

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Groundfish Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: The Groundfish Advisory Panel met on Jun. 9, 2020. The Recreational Advisory Panel met on Jun. 15, 2020. The Groundfish Committee met on Jun. 10 and Jun. 15, 2020. The Groundfish Plan Development Team met on May 6, Jun. 5, Jun. 11, and Jun. 17, 2020. All meetings were held by webinar.
- B. Framework Adjustment 59 (specifications/management measures): GARFO published the proposed rule on May 29, 2020. The comment period closes on Jun. 15, 2020.
- C. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring: The public comment period is open from March 20, 2020 to June 30, 2020. Three public hearings occurred by webinar on Apr. 15, May 12, and May 21, 2020.
- D. Petition for Rulemaking on Atlantic Cod: GARFO briefing on request to consult with the Council on issues raised in a petition for rulemaking on Atlantic cod; See Tab 1 for documents.
- E. Framework Adjustment 61 (specifications): The Council would initiate this action at the June meeting to include (1) 2021 total allowable catches for U.S./Canada stocks of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder, (2) 2021-2023 specifications for roughly half of the groundfish stocks, and (3) other measures.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. **Petition for Rulemaking on Atlantic Cod** – discuss how to address issues that may have merit
- B. **Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring** - discuss timeline to reach final action.
- C. **COVID-19 Impacts** - discuss and potentially approve Committee recommendations for adjustments to commercial and recreational measures to mitigate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a possible request for emergency action – measures that may be discussed include commercial carry-over provisions and recreational measures for Gulf of Maine haddock and cod.
- D. **Framework Adjustment 61** - initiate action.

III. INFORMATION

- 1. Groundfish Committee motions for Council meeting (*to be provided*)
- 2. Presentation: Council staff (*to be provided*)
- 3. COVID-19 impacts discussion
 - a. Nies to Council re possible emergency action commercial groundfish, April 8, 2020
 - b. NEFMC to GARFO re commercial and recreational groundfish fishery COVID-19 impacts, April 29, 2020
 - c. Groundfish PDT memo to Committee re COVID-19 emergency action requests – for commercial groundfish fishery (*to be provided*)
 - d. GARFO to NEFMC letter re considerations for commercial fishery carryover, June 3, 2020

- e. NEFMC to GARFO re Council proposed recreational measures for FY2020, Feb. 4, 2020
 - f. Groundfish PDT memo to Committee re COVID-19 and the recreational groundfish fishery (*to be provided*)
4. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring, public hearing summaries, available at: <https://www.nefmc.org/library/amendment-23>
 5. Stock Assessment Schedule, NEFSC
 6. Correspondence
 7. Meeting Summaries
 - a. Groundfish Advisory Panel Meeting Motions, Jun. 9, 2020
 - b. Groundfish Committee Meeting Motions, Jun. 10, 2020
 - c. Recreational Advisory Panel Meeting Motions, Jun. 15, 2020 (*to be provided*)
 - d. Groundfish Committee Meeting Motions, Jun. 15, 2020 (*to be provided*)