs. Before Xmas hard clams were 35cents, dropped to 28cents after Xmas. Committee consensus to keep volatile.

- Abby and Sean: We will keep the additional language /recommendations we already have for context, just re-organize!
- *5.1 Ensuring shellfish and coastal restoration efforts are designed to consider animal health and management implications, and do not result in adverse economic impacts to existing industry*

## 5.2

- Two options to pick from First initial short language or what was wordsmithed at last meeting. Consensus to keep new longer 5.2.
- Abby: Can't prioritize equally, defies the definition of prioritize... change to "consider equally"
- Rob C. This is like the relay program? No. This is suggestion to put shellfish in a contaminated area to clean up water.
- Rob C. Why is culching or shellfish planting a bad thing? It is not. The goal/recommendation is to allow/increase culching and shellfish planting. Flies in face of what FDA demands.
- Sean: should we change from contaminated waters to closed waters? DMF does allow growers to put upwellers into contaminated waters and move sublegal to open areas, with permit conditions.
- Steve: some of 5.2 reflects my comment.... DMF would currently oppose planting for ecological restoration in a closed area.... This goal will push that and allow areas most suitable for restoration to move forward despite closed area, using enforcement to prevent public health concerns. A goal won't change rules, but will set the stage for conversations on future changes. DMF historic strategy is to deplete attractive nuisance (that is what relay does); while that is true now, we are trying to capture goals for change/improvements.
- Jeff/Steve Planting guidelines already exist. Yes, but what we need is best practice for how to do restoration. Abby suggests "further guidance" and recommend that the TF digs into more deeply.
- Rob C. Do we plant shellfish for the good of the ecology or for people to utilize? Sean B-State law is that anything planted need to be able to be utilized. Are they mutually exclusive? Steve- No. But we don't have any way to quantify what is left once people start harvesting the restoration reefs. Rob C- need accountability
- Abby- paragraph accurately summarizes comments.
- Dan: is this about relaxing/revisiting? Steve-Yes, we don't want to completely overhaul important protections. Should be an iterative process.
- Jeff: Add public health in goal?
- Committee Consensus on revised goal language.
- *5.2 Greater support for shellfish and coastal restoration efforts by developing further best practice guidance, revisiting restrictions on restoration activities in contaminated waters, and ensuring restoration efforts are considered equally with shellfish fisheries interests and public health.*

## 6.1

- Goal language = theme language currently.
- Steve: are there nuggets about what the communication would improve? Scott-Plug in goal of overarching strategic plan?
- Do we need a recommendation or goal that the TF create a strategic plan?
- Dan: should DMF's SAP be broader than DMF and stakeholders?... include 2/year all day shellfish meetings for different agencies/groups. Tee up as action item for strategic plan. Foster long term, formal communication and coordination....
- Rob C. confirm that this is just federal/state... not fishermen. Correct, #1 was the stakeholder communications.
- Abby- Three of the comments specifically say strategic plan and one references public education.

- Steve- but if we are making a strategic plan it needs to include industry, NGO, academia.
- Rob C. #1.1 is so important it should stand alone- don't combine. But add industry, NGO, academia to 6.
- Harriet- *asked question.....????*
- Melissa- could justify keeping both if 6 is about who is at the table for MSI planning/guidance development and 1.1 is about improved manager/stakeholder comms.
- Jeff- 1 is routine communication, 6 is about planning
- Dan- can have two goals, but likely one solution, like revised SAP.
- Committee Consensus on goal language.
- *6.1 Fostering communication and coordination between community groups, local, state and federal managers and developing improved guidance.*

