



New England Fishery Management Council

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

Skate Plan Development Team Meeting

Date: Tuesday, August 1, 2017
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Mariners House, 1 North Square, Boston, MA 02113
Phone: (617) 227-3979

Agenda:

- Discussion of stock status of the seven skate species using updated NMFS trawl survey indices.
- Discussion and development of advice and recommendations for revising the Skate Allowable Biological Catch.
- Discussion of removing the prohibition to possess barndoor skate.
- Discussion of skate priorities for 2018.
- If time permits, other business may be discussed.

Directions:

From the South: Take I-93 North to Exit 23 toward Government Center, taking the North End ramp toward Charlestown. Take a slight right onto North St. Continue straight to North Square. Mariners House is two doors past the Paul Revere House. There is no parking at the facility, but a variety of parking garages are located nearby.

From the North: Take I-93 South to Exit 24A toward Government Center. Turn left at John F. Fitzgerald Surface Road. Turn left on Mercantile St., then left at Cross St., and then right on North St. Continue straight to North Square. Mariners House is two doors past the Paul Revere House. There is no parking at the facility, but a variety of parking garages are located nearby.

Public transportation: The Mariner's House is approximately 0.5 miles (< 10 min walk) from the Haymarket MBTA station. From the station, head southeast towards John F. Fitzgerald Surface Rd. Make a left on Hanover St, then turn right on Cross St. Next, turn left on North St and go two blocks to North Square.

The New England Fishery Management Council generally posts announcements of Plan Develop Team (PDT) meetings on the Council's website, occasionally with very little notice. An agenda may or may not be included. Team members may discuss topics, if listed, in any order or add other issues not contained in the meeting notice.

Members of the public may attend PDT meetings, or listen in if the meetings are broadcast, but should not expect to participate unless the PDT chair invites input. Public comments and questions will not be taken during PDT conference calls.

PDTs are responsible to the Council and work on technical analyses as directed by their oversight committee. Once complete, PDT work products are reviewed at oversight committee meetings to which the public is invited. It is at this point that comments are encouraged on a range of issues, including PDT reports and recommendations, proposed management options or other information that is relevant to the committee's business at that time. The committee, in turn, makes management recommendations to the full Council based on the full suite of information it has available to it.