

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
On-Demand Fishing Gear Conflict Working Group

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: The On-Demand Fishing Gear Conflict Working Group (ODWG) met on July 23 (webinar) and August 26, 2025 (Wakefield, MA and webinar) to continue addressing the terms of reference, particularly developing recommendations to complete Term of Reference 3B. The working group also received a presentation and provided feedback on the joint alternative gear-marking framework action at the August 26th meeting.
- B. Joint Alternative Gear-Marking Framework: The Alternative Gear Marking Framework Fishery Plan Development Team/Fishery Management Action Team (PDT/FMAT) met on July 8, August 21, and September 11, 2025 (all by webinar), to continue development of the joint framework action. The NEFMC, in conjunction with GARFO, held a public engagement session following the August 26th ODWG meeting (Wakefield, MA and webinar) to provide the public with an additional opportunity to ask questions about and provide comments regarding the framework action.
- C. Working Group Report – Term of Reference 3B: The ODWG has completed this report and will present it to the Council in September.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Working Group Report – Term of Reference 3B: Review and discussion of ODWG report with recommendations for reducing gear interactions between on-demand gear used in the northeast lobster/Jonah crab fishery and other types of fishing gear. Respond to ODWG recommendations, as necessary.
- B. Joint Alternative Gear-Marking Framework: Take final action on the framework. The Mid-Atlantic Council is anticipated to take final action on the framework in October.

III. INFORMATION

- 1. Presentation, Council Staff
- 2. ODWG TOR 3B Report
- 3. Joint Alternative Gear-Marking Framework
 - a. Presentation, GARFO Staff
 - b. Draft Framework Document
 - c. Draft Appendix IV – Community Profiles
 - d. Decision Document
- 4. Meeting Summaries
 - a. [ODWG Meeting Summary, July 23, 2025](#)
 - b. ODWG Meeting Summary, August 26, 2025
 - c. Joint Alternative Gear-Marking Framework Public Engagement Session Summary, August 26, 2025
 - d. [Gear-Marking PDT/FMAT Meeting Summary, July 8, 2025](#)
 - e. [Gear-Marking PDT/FMAT Meeting Summary, August 21, 2025](#)
 - f. Gear-Marking PDT/FMAT Meeting Summary, September 11, 2025
 - g. Joint Groundfish / Recreational Advisory Panel Draft Meeting Summary, September 3, 2025
 - h. Scallop Advisory Panel Draft Meeting Summary, September 12, 2025
 - i. Joint Monkfish/Skate Advisory Panel Draft Meeting Summary, September 16,

2025

5. Correspondence