New England Fishery Management Council
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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEETING NOTICE
HABITAT COMMITTEE

Date: **Wednesday, October 4, 2017**
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Fairfield Inn & Suites
185 MacArthur Drive
New Bedford, MA 02740
Phone: (774) 634-2000

Agenda:

- The committee will be briefed on offshore wind projects in various stages of planning and development. This agenda item will include presentations from various companies as well as BOEM staff, and time for questions and discussion.
- Discuss 2018 Council priorities related to habitat and recommend specific priorities to the Council.
- Review recent Plan Development Team (PDT) activity related to the Deep-Sea Coral Amendment, with a focus on development and analysis of broad zone Option 7 as discussed at the June 2017 Council meeting. Provide guidance for additional work.
- Review recent PDT activity related to the Clam Dredge Framework. Provide guidance for development of management alternatives using updated habitat and clam survey data.
- Discuss if there are any habitat-related fishery regulations that could be eliminated, improved, or streamlined. Several recent Executive Orders have been issued about streamlining current regulations, and NOAA is seeking public input on the efficiency and effectiveness of current regulations and whether they can be improved.
- Other business may be discussed as necessary.

Items will be discussed in the order listed above. A more detailed agenda with approximate times will be provided the week before the meeting.

If you would like your written comments to be considered at this meeting, they must be received at the NEFMC office no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, September 29, 2017. Please address them to Council Chairman Dr. John Quinn or Executive Director Tom Nies. Email submissions should be sent to comments@nefmc.org.

For information about meeting materials and detailed agenda, please consult the Council's website at www.nefmc.org.

This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.
This schedule is subject to change. If you have questions, please call the Council office.

Directions on the reverse

Directions:
From the South – I-95 North to I-I95 East. Take Exit 15 to merge onto MA 18 South. Turn left at Union Street. Turn right on MacArthur Drive.
From the North – I-95 South to I-93 South toward Boston. Take Exit 4 onto Route 24 South toward Brockton. Take Exit 12 onto Route 140 South towards New Bedford. Take Exit 2A to I-I95 East towards Cape Cod. Take Exit 15 onto Route 18 South. Turn left at union Street. Turn right onto MacArthur Drive.

TA #: 17-167
cc: Council Members, Habitat Committee, Habitat IPs, AP & PDT
Notice date: September 8, 2017