

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Groundfish Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: The Recreational Advisory Panel met on Jan. 18, 2022. The Groundfish Committee met on Jan. 20, 2022. All meetings were held by webinar.
- B. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring: An announcement of availability of amendment and request for comments published in the Federal Register on Jan. 14, 2022. The deadline for comments is Mar. 15, 2022.
- C. Framework Adjustment 63 (specifications and management measures): The Council took final action on Dec. 8, 2021. Staff is preparing the document for submission to GARFO.
- D. Recreational Measures for 2022: Staff will provide an overview of possible recreational management measures for fishing year 2022 for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock. The Council will make recommendations to GARFO at the February 2022 Council meeting.
- E. 2021 Atlantic Cod Stock Structure Workshops – The 2021 Atlantic Cod Stock Structure Workshops were supported by the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) and NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) and facilitated by NH Sea Grant. The workshops presented a two-pronged approach developed to incorporate new stock definitions into existing science and management structures. The workshops focused on (a) science/assessment prospects and (b) management. Workshop meeting materials are available here: <https://seagrant.unh.edu/2021-atlantic-cod-stock-workshops>

The Council received an overview of the workshops at the September 2021 meeting. The Council will receive the final report at the February 2022 Council meeting.

- F. Atlantic Cod Research Track Assessment: Terms of reference, a list of working group members, and meeting dates are located here: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/event/research-track-working-group-2023-improving-assessments-atlantic-cod>

The Chair of the Atlantic Cod Research Track Working Group will provide an overview of progress to date including working group discussions regarding stock structure at the February 2022 Council meeting.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Recreational Fishery - Make recommendations for fishing year 2022 recreational measures for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock for submission to GARFO.
- B. Atlantic Cod – Discuss the management implications of the new Atlantic cod stock structure.

III. INFORMATION

- 1. Groundfish Committee motions for the Council meeting
- 2. Presentation: Groundfish Committee Report, Council Staff
- 3. Fishing Year 2022 Recreational Measures
 - a. Recent catch and effort summary for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock

- b. Summary of measures options from the bioeconomic model
- 4. Atlantic Cod
 - a. Summary Report of the 2021 Atlantic Cod Stock Structure Workshops - Draft
 - b. Presentation: 2021 Atlantic Cod Stock Structure Workshops
 - c. Presentation: Atlantic Cod Research Track Working Group
- 5. Meeting Summaries
 - a. Recreational Advisory Panel, meeting summary, Nov. 29, 2021
 - b. Groundfish Committee, draft meeting summary, Nov. 30, 2021
 - c. Recreational Advisory Panel, meeting motions or draft meeting summary, Jan. 18, 2022
 - d. Groundfish Committee, meeting motions or draft meeting summary, Jan. 20, 2022
- 6. Correspondence