

New England Fishery Management Council
Risk Policy Working Group
ZOOM Webinar – [Register Here](#)
Friday, January 23, 2026

Risk Policy Working Group Members	
Megan Ware, ME, <i>Chair</i>	Dr. Lisa Kerr (SSC)
Dan Salerno, NH, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Jonathon Peros (Council Staff)
Dr. Jonathan Deroba (NEFSC)	Dr. Naresh Pradhan (Council Staff)
Moira Kelly (GARFO)	Dr. Kevin St. Martin (SSC)
Melanie Griffin, MA	Dr. Joe Carracappa (NEFSC)
Dr. Jason McNamee (SSC)	Geoff Smith, ME
Mr. Bill Lucey, CT	Dr. Gareth Lawson (SSC)

AGENDA

12:00 p.m. Welcome and Introductions, Meeting Logistics

- Meeting objectives and expectations, Ms. Megan Ware
 - Need final recommendations of factors that will be considered for approval at June 2026 Council Meeting.

12:10 p.m. Risk Policy Outlook for 2026 and Other Updates

- Review Work Plan for the Risk Policy, Mr. Jonathon Peros

12:30 p.m. Risk Policy Concept – Recommended Changes

- Discuss and advise on possible modifications to the Risk Policy, including factors and questions, data sources.
 - Review Risk Policy factors, goals of each factor, data for scoring:
 - Affirm the goals of each factor, score range/directional relationship with risk.
 - Decide if the factor should be used in 2026 implementation.
 - If included, initial discussion about any changes to factor score ranges, data used to score factors.
 - Council staff implementation input.

2:30 p.m. Review Risk Policy Mechanisms and Next Steps

- Discuss and advise on possible modifications to the Risk Policy mechanisms, including factors and questions, data sources.
- Revisit the Shape of the Curve.
 - Stand up a technical sub-group to explore implications of the shape of the curve, scaling, and score ranges.

3:00 p.m. Review Progress and Discuss Next Steps

- Recap decisions, review short-term work plan
- Discussion on longer-term specifications and Risk Policy
- Consider process for updating the Risk Policy over time (timeframe)

4:00 p.m. Other Business and Adjourn

MEETING MATERIALS

1. Agenda
2. Presentations (*to be provided*)
 - a. Risk Policy Concept
 - b. Risk Policy Work Plan
3. Factor and Mechanism Matrix for Recommendations
4. Feedback from sub-groups:
 - a. Memo on Stock Assessment / Uncertainty
 - b. Memo on Fish Condition / Ecosystem Considerations
5. Draft Risk Policy Workplan
6. Meetings Summaries
7. Correspondence

Other Background Materials: [Risk Policy Working Group Page](#)