

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Observer Policy Committee

I. STATUS

A. Meetings:

- The Herring Advisory Panel met on March 15, 2016 and the Herring Committee met on March 16, 2016 to review/discuss herring coverage target alternatives in the IFM Amendment and develop recommendations regarding preliminary preferred alternatives (*refer to Committee meeting summary*).
- The IFM Amendment Plan Development Team met on March 31, 2016 to review and provide input to the Council on ways to address the Committee's concerns regarding the IFM Amendment (*refer to PDT Memo*).

- I. Industry-Funded Monitoring Amendment: The Herring Committee supported some refinements to the existing herring coverage alternatives, and recommended that the IFM Amendment move forward for public comment without selecting preliminary preferred alternatives. Approval of the associated draft Environmental Assessment will occur at the NEFMC's June 2016 meeting (*an updated Draft EA will be provided June 2016*).

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- Discuss/refine existing herring coverage alternatives in the IFM Amendment.
- Possibly select preliminary preferred alternatives for herring coverage alternatives in the IFM Amendment.

III. INFORMATION

1. IFM Amendment - Discussion Document and Appendices (March 15, 2016)
2. IFM Amendment - Decision Document (April 8, 2016)
3. Herring Committee Meeting Summary (March 16, 2016) –*under TAB 3 for Herring, information item #2*
4. Plan Development Team Memo (April 11, 2016)
5. IFM Amendment - GARFO Presentation on Herring Coverage Target Alternatives (*to be provided*)
6. Correspondence