



# New England Fishery Management Council

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## Maine Forum to Host Northern Gulf of Maine Scallop Webinar on February 17; Fisheries Leadership Session on March 23

The Maine Fishermen's Forum will be hosting two webinars of direct interest to the New England Fishery Management Council's stakeholders. One will focus on the Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) scallop fishery and the other will provide an opportunity for fishermen and other webinar participants to have an open dialogue with NOAA Fisheries leadership.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the forum's board of directors [canceled the March 2022 in-person event](#) but made way for educational virtual seminars with remote participation by those who tune in via Zoom. Here are the details for the webinar lineup.

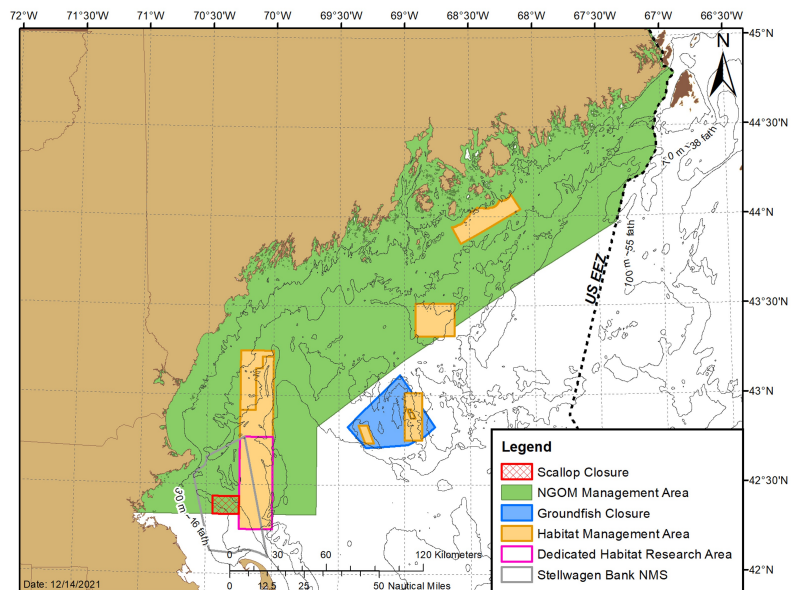
**NORTHERN GULF OF MAINE SCALLOP FISHERY:** This webinar, which is titled "Upcoming Changes to the Management of the Federal Scallop Fishery in the Northern Gulf of Maine," will take place on Wednesday, [February 17, 2022](#) from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### WHO ARE THE PANELISTS?

- **Jonathon Peros**, scallop lead for the New England Fishery Management Council and organizer of this webinar session;
- **Travis Ford**, scallop lead for the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS/NOAA Fisheries); and
- **Jessica Blaylock**, industry-funded scallop observer program lead at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center of NOAA Fisheries.

### WHAT IS THIS SESSION ABOUT?

Management changes are coming to the federal waters scallop fishery in the Northern Gulf of Maine. The recent approval of [Amendment 21](#) to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP) established a new sharing arrangement for allowable



*The Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Management Area is outlined in the map above in green. The Stellwagen Bank Scallop Closure Area (red hatching) has been in place for the past two fishing years. The closure area is scheduled to reopen to fishing on April 1, the start of the 2022 fishing year.*

*— New England Fishery Management Council graphic*



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landings and includes observer requirements for all limited access general category (LAGC) vessels starting in 2022. The New England Council developed measures in [Framework Adjustment 34](#) to the FMP to implement the Amendment 21 rules and reopen the Stellwagen Bank Scallop Closure Area that's shown in the map on page 1.

Council staff will review the upcoming changes to management of the Northern Gulf of Maine Management Area and provide an outlook for the 2022 fishery. NOAA Fisheries staff will discuss how the fishery will be monitored and provide information about the [new observer requirements](#) for all LAGC vessels participating in the NGOM fishery.

➤ **HOW TO CONNECT:** A Zoom link for this February 17<sup>th</sup> scallop session is [posted here](#). The link also can be found on the Maine Fishermen's Forum [website](#) and on [Facebook](#).

## Fisheries Leadership Session

Once again, the Maine Fishermen's Forum will host its annual [Open Forum with Fisheries Leadership](#) seminar. This session will take place [by Zoom](#) on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### WHO ARE THE PANELISTS?

- **Janet Coit**, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA;
- **Mike Pentony**, Regional Administrator, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office;
- **Jon Hare**, Science and Research Director, Northeast Fisheries Science Center; and
- **Eric Reid**, Chair, New England Fishery Management Council.

### WHAT IS THIS SESSION ABOUT?

Participants will have an opportunity to hear directly from fishery leaders in the Greater Atlantic Region and engage in constructive conversation with the panelists about successes and challenges in the region's commercial and recreational fisheries.



*Above, Jonathon Peros, the New England Fishery Management Council's lead scallop fishery analyst, talks about Amendment 21 to the Scallop FMP during the 2020 Maine Fishermen's Forum.*

*— NEFMC photo*



## New England Fishery Management Council

"Conserving and managing fishery resources by relying on sound science, promoting public participation, and balancing competing interests."

*The Council extends its appreciation to the Maine Fishermen's Forum for fostering better communication and open dialogue between fishermen, scientists, and fishery managers for 48 years.*