

## NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

### Groundfish Committee

#### I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: The Groundfish Committee, Groundfish Advisory Panel, and the Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT) jointly met in a two-day meeting to discuss the results of the Scientific Statistical Committee Sub-Panel review of the PDT's groundfish monitoring analysis and the draft alternatives in Amendment 23 on May 20 and 21, 2019 in Portland, Maine. The PDT met on Apr. 15, 2019; May 8, 2019; May 14, 2019; and May 29, 2019.
- B. Framework Adjustment 58 (specifications/management measures): The proposed rule published on Apr. 19, 2019. The comment period closed on May 6, 2019.
- C. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring: Staff will provide an overview of the range of draft alternatives and the joint Committee/AP/PDT meeting to the Council.
- D. Scientific and Statistical Committee Sub-Panel Review: See Tab 12 for details.
- E. Public Listening Sessions: The public listening sessions for possible limited access in the groundfish recreational party and charter fishery concluded on Friday, May 10, 2019. Public written comments were accepted by Friday, May 17, 2019. A summary of the findings will be provided at a future Council meeting. See details at: <https://www.nefmc.org/library/limited-access-listening-sessions-for-recreational-fisheries>
- F. Groundfish Catch Share Review: The Technical Work Group met on Apr. 30, 2019.
- G. Framework Adjustment 59 (specifications – to be initiated): The Council is expected to initiate Framework Adjustment 59 to include (1) 2020 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada stocks of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder, (2) 2020-2022 specifications for fifteen groundfish stocks, and (3) other management measures. One of the possible other management measures may be the 2019 Council priority to address commercial/recreational allocation issues if raised by new Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) data.

#### II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Approve the range of alternatives for Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring.
- B. Initiate Framework Adjustment 59/Specifications.

#### III. INFORMATION

- 1. Groundfish Committee Motions for the Council meeting
- 2. Presentation: Council staff (*to be provided*)
- 3. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring- draft alternatives
- 4. Meeting Summaries
  - a. Groundfish Plan Development Team meeting summary, May 8, 2019
  - b. Groundfish Plan Development Team meeting summary, May 14, 2019
  - c. Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting motions, May 21, 2019
  - d. Groundfish Committee meeting motions, May 21, 2019
  - e. Groundfish Plan Development Team draft meeting summary, May 29, 2019
- 5. Correspondence