

**New England Fishery Management Council Meeting Agenda**  
**Tuesday - Thursday, January 29-31, 2019**  
**Portsmouth Harbor Events & Conference Center, 100 Deer Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801**  
tel: (603) 422-6114 | [Portsmouth Harbor Events Center](http://PortsmouthHarborEventsCenter.com)

Sending comments? Written comments must be received at the NEFMC office no later than 8 a.m., Thursday, January 24, 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](mailto:comments@nefmc.org).

**Tuesday, January 29, 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, Northeast Regional Ocean Council
- 10:30 Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM)** (John Pappalardo)  
Georges Bank example Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP): progress report on setting catch limits for stock complexes, managing overfished stocks, and more; Council Discussion: develop recommendations on (1) furthering the development of the eFEP, and (2) a procedure to develop and evaluate management strategies using operating models
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:45 Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) Continued** (John Pappalardo)
- 2:15 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)
- 2:30 Scallop Committee Report** (Vincent Balzano)  
2019 Priorities: progress on work to date; Amendment 21: review and approve scoping notice for action to address Northern Gulf of Maine Management Area and Limited Access General Category trip limit issues
- 3:30 Habitat Report** (Doug Grout)  
Offshore Energy: update on activities and consultations if needed; 2019 Priorities: update on other habitat-related work priorities
- 4:00 Decision-Making Under Uncertainty** (Dr. Steve Cadrin, UMass Dartmouth SMAST)  
Presentation and Council discussion on decision-making when uncertainty is present

**Wednesday, January 30, 2019**

- 8:30 a.m. Fishery Data for Stock Assessment Working Group (FDSA WG)** (Dr. Steve Cadrin, working group chair)  
Receive and discuss final working group report
- 9:30 Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Review of FDSA WG** (Dr. Patrick Sullivan, SSC sub-panel chair)  
SSC sub-group review of Fishery Data for Stock Assessment Working Group final report, followed by Council discussion
- 10:30 Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel** (Terry Stockwell)  
Report on December 17, 2018 meeting of the Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel
- 11:15 Groundfish Committee Report Part 1** (Terry Stockwell)  
Monitoring Amendment 23: progress report; Consultation: provide GARFO with recommendation on approval of new groundfish sector; Five-Year Sector Review: update

- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:45 New England Recreational Fishing Workshops** (Moir Kelly, GARFO; Jessica Joyce, Tidal Bay Consulting)  
Presentation on GARFO's January recreational fishing workshops with resulting recommendations
- 2:30 Recreational Fishing Issues** (Executive Director Tom Nies)  
Council discussion on how to address recreational fishing issues going forward
- 3:30 Groundfish Committee Report Part 2** (Terry Stockwell)  
Recreational Measures: provide recommendations to GARFO on fishing year 2019 recreational measures for Gulf of Maine cod and haddock and Georges Bank cod
- 4:30 International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)** (Brad McHale, NMFS HMS)  
Report on outcomes from the 21<sup>st</sup> Special Meeting of ICCAT, which was held November 12-19, 2018 in Dubrovnik, Croatia

**Thursday, January 31, 2019**

- 8:30 a.m. Closed Session** (Chairman Dr. John Quinn)  
Consult on Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) appointments for 2019-2021
- 8:45 Council Member Recusals** (Executive Director Tom Nies; NOAA General Counsel)  
Develop comments on NMFS proposed rule regarding Council member financial disclosures and recusals
- 9:45 Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program Review** (Dr. Mike Sissenwine)  
RSA Program Review Final Report: presentation followed by Council discussion and recommendations
- 11:00 Fisheries Allocation Policy Directive** (Executive Director Tom Nies)  
Follow-up to September 2018 discussion on NMFS policy directive and associated procedural directives for reviewing fisheries allocations, which include identifying "triggers" to initiate an allocation review
- 12:00 p.m. Atlantic Herring** (Peter Kendall)  
2020-2021 Specifications: progress report; potentially approve SSC's ABC and OFL recommendations
- 12:30 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](http://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.**