### **Prioritizing**

- Rob O: Process- we could use electronic resources for entire committee to rank goals. Or could be unranked or could be grouped into high, middle, low priority?
- Abby- Identify on "ease of implementation: low hanging fruit vs. need task force action"?
- Sean- concern that if we prioritize, it will open up a can of worms on perceptions. Scott- but charge is to prioritize. Sean- binning and filtering the comments could be considered as prioritizing. Rob C- they are all high priorities. Abby- what was TF discussion around "prioritize" in the charge?; lots of discussion around the need for prioritizing but no definition. Steve- all of these items should be addressed in Strategic Plan, but identify what had consensus and what needs more work (working groups, etc).
- What does this look like in terms of narrative we have? We are not listing in order of priority. Call out where certain next steps are needed? Executive Summary – with caveats. At least two need additional action: Homerule, 208. Communication shouldn't be difficult; not contentious. Restoration needs more work but not as contentious.
- Consensus that committee is not further prioritizing the 11 goals, the final document should not have numbers, to prevent mis-interpretation.
- Sean will re-organize document, include exec. Summary, send out to committee to review by **Jan 24**. Committee send thoughts/edits back to Sean by Feb 1. Sean to incorporate and send back to SC by Feb 3. Have conference call to review any additions. If needed, get together again in person. If not needed (consensus on document, no objections or big changes), approve via email or phone and advance to TF.
- Abby- does that process meet open meeting law? Dan: Not a problem, MSI is not formally constituted and not officially subject to open meeting law.
- This could be the last in-person meeting. Rob O. thanks everyone for their time and effort.
- Iris- Read Damian statement: My inability to make this meeting is a prime example of how current public input system is failed. Fishers, shellfishers, harvesters, and aquaculturists all share the marine environment and are held to similar pressures and rulesets. Until the government and fisheries managers employ a more effective way of engaging those stakeholders it seeks to manage, the same table of decision makers will continue to produce current stream decisions. Unless management is able to integrate the real time data, hard earned opinions and regional insights from harvesters effectively, the system remains open to top heavy pressure from special interests rather than the common benefit. I see tangible steps to take in this direction being streamed and recorded committee meetings, open commentary for public meetings available via mail, call in options or streaming. Active public outreach at the most basic levels of strategic design.
- Adjourned.

01/06/2020 MSI Scoping Committee

The MSI Scoping Committee was charged with recommending refined and prioritized MSI goals to the Task Force to inform The Massachusetts Shellfish Initiative (MSI) Taskforce's Strategic Plan.

**Proposed MSI Goals:**

- Improve how local and state managers communicate with stakeholders and provide increased opportunities for coordinated decision making.
- Increase public support and awareness around the economic and ecological value of shellfish resources and shellfisheries
- Bolster state and local capacity to effectively manage shellfish resources and shellfisheries in the face of increasing management challenges
- Support research focused on issues impacting shellfish resource health, public health, and shellfish production
- Support resources that promote industry development, communication, market opportunities, and resiliency
- Support and bolster a management framework that allows for increased sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish, but ensures they are managed in a way that is balanced and consistent with the character and interests of individual communities
- Support the development of new management strategies and the bolstering of existing management strategies that promote increased sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish
- Protect public access and bolster support for cultural and historical uses of shellfish resources and coastal waters.
- Ensure shellfish and coastal restoration efforts are designed to consider animal health and management implications, and do not result in economic impacts to existing industry
- Build support and resources for shellfish and coastal restoration efforts
- Foster communication and coordination between local, state and federal managers

