

New England Fishery Management Council

Three Meeting Outlook – April through September 2018

(Last updated April 2, 2018 and subject to change pending new information)

April 17-19, 2018 Mystic, CT	June 12-14, 2018 Portland, ME	September 25-27, 2018 Plymouth, MA
Atlantic Herring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stocks in the Atlantic Herring Fishery: review updated river herring/shad discussion document; possibly take related action Atlantic herring/mackerel: discuss implications of recently triggered accountability measures in both fisheries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment 8: review public comments on acceptable biological catch (ABC) control rule and potential localized depletion/user conflict alternatives; take final action 2019-2021 Specifications: initiate action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2019-2021 Specifications: receive Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) overfishing limit (OFL) and ABC recommendations
Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clam Dredge Framework: progress report on action to consider surfclam fishery access to Great South Channel Habitat Management Area, discuss mussel dredges Offshore Energy: update on activities and consultations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clam Dredge Framework: update on alternatives Offshore Energy: update on activities and consultations if needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clam Dredge Framework: final action Offshore Energy: update on activities and consultations if needed
Groundfish <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring Amendment 23: progress report on potential range of alternatives Northeast Fishery Sector IX: GARFO overview on: (a) Sector IX steps to address shortcomings; and (b) proposed Sector IX operations plan as submitted to GARFO; NMFS consultation with Council on Sector IX operations plan and other sector plans/actions that relate to Sector IX 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework Adjustment 58: initiate action to include (1) 2019 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada stocks of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder, (2) rebuilding plans for several stocks, and (3) other measures Monitoring Amendment 23: progress report Fishery Dependent Data Working Group: update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework Adjustment 58: (1) receive framework update; (2) receive TMGC's TAC recommendations for US/Canada stocks; (3) receive SSC's 2019-2020 Georges Bank yellowtail flounder OFL and ABC recommendations Monitoring Amendment 23: update
Sea Scallops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee progress report on 2018 priorities, including adjustments to General Category Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) trip limits and monitoring/catch accounting provisions; possible adjustments to priorities to consider standard default measures in Framework 30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scallop Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program: approve 2019-2020 RSA priorities Framework Adjustment 30: initiate action, which includes 2019 fishery specifications, 2020 default specs, plus other measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework Adjustment 30: receive progress report, including overview of 2018 scallop surveys
	Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georges Bank example Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP): progress report on overfishing and rebuilding, fishery dependent data support, maximum retention implications, model hindcasting, and role of consumption of pre-recruits on system productivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georges Bank eFEP: receive completed eFEP; receive initial overview of Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) planning to solicit stakeholder input on operating models, goals, objectives, performance metrics, tradeoffs, and optimal outcomes for an example Fishery Ecosystem Plan
	Small-Mesh Multispecies (Whiting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment 22: review public comments, take final action on limited access and related measures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Monitoring Report: fishing year 2017 Initiate framework or amendment to rebuild southern red hake
Skates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework Adjustment 6: update, possible final action on alternatives for prolonging the skate wing fishery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Framework Adjustment 6: final action if delayed from April Northeast Skate Complex Amendment 5: progress report on development of limited access program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northeast Skate Complex Amendment 5: progress report Annual Monitoring Report: fishing year 2017
Observer Policy/Industry-Funded Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Midwater Trawl EM Project Report: GARFO Omnibus IFM Amendment: discussion and potential decision on whether electronic monitoring (EM) and/or portside sampling provide the same level of monitoring as at-sea monitoring for the Atlantic herring midwater trawl fishery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and strategic approach to monitoring commercial fisheries: committee update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and strategic approach to monitoring commercial fisheries: committee update
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Program Review: Review Panel findings Ecosystem Status Report: NEFSC presentation 2018 Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Summit: report on March 28-29 meeting Regulatory Reform: update on Council proposals Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team: update on recent meetings North Atlantic shortfin mako sharks: NMFS Highly Migratory Species (HMS) report HMS Advisory Panel/ICCAT Advisory Committee: report BOEM Offshore Energy: open house introduction Best Scientific Information Available: discussion NMFS Procedural Directive for EM Cost Allocation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM): report on three-year review Fishery Dependent Data Visioning Project: GARFO update Council Member Recusals: proposed rule discussion Council Program Review: follow-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAW/SARC 65, Benchmark Assessments for Atlantic Herring and Atlantic Sea Scallops: Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) report Research Set-Aside Program Review: overview and possible action on RSA review panel report compiled by Council/GARFO/NEFSC