



New England Fishery Management Council

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E.F. "Terry" Stockwell III, *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEETING SUMMARY

Scallop Committee Meeting

Hilton Garden Inn – Boston, MA

June 8, 2016

This summary consists of final Committee motions only.

MEETING ATTENDANCE: Mary Beth Tooley (Chairman), Mr. John Pappalardo, Ms. Melanie Griffin, Mr. Mark Alexander, Dr. John Quinn, Mr. Peter Christopher (GARFO), Mr. Jeff Kaelin, Mr. Rick Robbins, Dr. Michael Sissenwine; Ms. Deirdre Boelke, Mr. Jonathon Peros (NEFMC staff); Mr. Gene Martin (NOAA General Counsel); Mr. Travis Ford (NOAA Fisheries).

In addition, approximately 15 members of the public attended, including several members of the Scallop Advisory Panel.

Scallop RSA

Consensus statement 1:

The Scallop Committee recommends forwarding to the Council the PDT's recommended Scallop RSA priorities as modified by adding "marketability" to the priority #3 "scallop meat quality," adding "3) research to evaluate the potential impacts of scallop spat and seeding projects" third and final under MEDIUM priority, and "research to actively manage spat and seeding", would remain in #7 under OTHER priorities.

Motion 1: Griffin/Pappalardo

The Committee recommends that the Council request a summary of all RSA project proposals (funded and unfunded) with a summary of reviewer comments and rationale for funding decision be made available by NMFS to the public subject to existing law.

Rationale: Sharing basic information about unfunded projects would help the priority setting process and improve transparency of the RSA review and selection process.

The motion carried on a show of hands 8-0-0.

Motion 2: Kaelin/Griffin

The Committee recommends forwarding to the Council the PDT’s recommended Scallop RSA priorities as modified.

The motion carried on a show of hands 7-0-0.

Framework 28 Draft Action Plan and Potential Management Measures

Motion #3: Kaelin/Alexander

The Committee recommends the Council not develop gear modifications to reduce impacts on small scallops in FW28.

Rationale: Additional data on gear modifications to reduce impacts on small scallops is needed before pursuing this priority further. The Committee believes this is an important issue that should be considered as a scallop priority for 2017 after additional data are available.

The motion carried on a show of hands 7-0-0.

Motion #4: Griffin/Quinn

The Committee recommends making all flatfish bycatch accountability measures consistent to the extent feasible with the gear modification accountability measure for southern windowpane flounder in the Scallop FMP through FW28. This would be the lowest ranking priority, and the Committee requests further input from Council staff on this issue re: resource constraints.

Rationale: Consistency across accountability measures, to the extent feasible, would simplify regulatory complexity. For example, yellowtail flounder accountability measures are time/area closures, while southern windowpane flounder accountability measures require the use of a modified dredge.

The motion carried on a show of hands 6-0-1.