

New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950
Tel (978) 465-0492 | Fax (978) 465-3116

Council Meeting Agenda | November 17-19, 2009
Hyatt Regency Newport, 1 Goat Island, Newport, RI 02940
Telephone (401) 851-1234 | Fax (401) 846-7210

Please note the start times on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

8:30 a.m. Introductions and Announcements (Council Chairman John Pappalardo)

8:35 Approval of NEFMC Management Priorities (Paul Howard, Executive Director)
Discuss and approve Council management actions for 2010 and subsequent years

10:30 Scientific and Statistical Committee Report (Dr. Steve Cadrin)
Presentation of the SSC review concerning the magnitude of the buffer between the Atlantic herring Overfishing Level and Acceptable Biological Catch and committee conclusions

11:30 Herring Committee Report (Frank Blount)

- Select and approve final recommendations for multi-year herring fishery specifications (2010-2012); the discussion will include a review of committee and advisory panel recommendations and Herring Plan Development Team analyses; specifications will address overfishing levels and acceptable biological catch based on Scientific and Statistical Committee advice, management uncertainty, Optimum Yield and a stock-wide Annual Catch Limit, Domestic Annual Harvest, Domestic Annual Processing, Joint Venture Processing, U.S. At-Sea Processing, Border Transfer, Total Allowable Level of Foreign Fishing, Total Allowable Catch/Annual Catch Limits for each of four management areas, seasonal allocations, research set-asides and related research priorities, set-asides for fixed gear fisheries in the Gulf of Maine, and any other related measures/provisions for the 2010-2012 specifications
- Receive an update on the development of catch monitoring alternatives to be included in Amendment 5 to the Atlantic Herring FMP and consideration of restructuring the alternatives

12:30 p.m. Lunch Break

1:30 Herring Committee Report – to be continued until meeting adjournment at the end of the day

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

8:00 a.m. Sea Scallop Committee Report (Sally McGee)

- Review and approve final measures for inclusion in Framework 21 to the Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP); items under consideration for the 2010 fishing year include measures required in the recent NMFS Biological Opinion concerning sea turtles, fishery specifications for both the limited access and general category fleets, area rotation adjustments (including consideration of a new scallop access area on Georges Bank), and other adjustments to the FMP
- Review preliminary analyses addressing the potential impacts of various yellowtail flounder allocation alternatives on the scallop fishery; the alternatives are being considered in a specifications package for the groundfish fishery for fishing years 2010-2012

12:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 Groundfish Committee Report (Rip Cunningham)
Review and approve Framework 44 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP, including the following:

- Specify Annual Catch Limits for fishing years 2010-FY 2012, including the yellowtail flounder sub-components for the scallop fishery
- Revise FMP Amendment 16 management measures; changes may include modifications to common pool effort control measures such as trip limits or differential days-at-sea counting in order to meet mortality targets described in the amendment

Thursday, November 19, 2009

8:30 a.m. Reports on Recent Activities

Council Chairman, Executive Director, NMFS Regional Administrator, NOAA General Counsel, Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, NMFS Enforcement/VMS, and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

- 10:00** **Review of Experimental Fishery Permit (EFP) Applications** (Chris Kellogg, NEFMC staff)
- 10:15** **Open Period for Public Comments** (John Pappalardo)
Opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on items relevant to Council business but not otherwise listed on the agenda
- 10:30** **Red Crab Specifications** (Chris Kellogg)
Select and approve final recommendations for 2010 fishery specifications; the discussion will include a review of Red Crab Plan Development Team analyses; specifications will address Acceptable Biological Catch based on Scientific and Statistical Committee advice
- 11:30** **Monkfish Committee Report** (Terry Stockwell)
Approve draft Amendment 5 to the Monkfish FMP and its accompanying Environmental Assessment for the purpose of seeking public comments; the draft document contains analyses of the impacts of measures that would implement Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures, and specify trip limits and days-at-sea for 2011-2013
- 12:30 p.m.** **Lunch Break**
- 1:30** **Monkfish Committee Report** - continued
- 2:00** **Report on International Fisheries Issues** (David Preble)
Briefing on the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Standing Committee on Research and Statistics) assessments of bluefin tuna and swordfish and other information to inform the Council on stock status; possible approval of Council recommendations concerning U.S. management positions
- 3:00** **Other Business**

*Times listed next to the agenda items are estimates and are subject to change.
This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.
Council member financial disclosure forms are available for examination at the meeting.*

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305 (c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Documents pertaining to Council action are available for review prior to a final vote by the Council. Please call (978) 465-0492 for copies or check the Council website at www.nefmc.org. Please note that if you are submitting comments for Council consideration at this meeting they must be received at the office at least three business days prior to the start of the meeting. **Notice Date: October 27, 2009**