



New England Fishery Management Council

AUGUST 12, 2019 UPDATE

- **ADVISORY PANEL APPLICANTS WANTED:** The New England Fishery Management Council is encouraging all interested stakeholders to consider serving on an advisory panel (AP). Executive Director Tom Nies said, “Our advisory panels are extremely important to our process. They help Council members make more informed decisions. We’re looking for applicants who understand their fisheries and are ready to commit to an active role on an AP.”
 - The Council has APs that support the following committees: groundfish, scallops, monkfish, Atlantic herring, habitat, skates, whiting, deep-sea red crab, and enforcement.
 - New applicants are highly encouraged. Current advisors who wish to continue serving must reapply to express their interest.
 - The application deadline is August 31, 2019.
 - A press release, solicitation announcement, online application form, and guidance from the Council’s Operations Handbook can be found at [become a New England Council advisor](#).
- **GROUNDFISH CATCH SHARE PROGRAM REVIEW:** Three more opportunities remain available for fishermen and other stakeholders to attend an in-person port meeting to provide input on the Council’s review of its groundfish sector system. A press release, agenda, focus questions, and details about the purpose of the review are available at [groundfish catch share program](#). Here are the locations, dates, and start times for the remaining meetings.
 - **Point Judith, RI** – Thursday, August 15 at the Narragansett Office of Town Managers, 25 Fifth Avenue, Narragansett, beginning at 4:30 p.m.
 - **New Bedford, MA** – Friday, August 16 at the Fairfield Inn and Suites, 185 MacArthur Drive, beginning at 4:30 p.m.
 - **East Hampton, NY** – Wednesday, August 21 at the East Hampton Town Hall, 159 Pantigo Road, beginning at 4:00 p.m. **NOTE: This is a revised date, location, and start-time for New York.**
- **ECOSYSTEM-BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT (EBFM) MSE:** The Council’s EBFM Committee is working on an example Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP) for Georges Bank. As part of this effort, the Council will be using a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process to solicit stakeholder input and participation. The Council has established a new MSE Steering Committee that is charged with developing: (1) terms of references for structuring the process; and (2) recommendations for how best to engage fishermen and other stakeholders and facilitate participation in the process. (Continue ...)



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- **ECOSYSTEM-BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT (EBFM) MSE CONTINUED:** The MSE Steering Committee will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, September 4 in Braintree, MA.
 - View the September 4 [meeting notice](#) and visit the [MSE for Georges Bank eFEP webpage](#).
 - Scroll through the Council's [EBFM Committee webpage](#), which contains links to many helpful documents.
 - Don't forget about the joint EBFM Committee and Plan Development Team meeting that's scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, August 21-22 in Boston. The meeting begins at 1 p.m. on Wednesday and 8:00 a.m. on Thursday. Additional information can be found [here](#).
- **HABITAT:** The Council has updated its habitat webpage and posted new Quick Links for [Research Objectives for the Great South Channel Habitat Management Area](#) and the [Fishing Effects Model](#).
 - Final submission documents are available for the [Omnibus Deep-Sea Coral Amendment](#) and the [Clam Dredge Framework](#).
 - Take a look at the enhanced [Offshore Wind in the Northeast Region webpage](#), which is collaboratively managed by the Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Councils.
- **COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY PANEL MEETINGS:** In addition to EBFM, the Council has a full schedule of committee and advisory panel (AP) meetings lined up for August and September to work on actions related to groundfish, scallops, Atlantic herring, habitat, monkfish, and skates. The Mid-Atlantic Council also will be hosting a Spiny Dogfish AP webinar. Take a look at the New England Council's [calendar](#) to see what's in the pipeline.
- **SEPTEMBER 2019 – FULL COUNCIL MEETING:** Here's an early heads-up for planning purposes. The New England Fishery Management Council has extended its September 2019 meeting by a half-day to accommodate the full range of items to be addressed. The meeting now will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, September 23 and run through Thursday, September 26 at the [Beauport Hotel](#) in Gloucester.
 - Once available, the agenda and meeting materials will be posted on the [September 23-26, 2019 meeting webpage](#).
 - Expected discussion topics are listed in short on the Council's [Three Meeting Outlook](#).
- **QUESTIONS:** Contact Public Affairs Officer Janice Plante at (607) 592-4817, jplante@nefmc.org.