



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: May 28, 2019
TO: EBFM Committee
FROM: John Pappalardo, EBFM Committee Chair
SUBJECT: Purpose and agenda for meeting

The Ecosystem Based Fishery Management (EBFM) Committee will meet at the **Boston Marriott in Quincy, MA on Tuesday, May 28, starting at 9:30 am.**

Purpose: To review and comment on a draft forage fish management document, providing input on management policy issues, as well as identify catch monitoring, data collection, and ecosystem research strategies that would promote the catch framework and adaptive ecosystem strategies in an example Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP). The forage fish management document will become an appendix of the eFEP. The technical aspects of catch monitoring, data collection, and ecosystem research are also being developed by the Plan Development Team, which will report to the Committee at its June 10, 2019 meeting.

A completed draft eFEP is scheduled to be presented to the Council at its September 2019 meeting. If there is time during the meeting, the committee will discuss potential mandatory retention policies, focusing on the intent and potential benefits and costs.

The work by the committee toward developing strategies and options for non-technical measures will compliment other work that the Plan Development Team (PDT) is doing to flesh out technical strategies. At its last meeting, the committee wanted to discuss and identify catch monitoring, data collection, and ecosystem research strategies from a policy perspective, while the PDT completes its work on this eFEP component. Some issues that arise during the May 10 EBFM PDT meeting might be reported to the committee at this meeting and the committee's input can become part of the discussion document being developed by the PDT.

At this meeting, the committee also has the opportunity to review a draft document on forage fish management that Dr. Sarah Gaichas and others presented to the PDT in 2015. This document was intended for review and discussion by the committee to obtain feedback on some open-ended policy issues. Although this document focuses on forage fish in the entire Northeast Region, it would be supportive of the eFEP as an appendix, including the input from the committee on policy questions identified by the PDT.

The committee also has a meeting on June 10 to receive from the PDT two draft discussion documents. One document focuses on catch monitoring, data collection, and ecosystem research. The other document focuses on incentive-based management strategies.

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 Andrew Applegate (aapplegate@nefmc.org ; 978-465-0492 ext. 114).

1. Meeting memo and agenda (this memo)
2. Timeline and eFEP component task list
3. Managing Forage Fishes in the New England Region: A Draft White Paper to Inform the New England Fishery Management Council
4. Presentation: Council staff

AGENDA

ECOSYSTEM BASED FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**Boston Marriott Quincy
1000 Marriott Drive
Quincy, MA 02169
Phone: (617) 472-1000**

May 28, 2019

- 9:30 am Agenda and purpose of meeting(Pappalardo)
- 9:45 Draft EBFM timeline and PDT update (Applegate)
- 10:00 Catch monitoring, data collection, and ecosystem research
..... (Staff presentation and Committee discussion)
- 12:30 pm Lunch break
- 1:30 Catch monitoring, data collection, and ecosystem research (continued)
- 2:30 Forage fish management in an example Fishery Ecosystem Plan
..... (Staff presentation and Committee discussion)
- 4:30 Adjourn