



New England Fishery Management Council

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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

Joint VMS/Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel

Agenda

Hilton Garden Inn
Boston Logan

November 1, 2018

- 9:30 p.m. Review alternatives under consideration in Habitat clam dredge action and provide recommendations regarding their enforceability.
- 11:30 a.m. USCG concerns:
- ALWTRP enforcement (patrols of seasonal closed areas and surface inspection of gear for ALWTRP requirements)
 - Discuss results and potential changes to the cod end Compliance Assistance Program (CAP)
 - Enforcement options for cod discards
 - General feedback on enforcement operations
 - Feedback on nearshore trawler boardings (any effect from JEA funding; status of 3-12 nm area)
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break
- 11:30 a.m. USCG concerns (continued):
- Status of Omega electronic mesh measurement gauge and demonstration
 - Discuss more frequent Enforcement Committee meetings
- 2:30 p.m. Discuss Secretarial Action to implement Omega gauge
- 3:30 p.m. Discuss Enforcement participation on PDT's (e.g. Herring Amendment 8)
- 4:00 p.m. Other Business

The VMS/Enforcement Committee will meet to discuss the cod end Compliance Assistance Program (CAP) and potential changes to it, enforcement of cod discards, enforcement of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (ALWTRP), and enforcement participation at Pland Development Team (PDT) meetings.

The Committee will have a demonstration of the Omega electronic mesh measurement gauge, receive a report comparing the Omega gauge with the current wedge-shaped gauge, and discuss possible Secretarial Action to include the Omega gauge in the regulations.

The Committee will review alternatives under consideration in the Habitat clam dredge framework and provide recommendations regarding their enforceability.

The Committee seeks fishermen's input on several items, specifically nearshore trawler boardings and enforcement operations in general, and encourages fishermen to attend.