

**New England Fishery Management Council
Habitat Committee Meeting
Fairfield Inn by Marriott New Bedford
New Bedford, MA
October 4, 2017**

NEFMC	MAFMC
John Quinn, MA <i>Chair</i>	Warren Elliott, PA
Doug Grout, NH <i>Vice chair</i>	Peter deFur, VA
Terry Alexander, ME	
Vincent Balzano, ME	ASMFC
Elizabeth Etrie, MA	David Borden
Mark Gibson, RI	
Matthew McKenzie, CT	GARFO designees (one voting member)
Eric Reid, RI	Lou Chiarella
Melissa Smith, ME	Pete Christopher
Terry Stockwell, ME	

AGENDA

9:00 **Introduction, review agenda**

9:05 **Offshore Wind briefing**

Presenters will include representatives from BOEM, Deepwater Wind New England, Vineyard Wind, Bay State Wind, and Massachusetts Clean Energy Center.

10:20 ***Break***

10:30 **Offshore Wind discussion**

Opportunity for Committee questions and discussion related to updates provided.

11:30 **Habitat-related Council Priorities for 2018**

Discuss potential 2018 management priorities related to habitat and make recommendations to the Council for action in December.

12:00 ***Lunch***

Afternoon agenda on reverse

Updated October 3, 2017

1:15 Deep-Sea Coral Amendment

Discuss recent Plan Development Team (PDT) work related to the Option 7 broad coral protection zone. Recommend additional analysis as appropriate, and identify any specific feedback sought from the Habitat Advisory Panel (AP).

2:30 *Break*

2:40 Clam Dredge Framework

Discuss recent PDT work related to habitat assessment in proposed management areas where clam dredge access is being considered. Brainstorm approaches to alternatives development. Task the PDT and AP as necessary.

3:40 Regulatory review and reform

Discuss review and reform as related to habitat-oriented fishery regulations. Identify regulations that may be appropriate for reconsideration.

4:00 Other business

4:30 Adjourn

MATERIALS

1. Tasking memo from Committee Chair, John Quinn
2. PDT meeting summary, 9/14/17
3. Offshore wind information and resources
4. Offshore wind briefing materials
 - a. BOEM
 - b. Deepwater Wind
 - c. Vineyard Wind
 - d. Bay State Wind
 - e. NYSERDA announcement
 - f. Massachusetts Clean Energy Center
5. Coral amendment update – staff presentation
6. Draft coral amendment dated 09/27/17 (no paper copies to be provided; available online)
7. Clam framework update – staff presentation
8. Regulatory review – staff presentation
9. Correspondence

Documents related to Council priorities are available here:
<http://www.nefmc.org/library/september-2017-council-priorities>