

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Groundfish Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: The Groundfish Committee and Groundfish Advisory Panel jointly met on Oct. 30, and Nov. 25, 2019 to discuss Framework Adjustment 59, Amendment 23, and possible priorities for 2020. The Recreational Advisory Panel met on Nov. 12, 2019 to discuss Framework Adjustment 59, recreational data and issues, and possible priorities for 2020. The Groundfish Plan Development Team met on Sep. 30, Oct. 9, Oct. 21, and Nov. 5, 2019.
- B. Framework Adjustment 59 (Specifications/Management Measures): This action is scheduled for final action and includes (1) 2020 TACs for U.S./Canada stocks; (2) 2020-2022 specifications for 15 Northeast multispecies stocks, (3) addressing commercial/recreational allocation if raised by MRIP data; and (4) removing allocation to Closed Area I Haddock Special Access Program.
- C. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring: Staff will provide an update on the development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to the Council.
- D. Public Listening Sessions on the Possibility of Limited Entry in the Groundfish Party and Charter Fishery: The Council will receive and discuss the final report summarizing the listening sessions and public comments.
- E. Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office's Recreational Workshops: The Council will receive an overview of the recent regional workshops in October 2019 that built off the outcomes of a 2017 workshop.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Take final action on Framework Adjustment 59/Specifications, and
- B. Receive an update on the DEIS for Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring.

III. INFORMATION

- 1. Groundfish Committee motions for Council meeting (*to be provided*)
- 2. Presentation: Council staff (*to be provided*)
- 3. Framework Adjustment 59: Specifications
 - a. Draft alternatives, version 2
 - b. Draft environmental impacts analysis, version 1 (*version 2, to be provided*)
 - c. Memo from Groundfish PDT to Groundfish Committee re FW59 sub-component review
 - d. Recreational catch statistics, NOAA Fisheries/Northeast Fisheries Science Center
 - e. Memo from Scallop PDT to Groundfish PDT re scallop fishery groundfish bycatch estimates
 - f. ADDITIONAL: See previous meeting documents 3a-3c, located here: <https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/oct-30-2019-joint-groundfish-committee-and-advisory-panel-meeting>
 - g. Council Decision Document– Framework Adjustment 59 (*to be provided*)

4. Amendment 23: Groundfish Monitoring
 - a. Draft alternatives, updated
 - b. Memo from Groundfish PDT to Groundfish Committee re updates to draft alternatives
 - c. Memo from Groundfish PDT to Groundfish Committee re vessel specific coverage level option
 - d. Memo from Council staff to Groundfish Committee re possible inclusion of vessel specific coverage level option
5. Summary Report of the Council Listening Sessions to Consider a Limited Access Program in the Recreational Groundfish Party/Charter Fishery, Aug. 23, 2019
6. Summary of NOAA Fisheries/Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office's 2019 Recreational Workshops
 - a. Presentation (NMFS staff)
 - b. Preliminary Summaries – Plymouth, Portsmouth, and Narragansett (NMFS staff)
7. Meeting Summaries
 - a. Joint Groundfish Committee and Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting, final motions, Oct. 30, 2019
 - b. Recreational Advisory Panel meeting, final motions, Nov. 12, 2019
 - c. Joint Groundfish Committee and Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting, final motions, Nov. 25, 2019 (*to be provided*)
8. Correspondence