

**New England Fishery Management Council
Habitat Committee Meeting
Four Points by Sheraton
Wakefield, MA
January 9, 2018**

NEFMC	MAFMC
Doug Grout, NH <i>Chair</i>	Peter Hughes, NJ
Eric Reid, RI <i>Vice chair</i>	Peter deFur, VA
Terry Alexander, ME	
Vincent Balzano, ME	ASMFC
Elizabeth Etrie, MA	David Borden
Mark Gibson, RI	
Melissa Smith, ME	GARFO designees (one voting member)
Matthew McKenzie, CT	Lou Chiarella
Terry Stockwell, ME	Pete Christopher

AGENDA

9:30 Introduction, review agenda

9:35 Omnibus Essential Fish Habitat Amendment 2 and trailing actions

- Discuss NMFS decision on the amendment, and any implications for trailing actions by the Council
- Review next steps to complete the Clam Framework, which is addressing continued hydraulic dredge access to the Great South Channel habitat management area. Discuss AP recommendation about how to frame alternatives.

10:45 Deep-Sea Coral Amendment

- Updated Option 7 broad zone – review methods used to develop option, PDT analysis of impacts, PDT/AP discussion, and AP recommendation

12:15 Lunch

1:30 Coral amendment, continued

- Recommend a preferred alternative to the Council for final action on Jan. 30

2:30 Offshore energy

- Review ongoing actions (building on BOEM update to Council on Dec. 5)
- Identify and prioritize specific issues that the Council should comment on
- Discuss AP recommendations on strategies for productive engagement

3:30 Other business

4:00 Adjourn

MATERIALS

1. Tasking memo from Chairman Doug Grout
2. Meeting summaries
 - a. AP motions from joint AP/PDT meeting, 12/20/17
 - b. ~~Draft Joint AP/PDT meeting summary, 12/20/17~~
 - c. Habitat Committee meeting summary, 10/04/17
3. Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2 and trailing actions
 - a. Letter to Council on OHA2 decision
 - b. OHA2 approved map
 - c. Staff presentation on clam framework
4. Coral amendment
 - a. Staff presentation on Option 7 updates
 - b. PDT memo – development and analysis of updated Option 7 broad zone
 - c. Map book – updated Option 7
 - d. Draft coral amendment
5. Offshore energy
 - a. Staff presentation on upcoming issues of interest
 - b. Information on BOEM’s draft proposed program for oil and gas leasing on outer continental shelf
6. Correspondence