



New England Fishery Management Council

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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 29, 2017
TO: Herring AP and Committee
FROM: Peter Kendall, Herring Committee Chairman
SUBJECT: Charge to AP and Committee for September 13/14, 2017 meetings

There will be a Herring AP and Committee meeting at the Four Points by Sheraton in Wakefield, MA, on **Wednesday, September 13, 2017 and Thursday, September 14, 2017.**

Purpose. The primary purpose of this meeting is to review draft analyses of the ABC control rule alternatives being considered in Amendment 8 (A8) to the Herring Fishery Management Plan, and potentially select preferred alternatives. The AP and Committee will also discuss several outstanding issues related to the alternatives under consideration and review preliminary analyses being prepared for the other topic in this action – potential localized depletion and user conflicts. However, the Council is not scheduled to select preferred alternatives for that aspect of Amendment 8 until the following Council meeting in December 2017. In addition to Amendment 8, the AP and Committee will also discuss initial recommendations for 2018 work priorities for the Atlantic Herring FMP, as well as discuss if there are any regulations in the Herring FMP that could be eliminated, improved, or streamlined based on recent Executive Orders from President Donald Trump.

We have decided to mail these documents to you in advance to help you prepare for this important meeting. I request that you review as much of these materials before the meeting as you can, especially the ABC control rule results (Document #7). As you review these analyses please think about the objectives that you believe should be part of an ABC control rule for the Herring FMP, and consider the associated tradeoffs. These analyses have been prepared to help identify final objectives, describe relevant uncertainties, and assist your selection of preferred alternatives. PDT members will be at the meeting to review these results and answer questions, but our meeting will be more successful if members review these materials in advance.

ABC control rule alternatives in Amendment 8

The AP and Committee should review the descriptions of the alternatives and draft rationale (Document #3). Background information has been added to Section 1.1.2 of the Amendment 8 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), the Affected Environment for Amendment 8 has been substantially updated (Document #4), and the ABC control rule alternatives are described in Section 2.1 of Document #3, pages 33-43. The PDT has identified a handful of outstanding issues related to

the alternatives (Document #5). Members should be prepared to clarify these outstanding issues and potentially draft motions for the Council to consider to address these topics in September. Finally, the PDT will present updated analyses of ABC control rule alternatives (Document #6 and #7). After review of the draft analyses members may potentially select a preferred alternative for the Council to consider at the September 2017 meeting.

Measures to address potential localized depletion and user conflicts in Amendment 8

The PDT has made progress on the overlap analyses discussed at previous meetings (Document #8). Staff will briefly summarize the initial work and members are encouraged to provide input for future analyses and discussion of potential impacts. The AP and Committee will meet again later in the fall to review additional analyses of the localized depletion and user conflict measures and potentially select preferred alternatives. The Council is currently scheduled to select preferred alternatives for the localized depletion measures and approve Amendment 8 for public hearings at the December 2017 Council meeting.

Herring FMP Priorities for 2018

Document #8 summarizes the list of potential work priorities that have already been discussed by the Council for 2018. Members should review this list and discuss if there are any modifications that should be made (additions, subtractions, modifications).

Executive Orders about streamlining current regulations

Staff will review recent Executive Orders that have been issued about streamlining current regulations (Document #10). NOAA is seeking public input on the efficiency and effectiveness of current regulations and whether they can be improved. Members should discuss if there are any regulations in the Herring FMP that could be eliminated, improved, or streamlined.

Meeting Materials. As they become available, the documents listed below will be posted to www.nefmc.org, and paper copies will be provided at the meeting, as well as any additional meeting materials. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Deirdre Boelke (dboelke@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 x105).

1. Tasking memo from Committee Chair, Peter Kendall (*this document*)
2. Staff presentation on Amendment 8
3. Draft Amendment 8 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), August 2017
4. Draft Amendment 8 Affected Environment, August 2017
5. Herring PDT memo regarding Amendment 8 outstanding issues, August 21, 2017
6. Presentation on MSE ABC Control Rule Results
7. Draft impacts of Amendment 8 ABC control rule alternatives
8. Localized depletion overlap analysis (Draft)
9. List of Herring FMP work priorities from 2017
10. Staff presentation on Executive Orders about streamlining current regulations
11. Correspondence