



New England Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 25, 2016
TO: Groundfish Committee
FROM: Frank Blount, Groundfish Committee Chairman
SUBJECT: Groundfish Committee meeting on August 3, 2016

There will be a Groundfish Committee meeting at the DoubleTree by Hilton, South Portland, ME on Wednesday, August 3rd, starting at 9:00 AM.

Purpose. The purpose of the Committee meeting is to 1) consider recommendations from the Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP); 2) discuss development of Framework Adjustment 56 (FW 56) – specifications and management measures; 3) discuss the groundfish monitoring action; and 4) discuss other business, as necessary.

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. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Jamie Cournane (jcournane@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 103).

1. Meeting memo (this document)
2. Agenda
3. Framework Adjustment 56
 - a. Draft action plan for FW 56 version 1, July 22, 2016
 - b. Draft white paper on the recreational management measures process, Council staff, July 27, 2016
 - c. Background information: Marine Recreational Information Program presentation to the RAP, August 2, 2016, John Foster, NOAA
 - d. Presentation: PDT report regarding FW 56, Council staff (*to be provided*)
4. Groundfish monitoring action
 - a. White paper on monitoring strategies, draft outline from the PDT, July 21, 2016
 - b. Draft PDT report on dockside monitoring programs, July 6, 2016
 - c. Presentation: PDT report regarding the groundfish monitoring action, Council

Staff (*to be provided*)

5. Groundfish Committee meeting summary, June 9, 2016
6. Recreational Advisory Panel meeting motions, August 2, 2016
7. Correspondence

To make the most of our meeting time on August 3rd, you are encouraged to prepare motions in advance and either bring them to the meeting or send them to Jamie Cournane (jcournane@nefmc.org).

Framework Adjustment 56

Recent Activity: The PDT met on July 21st and developed the draft action plan for FW 56 (Doc. 3a), based on the recommendations from the Council at its June 2016 meeting.

Next Steps: On August 3rd, The RAP chair will provide a report to the Committee (Doc. 6 and Doc. 3c). Council staff will present (Doc. 3d) an overview of the draft action plan for FW 56 (Doc. 3a) and the draft Council staff white paper on the recreational management measures process (Doc. 3b). After reviewing the information provided, the Committee may wish to develop recommendations regarding FW 56 to the Council.

The Groundfish Advisory Panel meets on August 30, 2016 and the Committee convenes on September 12, 2016. The Council is scheduled to approve the range of alternatives for FW 56 at its September 2016 meeting.

Groundfish Monitoring Action

Recent activity. The PDT met on July 21st. Since the June 2016 Committee meeting, the PDT completed a draft outline for the white paper on monitoring strategies (Doc. 4a) and a draft report on dockside monitoring programs (Doc. 4b) to be included in the white paper. