



New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116
John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 31, 2018
TO: Groundfish Committee
FROM: Terry Stockwell, Groundfish Committee Chairman
SUBJECT: **Groundfish Committee meeting on November 8, 2018**

There will be a **Groundfish Committee** meeting at the **DoubleTree by Hilton, Danvers, MA** on **Thursday, November 8, starting at 1:30 pm.**

Purpose. The purpose of the Committee meeting is to discuss and make recommendations to the Council on: (1) draft alternatives and analysis in Framework Adjustment 58: Specifications/Management Measures, (2) possible groundfish priorities for 2019 for the Council, and (3) other business as necessary.

Meeting Materials. Paper copies of the documents listed below will be provided at the meeting. A PDF of each document is posted to www.nefmc.org. Staff will provide copies of any additional meeting materials that are not included in this package. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Jamie Cournane (jcournane@nefmc.org ; 978-465-0492 ext. 103).

1. Meeting memo and agenda (this memo)
2. Presentation: Council staff (*to be provided*)
3. Framework Adjustment 58: Specifications and Management Measures
 - a. Draft alternatives
 - b. Memo from Groundfish PDT to Committee re analysis for Framework Adjustment 58
4. Background for 2019 Priorities Discussion
 - a. Memo from Groundfish PDT Chair to Committee on peer review of PDT analysis for Amendment 23
 - b. Memo from Groundfish PDT to Committee on joint PDT/AP/Committee meeting planning for Amendment 23
 - c. Memo from Council Staff to Committee on progress on the Council's 2018 priorities for the recreational groundfish fishery

5. Meeting Summaries
 - a. Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting summary, Sept. 18, 2018
 - b. Groundfish Committee meeting summary, Sept. 18, 2018
 - c. Recreational Advisory Panel meetings motions or DRAFT summary, Oct. 29, 2018
 - d. Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting motions DRAFT, Nov. 8, 2018
6. Correspondence

Meetings Topics. The following section outlines the meeting expected outcomes and future related meetings by discussion topic.

Framework Adjustment 58: Specifications and Management Measures

Council staff will provide an overview of the draft alternatives and Plan Development Team (PDT) analysis (Docs. 2, 3a-3b). The Committee may wish to make recommendations on preferred alternatives to the Council.

Possible Priorities for 2019

The Committee may wish to develop recommendations to the Council regarding priorities for 2019. Some background materials are provided (Docs. 4a-4c).

After the Meeting

The Council is expected to take final action on Framework Adjustment 58 and set 2019 priorities at its December 2018 meeting.

Drafting Motions. You are encouraged to prepare motions in advance and either bring them to the meeting or send them to Jamie Cournane (jcournane@nefmc.org).



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AGENDA

**GROUND FISH COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 8, 2018**

**DoubleTree by Hilton
50 Ferncroft Road
Danvers, MA 01923
Phone: (978) 777-2500**

1:30 pm Opening remarks and agenda review.....(*Stockwell*)

Groundfish and Recreational Advisory Panel Reports will be integrated into discussions.

1:40 pm Framework Adjustment 58 (*Stockwell/Cournane*)

- Discuss draft alternatives and Plan Development Team (PDT) analysis including:
 - 1) Rebuilding plan options for several groundfish stocks,
 - 2) 2019 total allowable catches for U.S./Canada stocks of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder,
 - 3) Minimum size exemptions for vessels fishing in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization waters, and
 - 4) Temporary change to scallop fishery accountability measure policy for GB yellowtail flounder for fishing years 2019 and 2020
- Consider the recommendations of the PDT and Groundfish Advisors and make recommendations on preferred alternatives to the Council

4:00 pm Council’s Groundfish Priorities for 2019 (*Stockwell/Cournane*)

- Discuss possible groundfish priorities for 2019,
- Consider the recommendations of the Groundfish and Recreational Advisors and,
- Make recommendations to the Council

5:00 am Other business.....(*Stockwell*)

5:15 pm Adjourn

*The Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting will commence at 8:30 am in the same room.
Committee members are encouraged to attend the Advisors meeting.*