

## **New England Fishery Management Council**

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## Council Converts Upcoming Skate, Scallop, EBFM, and Groundfish AP and Committee Meetings to Webinars

Due to public health concerns regarding the new coronavirus, <u>COVID-19</u>, and the growing number of travel restrictions being imposed by state and federal agencies, universities, and other organizations, the New England Fishery Management Council is taking steps to convert several upcoming meetings to webinars.

Details about logistics are still in the works, but in an effort to help participants plan ahead, the Council is announcing the list of meetings that will be immediately impacted.

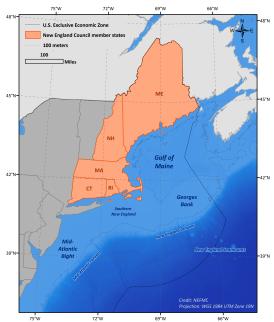
**SKATES:** The Council's Skate Advisory Panel (AP) and Skate Committee are scheduled to meet jointly on Thursday, March 26, 2020. This joint meeting now will be held by webinar. Related documents are available on the <u>skate meeting webpage</u>, and webinar registration information will be posted as soon as it's available.

SCALLOPS: The Scallop AP also will meet on Thursday, March 26, 2020 via webinar. Documents and webinar registration information will be posted on the Scallop AP meeting webpage shortly. The Scallop Committee will meet the following day, Friday, March 27, 2020, also by webinar. Stay tuned to the Scallop Committee meeting webpage for details.

**EBFM:** The Council's Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) Committee will meet jointly with the EBFM Plan Development Team (PDT) on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 by webinar. Updates will be posted on the <a href="EBFM/PDT meeting webpage">EBFM/PDT meeting webpage</a>.

**GROUNDFISH:** The Groundfish AP will meet via webinar on Thursday, April 2, 2020. The Groundfish Committee will meet on Friday, April 3, 2020, again by webinar. Keep tabs on the <u>AP</u> and <u>Committee</u> meeting webpages for webinar registration information and related meeting documents.

**SSC:** The Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) already was scheduled to meet via webinar on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 and will proceed accordingly.



## **APRIL 14-16, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING:**

The Council is moving ahead with plans for a full, in-person meeting in Mystic, CT, although this, too, may be converted to a webinar meeting as the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve.