NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD & PUBLIC HEARINGS
AMENDMENT 21 TO THE ATLANTIC SEA SCALLOP FISHERY

The New England Fishery Management Council is conducting several public hearings to solicit comments regarding the range of alternatives under consideration in Amendment 21 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP). These hearings are being held by the Council in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Council is seeking feedback from the public on which alternatives should be selected and why. In addition to these hearings, the Council will open a 45-day public comment period on this action on July 22, 2020, which will close on September 4, 2020. The Council plans to take final action on the amendment during its September 29, 2020 – October 1, 2020 meeting.

The alternatives in Amendment 21 address adjustments to the FMP in three areas: 1) measures related to the Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Management Area, 2) Limited Access General Category (LAGC) individual fishing quota (IFQ) possession limits, and 3) ability of Limited Access vessels with LAGC IFQ to transfer quota to LAGC IFQ-only vessels.

Scheduling of hearings may continue due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional hearings may be announced in a separate notice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Webinar Hearings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Wednesday, August 5, 2020 6pm – 8pm | *Register to participate – [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7818807912946784783](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7818807912946784783)  
Call in information: +1 (415) 655-0060  
Access Code: 419-861-768 |
| Wednesday, August 12, 2020 4pm – 6pm | *Register to participate – [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4664837917950475279](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4664837917950475279)  
Call in information: +1 (562) 247-8422  
Access Code: 209-302-952 |
| Thursday, August 27, 2020 4pm – 6pm | *Register to participate – [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6166327698306522895](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6166327698306522895)  
Call in information: +1 (562) 247-8422  
Access Code: 330-712-984 |
| Wednesday, September 2, 2020 6pm – 8pm | *Register to participate – [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8244825787756617743](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8244825787756617743)  
Call in information: +1 (415) 930-5321  
Access Code: 487-066-105 |

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

During each hearing, Council staff will brief the public on the draft amendment before receiving comments. The hearings will begin promptly at the time indicated above. If all attendees who wish to do so have provided their comments prior to the end time indicated, the hearing may conclude early. To the extent possible, the Council may extend hearings beyond the end time indicated above to accommodate all attendees who wish to speak.
Documents are available including the public hearing document when its available can be found on the Council’s website ([https://www.nefmc.org/library/amendment-21](https://www.nefmc.org/library/amendment-21)) or may be obtained by contacting the Council office at (978) 465-0492.

You may submit written comments directly to the New England Fishery Management Council by September 4, 2020 by any of the following methods:

- **Email**: comments@nefmc.org, “Scallop Amendment 21” in subject line.
- **Mail or fax**:  
  Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director,  
  New England Fishery Management Council,  
  50 Water Street, Mill 2,  
  Newburyport, MA 01950  
  Fax (978) 465–3116

**Public Participation by Webinar:** The Council will collect oral comments during the webinar public hearings. Instructions for making public comments will be reviewed by staff at the start of each webinar. The Scallop Committee Chair will run the meeting and will call on individuals to comment in order. Members of the public who wish to comment will use the “Raise Hand” button on the webinar and indicate their wish to speak. Please refer to the remote participation guide (see below link) for detailed instructions on navigating the webinar. Please note that you **must register** for the webinar if you plan to provide oral comments. Those who call-in by telephone without registering for the webinar will be in listen-only mode. Individuals are encouraged to submit written comments ahead of time and throughout the public comment period.

- Here is the **Remote Participation** guide with instructions for how to provide oral comments during the webinar meeting.

- For those receiving a paper copy of this notice, the direct link to the Remote Participation guide is [https://s3.amazonaws.com/nefmc.org/NEFMC-meeting-remote-participation_generic.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/nefmc.org/NEFMC-meeting-remote-participation_generic.pdf).

*These meetings will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request. These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities.*

cc: Council Members, Scallop IPs, Advisors, PDT members  
Notice date: July 2, 2020