

New England Fishery Management Council
Groundfish Advisory Panel Meeting
 By Webinar
 June 9, 2020

Meeting start time	9:35 am
Council staff	Jamie Cournane, Robin Frede, Melissa Errend
GAP members	Ben Martens, Jackie Odell, Bonnie Brady, Gib Brogan, Cassie Canastra, David Goethel, Maggie Raymond, Dan Salerno, Gib Brogan, Geoff Smith, Hank Soule
GF Committee members	Terry Stockwell, Libby Etrie, Terry Alexander, Megan Ware, Pete Christopher
Other attendees	Amanda Cousart, Caela Howard, Claire Fitz-Gerald, Daniel Caless, Fiona Hogan, George Lapointe, James Fletcher, Jocelyn Runnebaum, Kyle Molton, Liz Sullivan, Maria Fenton, Mark Grant, Paul Nitsche, Spencer Talmage, Thomas Balf, others [double-check GoToMeeting]
Meeting end time	3:13 pm

DRAFT Meeting Motions

In red, as friendly amended.

COVID-19 Emergency Action Requests

Motion 1: Odell/Raymond

The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends the Committee request to the Council that GARFO initiate an Emergency Action for the groundfish fishery in light of COVID-19 measures to include:

- 1) Allow sectors to carryover more than 10% of their unused FY 2019 into FY 2020 For GOM Haddock, GB Haddock, American Plaice and Witch Flounder, **consistent with GARFO memo to Council on June 3.**
- 2) Request GARFO **evaluate** the de minimis carryover provision to enable sectors to use more than 1% of their FY 2019 Carryover of stocks without fear of triggering a pound for pound payback **in FY 2020.** This analysis should look at all stocks with carryover.
- 3) Upon conclusion of the FY 2019 reconciliation process, allow sectors who do not have the maximum allowed carryover of the stocks above to trade with sectors who do in order to allow all sectors the chance of replenishing their carryover in light of COVID-19 **(within the same trading window).**

Roll call vote for Motion #1		VOTE RECORD		
First Name	Last Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ben	Martens (chair)			
Jackie	Odell	X		
Bonnie	Brady	X		
Gib	Brogan		X	
Cassie	Canastra	X		
David	Goethel	X		
Maggie	Raymond	X		
Dan	Salerno	X		
Geoffrey	Smith	X		
Hank	Soule	X		

Motion 1 carried 8/1/0.

Motion 2: Odell/Soule

The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends the Committee request to the Council that GARFO initiate an Emergency Action for the groundfish fishery in light of COVID-19 measures to immediately reinstate the Redfish Exemption Area back to the FY 2019 geographic range.

Roll call vote for Motion #2		VOTE RECORD		
First Name	Last Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ben	Martens (chair)			
Jackie	Odell	X		
Bonnie	Brady	X		
Gib	Brogan		X	
Cassie	Canastra	X		
David	Goethel	X		
Maggie	Raymond	X		
Dan	Salerno	X		
Geoffrey	Smith		X	
Hank	Soule	X		

Motion 2 carried 7/2/0.

Motion 3: Raymond/Soule

The Groundfish Advisory Panel requests that Groundfish Committee recommend to the Council to request the Regional Administrator allow trawl fishermen to **as a requirement to fish with a Ruhle trawl, or a haddock separator trawl, or a rope trawl or other gear approved by the Regional Administrator for use in the Regular B DAS Program** with the same mesh size as Canadian fishermen within the eastern US/CA area. Enforcement of this small mesh exemption would be administered in a similar way to the redfish exemption.

- Declare on trip start hail you might go small mesh haddock fishing in eastern US/CA area.
- Once you steam in the area you send a notice to NMFS then switch cod ends
- You must stay there for the rest of your trip (you could actually switch back to a larger mesh, but have to stay in the zone)
- **Threshold limit of at least 50% haddock catch**

Rationale: Fishermen need new fishing opportunities in order to recover from the pandemic. The Georges Bank haddock resource is grossly underutilized. US fishermen are disadvantaged in catch by using less efficient/effective gear and economically be Canadian catch of haddock shipped into US markets. Mesh size in Canada is Cod end 125mm sq. 4.9"

Roll call vote for Motion #3		VOTE RECORD		
First Name	Last Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ben	Martens (chair)			
Jackie	Odell	X		
Bonnie	Brady	X		
Gib	Brogan		X	
Cassie	Canastra	X		
David	Goethel	X		
Maggie	Raymond	X		
Dan	Salerno	X		
Geoffrey	Smith		X	
Hank	Soule	X		

Motion 3 carried 7/2/0.

Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring

Motion 4: Odell/Raymond

The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee that the Council to schedule in-person meetings in accordance with the public hearing document list of locations and webinar meetings as public hearings for Amendment 23 over the summer and target the September 2020 Council meeting for final action. The public comment period should be extended to better align with this revised schedule.

Roll call vote for Motion #4		VOTE RECORD		
First Name	Last Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ben	Martens (chair)			
Jackie	Odell	X		
Bonnie	Brady	X		
Gib	Brogan		X	
Cassie	Canastra	X		
David	Goethel	X		
Maggie	Raymond	X		
Dan	Salerno	X		
Geoffrey	Smith		X	
Hank	Soule	X		

Motion 4 carried 7/2/0.

Motion 5: Goethel/ Brady

The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee that no final action on Amendment 23 be taken until at least one public hearing can be held in-person in each affected state.

Roll call vote for Motion #5		VOTE RECORD		
First Name	Last Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ben	Martens (chair)*		X	
Jackie	Odell	X		
Bonnie	Brady	X		
Gib	Brogan		X	
Cassie	Canastra	X		
David	Goethel	X		
Maggie	Raymond			X
Dan	Salerno	X		
Geoffrey	Smith		X	
Hank	Soule		X	

Motion 5 carried 5/4/1. (*Chair decided to vote on this motion.)

Meeting on a lunch break from 12:30 pm until 1:15 pm

Framework Adjustment 61

Motion 6: Raymond/Soule

The Groundfish Advisory Panels recommends to the Groundfish Committee initiating Framework Adjustment 61 to include:

- 2021 total allowable catches (TACs) for U.S./Canada stocks of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder.
- 2021-2023 specifications for roughly half of the groundfish stocks:
 - Winter flounders (GB, GOM, and SNE/MA), redfish, halibut, windowpane flounders (northern and southern), ocean pout, and wolffish.
- Other measures:
 - address commercial/recreational allocation issues if raised by new MRIP data, and
 - investigate ways to increase GB haddock utilization, including modification of gear requirements

Rationale: Supporting the Council’s 2020 mandatory and discretionary measures

Roll call vote for Motion #6		VOTE RECORD		
First Name	Last Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ben	Martens (chair)			
Jackie	Odell	X		
Bonnie	Brady	X		
Gib	Brogan	X		
Cassie	Canastra	X		
David	Goethel	X		
Maggie	Raymond	X		
Dan	Salerno	X		
Geoffrey	Smith	X		
Hank	Soule	X		

Motion 6 *carried unanimously (9/0/0).*

Executive Order – general discussion of possible ideas (not a consensus list, rather a “brainstormed” list)

- A list was already created with the previous EO – can we know what happening with the list? Maybe bring it forward again for discussion
- Hold seafood imported from other countries to same conservation and management standards at US seafood
- Remove AMs on southern and northern windowpane flounder – it is holding back retention of market species
- Working waterfront – flood insurance policy as a barrier to shoreside businesses
- Promote wild-harvest US seafood products
- Sectors operate more efficiently and improve access to healthy stocks (e.g., Gulf of Maine haddock)
- For sectors remove the input controls
- Basket TACs for multispecies management
- Overarching Goal of NMFS should be feeding American public
- Create Seafood marketing branch in NMFS – that encourages Americans to buy/cook American caught seafood
- To create change in MSA reauthorization to allow some of these ideas to occur
- Full funding of the at-sea monitoring program

Other Business

Motion 7: Smith/Salerno

The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends the Groundfish Committee recommend that the Council request that the Northeast Fishery Science Center formally incorporate a survey of fishermen similar to the one used in the North Sea (Appendix 6 of Fishery Data for Stock Assessment Working Group Report) to formally incorporate fishermen’s on-the-water observations into the stock assessment process

Rationale: Recommendation #5 of Fishery Data for Stock Assessment Working Group

Roll call vote for Motion #7		VOTE RECORD		
First Name	Last Name	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ben	Martens (chair)			
Jackie	Odell	X		
Bonnie	Brady	X		
Gib	Brogan			X
Cassie	Canastra	X		
David	Goethel	X		
Maggie	Raymond*			
Dan	Salerno	X		
Geoffrey	Smith	X		
Hank	Soule	X		

Motion 7 carried 7/0/1. (*1 member out of the room).