

New England Fishery Management Council Meeting Agenda
Tuesday - Thursday, April 16-18, 2019
Hilton Hotel, 20 Coogan Boulevard, Mystic, CT 06355
tel: (860) 572-0731 | [Hilton Mystic](http://HiltonMystic.com)

Sending comments? Written comments must be received at the NEFMC office no later than 8 a.m., Thursday, April 11, 2019 to be considered at this meeting. Please address comments to Council Chairman Dr. John Quinn or Executive Director Tom Nies at: NEFMC, 50 Water St., Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950. Email submissions should be sent to comments@nefmc.org.

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

- 9:00 a.m. Introductions and Announcements** (Chairman Dr. John Quinn)
- 9:05 Reports on Recent Activities**
Council Chairman, Council Executive Director, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) Regional Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) General Counsel, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC), Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Enforcement, South Atlantic Council Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10
- 10:30 Atlantic Salmon Recovery Plan** (Dan Kircheis, NOAA Fisheries)
Presentation on joint NOAA Fisheries/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2019 recovery plan for the Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment of Atlantic Salmon
- 10:50 Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (ALWTRT)** (Mike Asaro, GARFO)
Presentation on ALWTRT options under consideration for upcoming April 23-26, 2019 TRT meeting with focus on New England managed fisheries; update on Biological Opinion
- 11:50 Electronic Vessel Trip Reports** (Mid-Atlantic Council staff)
Progress report on Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Omnibus Framework to implement electronic Vessel Trip Reports (eVTRs) for all vessels with commercial permits for MAFMC-managed species
- 12:20 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:45 Open Period for Public Comment**
Opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on issues relevant to Council business but not listed on this agenda (please limit remarks to 3-5 minutes)
- 2:00 Groundfish Committee Report** (Terry Stockwell)
Monitoring Amendment 23: approve range of alternatives; Party/Charter Limited Access: update on status of listening sessions; Five-Year Catch Share Review: update; and Gear Standards Policy: approve modified Council policy on gear standards to facilitate use of gear in accountability measures (AMs)

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) Committee Report** (John Pappalardo)
Georges Bank example Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP): progress report on setting catch limits for stock complexes, managing overfished stocks, and more
- 10:30 Ecosystem Status Report** (Sean Lucey, Northeast Fisheries Science Center)
Update on status of the Northeast Continental Shelf ecosystem
- 11:30 Atlantic Herring Committee Report** (Peter Kendall)
2019-2021 Specifications: progress report, approve Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) acceptable biological catch (ABC) and overfishing limit (OFL) recommendations; 2019-2021 Management Measures: identify range of additional management measures for 2019-2021 fishing years if needed
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**

- 1:45** **Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program Review** (Dr. Mike Sissenwine)
Presentation of final report followed by Council discussion and possible recommendations
- 3:45** **Scientific and Statistical Committee** (Dr. Jason McNamee)
Report on SSC's comments and recommendations on updated Council research priorities
- 4:00** **Council Research Priorities** (Staff)
Review, discuss, and approve updated list of Council research priorities
- 4:45** **Council Operations Handbook** (Staff)
Review, discuss, and approve updates to Council Operations Handbook regarding Research Steering Committee, research priority setting, and research review policy

Thursday, April 18, 2019

- 8:30 a.m.** **Council Staff Offsite Workshop** (Executive Director Tom Nies)
Report on March 13-14, 2019 facilitated staff offsite workshop resulting from Council Program Review recommendation
- 9:00** **Offshore Wind in the Northeast Region: Special Session** (Doug Grout)
(1) Broad overview of scope and time horizon of likely offshore wind energy development in the region; (2) summary of wind energy development process and major players; reports from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), NOAA Fisheries, and Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA), including Council discussion on strategies for continued engagement; (3) update on research planning and coordination, including wind energy impacts on fishery surveys; and (4) update on regional projects under development
- 1:00 p.m.** **Other Business**

Times listed next to the agenda items are estimates and are subject to change.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Council member financial disclosure forms are available for examination at the meeting.

Although other non-emergency issues not contained on this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305 (c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Documents pertaining to Council actions are available for review prior to a final vote by the Council.

Please check the Council's website, www.nefmc.org, or call (978) 465-0492 for copies.

This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.