



New England Fishery Management Council

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E.F. "Terry" Stockwell, Chairman | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 7, 2013

TO: Groundfish Oversight Committee (OSC)

FROM: Frank Blount, Groundfish Oversight Committee Chairman

SUBJECT: 2-day OSC meeting on Monday November 18 and Tuesday November 19, 2013

There will be a 2-day Groundfish Oversight Committee meeting at the Newport Marriot in Newport, RI on **Monday November 18 starting at 9:30 AM** and on **Tuesday November 19 starting at 9:00 AM.**

Purpose. The main purpose of the meeting is to continue development of Amendment 18 (A18), on November 18, and Framework 51 (FW51), on November 19, to the Northeast Multispecies FMP.

Meeting Materials. Paper copies of the documents listed below will be provided at the meeting. A PDF of each document is posted to www.nefmc.org. Staff will provide copies of any additional meeting materials that are not included in this package. New members should also review past meeting materials. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Jamie Cournane (jcournane@nefmc.org ; 978-465-0492 ext. 103) or Rachel Feeney (rfeeney@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 110).

1. Meeting memo (this document)
2. Agenda
3. PDT memo to GF OSC re A18, November 7, 2013
4. SSB Updated Analysis on Ownership Concentration, November 8, 2013
5. PDT memo to GF OSC re FW51, November 12, 2013
6. PDT memo to SSC cc GF OSC re GOM haddock ABCs, November 7, 2013
7. GF OSC meeting summary, September 17, 2013
8. GAP meeting summary, September 16, 2013
9. NMFS, Northeast Multispecies Fishery, Final Year-End Results for FY2012, November 5, 2013
10. Correspondence

For Monday, November 18, 2013:

Amendment 18

Recent activity. Recall that much of our discussion of Amendment 18 at our September Committee meeting was postponed. The Committee did move to remove measures related to permit splitting and PSC splitting from Amendment 18, and this was affirmed by the Council at its September meeting. The Committee also had some discussion of the Northeast Hook Fishermen's Association proposal, but postponed discussion of vessel upgrade restrictions, permit banks, and accumulation limits. Please refer to the PDT memo on Amendment 18 (Document 3), which provides discussion questions for the Committee to consider, further information on Handgear A permits, and the draft measures for Amendment 18. Relative to this action, the PDT has recently focused on supporting the work of Compass Lexecon and updating information on ownership trends in the fishery.

Next steps. On November 18, we expect to receive a presentation by Compass Lexecon of the preliminary results of their analysis, as well as a presentation from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center on their analysis of ownership trends in the groundfish fishery. After opportunities for discussion and feedback, the Committee will spend the remainder of day developing measures for Amendment 18. To make the most of our meeting time on **November 18**, you are encouraged to prepare motions in advance and either bring them to the meeting or send them to Rachel Feeney (rfeeney@nefmc.org).

For Tuesday, November 19, 2013:

Framework 51

Recent activity. At the September Council meeting, the Council decided which measures to include in FW51 for analysis. Over the past few months, the PDT has been working to revise the alternatives (as appropriate) and conduct the impacts analysis of the alternatives (Document 5). Due to time constraints, PDT work to date has primarily focused on the impacts analysis of alternatives in section 4.1 (regulatory requirements) with secondarily on the alternatives in section 4.2 (management measures) (Document 5). The PDT expects to have the draft impacts analysis for FW 51 completed for final decision on FW 51 at the December Council meeting. In addition, the PDT revisited the Gulf of Maine haddock FY 2013-2015 ABCs/OFLs (Document 6), which was reviewed by the SSC on November 15, 2013

Next steps. Following the PDT report on FW51 and US/CA trading update, the OSC will discuss the measures in FW51. The OSC may also wish to consider selection of preferred alternatives or postpone until the next OSC meeting on December 9, 2013. Final action is scheduled on FW 51 at the December Council meeting. Please note the extremely compressed timeline. To make the most of our meeting time on **November 19**, you are encouraged to prepare motions in advance and either bring them to the meeting or send them to Jamie Cournane (jcournane@nefmc.org).