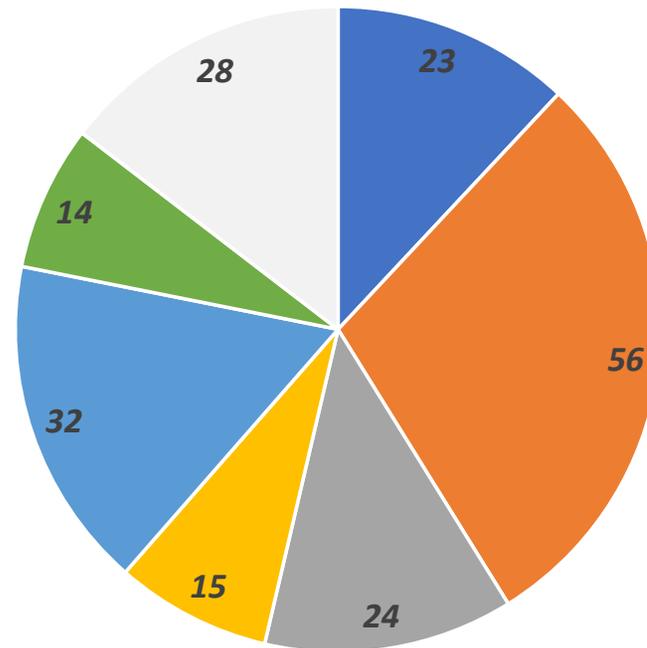
<i>MSI_Objective_Category</i>	<b>Number of Comments</b>
Building public and stakeholder capacity and support for shellfish.	23
Management, research, and industry resource development.	56
Supporting and promoting balanced and sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish.	24
Supporting and promoting cultural and historical uses of shellfish.	15
Ensuring ecologically sound management/enhancement of shellfish resources and coastal ecosystems.	32
Fostering communication and coordination between local, state and federal managers and developing improved guidance	14
Other	28
Total	192

proposed MSI Goals Scoping Committee 01-06-2020

Bolstering state and local capacity to effectively manage shellfish resources and shellfisheries in the face of increasing management challenges	34
Support and bolster a management framework that allows for increased sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish, but ensures they are managed in a way that is balanced and consistent with the character and Foster communication and coordination between local, state and federal managers and developing improved guidance	22
	21
Support for resources that promote industry development, communication, market opportunities, and resiliency	20
Ensure shellfish and coastal restoration efforts are designed to consider animal health and management implications, and do not result in economic impacts to existing industry	18
Protect public access and bolster support for cultural and historical uses of shellfish resources and coastal waters. Improve how local and state managers communicate with stakeholders and provide increased opportunities for coordinated decision making	17
	15
Build support and resources for shellfish and coastal restoration efforts	14
Increase public support and awareness around the economic and ecological value of shellfish resources and shellfisheries	11
Support for the development of new management strategies and the bolstering of existing management strategies that promote increased sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish	6
Support for research focused on issues impacting shellfish resource health, public health, and shellfish production	4
Other	10
Total	192

- Building public and stakeholder capacity and support for shellfish.
- Management, research, and industry resource development.
- Supporting and promoting balanced and sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish.
- Supporting and promoting cultural and historical uses of shellfish.
- Ensuring ecologically sound management/enhancement of shellfish resources and coastal ecosystems.
- Fostering communication and coordination between local, state and federal managers and developing improved guidance
- Other

*Public Comments Received MSI Scoping Committee - Theme Areas*



## MSI Proposed Goals

- Bolstering state and local capacity to effectively manage shellfish resources and shellfisheries in the face of increasing management challenges
- Support and bolster a management framework that allows for increased sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish, but ensures they are managed in a way that is balanced and consistent with the character and interests of individual communities
- Foster communication and coordination between local, state and federal managers and developing improved guidance
- Support for resources that promote industry development, communication, market opportunities, and resiliency
- Ensure shellfish and coastal restoration efforts are designed to consider animal health and management implications, and do not result in economic impacts to existing industry
- Protect public access and bolster support for cultural and historical uses of shellfish resources and coastal waters.
- Improve how local and state managers communicate with stakeholders and provide increased opportunities for coordinated decision making
- Build support and resources for shellfish and coastal restoration efforts
- Increase public support and awareness around the economic and ecological value of shellfish resources and shellfisheries
- Support for the development of new management strategies and the bolstering of existing management strategies that promote increased sustainable economic opportunities around shellfish
- Support for research focused on issues impacting shellfish resource health, public health, and shellfish production

