

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Groundfish Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: The Groundfish Committee met on November 9 and 29, 2017 to discuss two management actions, Framework Adjustment 57 and Amendment 23, possible 2018 groundfish priorities, and recent Executive orders. The Groundfish Committee reviewed the work of the Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT) and recommendations from the two advisory panels, then made recommendations to the Council on preferred alternatives in draft Framework Adjustment 57. The Recreational Advisory Panel met on November 14, 2017 and the Groundfish Advisory Panel met on November 28, 2017. The Groundfish PDT met on October 3, November 1, November 15, and November 27, 2017.
- B. Framework Adjustment 57 (specifications/management measures): This action would set specifications for all groundfish stocks for FY2018 to FY2020, set specifications for FY2018 for US/Canada stocks (Eastern Georges Bank cod, Eastern Georges Bank haddock, and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder), evaluate the common pool trimester total allowable catches, modify Atlantic halibut management, modify the Southern windowpane flounder accountability measures for the large-mesh non-groundfish fisheries (e.g., scup and summer flounder), temporarily modify the trigger for the Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder accountability measures in the scallop fishery for FY2018, revise the recreational management measures process, and allow the Regional Administrator in consultation with the Council to temporarily adjust recreational management measures for Georges Bank cod for FY2018 and FY2019.
- C. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring Action: The purpose of this action is to implement measures to improve reliability and accountability of catch reporting and to ensure a precise and accurate representation of catch (landings and discards). This action will be discussed at the January 2018 Council meeting.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Framework Adjustment 57: Take final action on the framework.
- B. Emergency Action: Pending discussions at the Groundfish Committee meeting on November 29, possibly consider requesting emergency action to reduce catches of Georges Bank cod by implementing additional measures in the recreational fishery.

III. INFORMATION

1. Presentation: Groundfish Committee Report (*to be provided*)
2. Groundfish Committee meeting motions for Council meeting (*to be provided*)
3. Framework Adjustment 57: Specifications and Management Measures
 - a. Draft Alternatives for FW57
 - b. Draft biological impacts analysis
 - c. Draft economic impacts analysis
 - d. Draft other sections impacts analysis
 - e. PDT memo to the Groundfish Committee re sub-component analysis
 - f. PDT memo to the Groundfish Committee re recreational management measures for Georges Bank cod (*to be provided*)
 - g. Council staff memo re Scallop fishery catch of CC/GOM yellowtail flounder
 - h. Scallop PDT memo to Groundfish PDT re Scallop fishery bycatch projections for FY2018
 - i. PDT memo to the Groundfish Committee re a review of the Georges Bank haddock sub-ACL in the directed mid-water trawl Atlantic herring fishery
 - j. Refer to additional background documents (3b-3g) here:
<https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/nov-9-2017-groundfish-committee-meeting>
 - k. Additional draft impacts analysis (*to be provided*)
 - l. Decision document for Framework Adjustment 57 (*to be provided*)
4. Meeting Summaries
 - a. Groundfish Committee, meeting motions, November 9, 2017
 - b. Recreational Advisory Panel, meeting motions, November 14, 2017
 - c. Groundfish Advisory Panel, draft meeting motions, (*to be provided*)
 - e. Groundfish Committee, draft meeting motions, (*to be provided*)
5. Correspondence