



New England Fishery Management Council

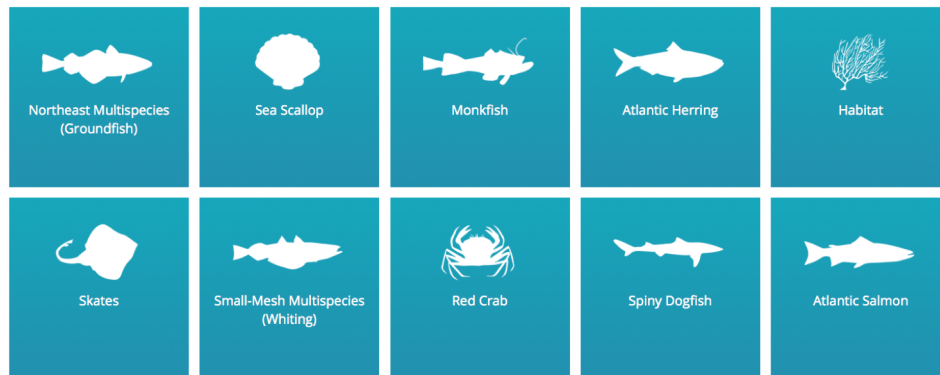
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Council Seeks Advisory Panel Applicants for 2020-2022; Adds Dedicated Rec Seat on Herring and Habitat APs

The New England Fishery Management Council is soliciting applicants to serve on its advisory panels (APs) for the next three years. Terms will run from January 2020 through December 2022. The application deadline is August 31, 2019.

“Our advisory panels are extremely important to our process. They help Council members make more informed decisions,” said Council Executive Director Tom Nies. “We’re looking for applicants who understand their fisheries and are ready to commit to an active role on an AP. While we recognize



that being an AP member can be challenging and sometimes time-demanding, the Council benefits from the expertise of its AP members and genuinely appreciates their involvement in the development of our actions.”

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

Fishermen and other stakeholders should be aware of two recent developments in the AP solicitation process:

1. Current advisors who wish to continue serving on a panel **must reapply** to remain on the panel; and
2. During its June meeting, the Council added a designated recreational seat to both the Atlantic Herring AP and the Habitat AP in its ongoing effort to better address recreational fishing issues.

The New England Council is soliciting applicants for membership on the following advisory panels for 2020-2022:

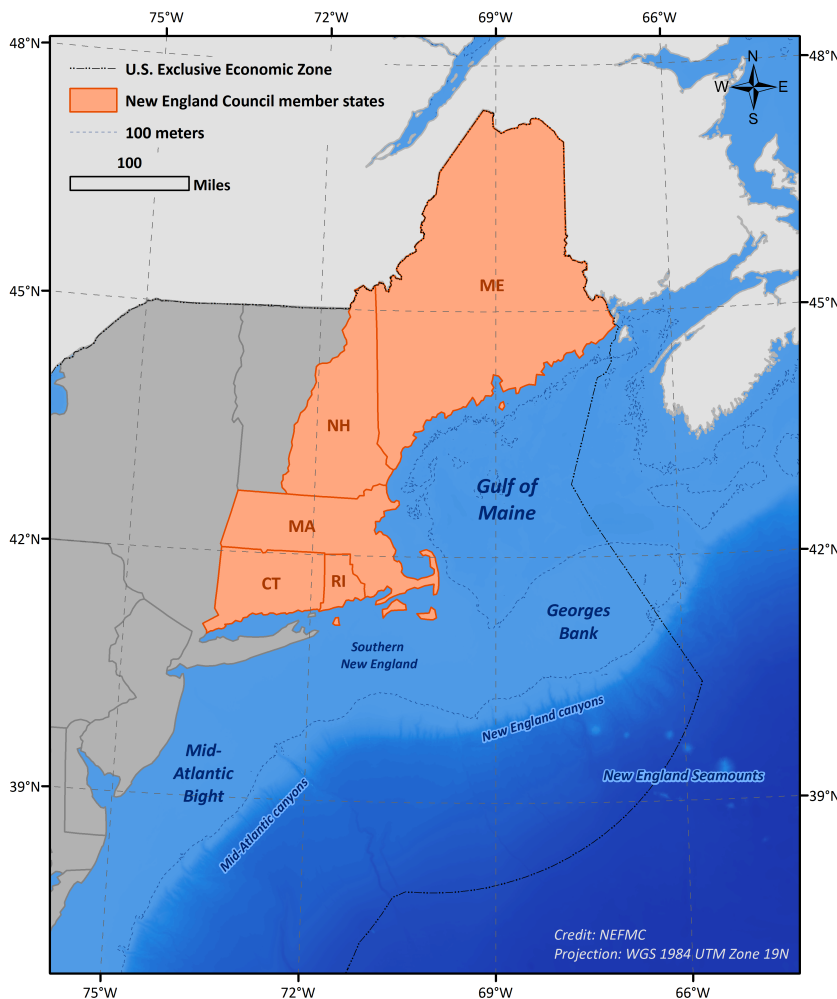
- **Groundfish Advisory Panel (GAP) for Northeast Multispecies;**
- **Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP) for groundfish issues;**
- **Atlantic Sea Scallop Advisory Panel;**
- **Monkfish Advisory Panel;**
- **Atlantic Herring Advisory Panel;**
- **Habitat Advisory Panel;**
- **Northeast Skate Complex Advisory Panel;**
- **Small-Mesh Multispecies (Whiting) Advisory Panel;**
- **Deep-Sea Red Crab Advisory Panel; and**
- **Enforcement Advisory Panel**



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The New England Council jointly manages two fisheries with the Mid-Atlantic Council – monkfish and spiny dogfish. The New England Council has the administrative lead for the Monkfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and, as such, is soliciting members for the Monkfish AP. The Mid-Atlantic Council has the lead on the Spiny Dogfish FMP and solicits members for the Spiny Dogfish AP under its own process.

- The Council will collect AP applications until 5 p.m. on August 31, 2019. The online application is available [here](#). Anyone who needs a paper copy should call the Council office at (978) 465-0492.
- After the application deadline has passed, the Council's respective oversight committees will review the applications and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, which will make final decisions.
- All nominees are subject to an additional level of review by NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement and may be declined because of a marine resource violation. Advisors will be reimbursed for travel expenses.



Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island are the New England Fishery Management Council's five member states. – NEFMC graphic

Interested?

Visit

[AP Announcement and Online Application](#)

- Details about the role and responsibilities of advisory panels can be found in the [AP Policy](#) in the Council's Operations Handbook.
- The Council is looking for individuals who: (1) either fish or are knowledgeable and interested in the conservation and management of a fishery or group of fisheries under Council management; and (2) are committed to being active participants on APs.
- Advisory panel members reflect a wide range of expertise covering different gear types, user groups, geographic locations, and social and economic perspectives.