

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Skate Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: Since the April Council meeting, the Monkfish and Skate Plan Development Teams (PDT), Advisory Panels (AP), and Committees have not met. Council staff held five listening sessions from April 27 – May 11 and a comment period from April 20 – May 18th.
- B. Listening Sessions for Monkfish and Skate Fisheries: In April, the Council disapproved the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Scoping Document and discontinued the 2026 Council Priority to “Scope for an IFQ Program for monkfish and/or skate wing fisheries”. Instead, the Council approved the schedule of public meetings presented during the April Council meeting to serve as listening sessions to inform future priorities in 2027 and beyond for the monkfish and skate fisheries. Council staff from New England and the Mid-Atlantic held five listening sessions from April 27 – May 11 in the following locations: Portland, ME; New Bedford, MA; Riverhead, NY; Manahawkin, NJ; and webinar. Feedback from each listening session was compiled in separate meeting summaries and the June Council staff presentation includes feedback aggregated across listening sessions and from the public comment period. The MAFMC will receive a similar report during their August meeting.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- 1. No Council action anticipated.

III. INFORMATION

- 1. Council staff presentation
- 2. Monkfish and Skate Listening Session Meeting Summaries
 - a. [Portland, ME – April 27, 2026](#)
 - b. [New Bedford, MA – April 29, 2026](#)
 - c. [Riverhead, NY – April 30, 2026](#)
 - d. [Manahawkin, NJ – May 5, 2026](#)
 - e. [Webinar – May 11, 2026](#)
- 3. Written comments
 - a. Compilation of individual comments
 - b. Summary of written and individual verbal comments received
- 4. Correspondence

*Documents are duplicative with the Monkfish status sheet. The Monkfish and Skate Committees will have a combined report at the Council meeting.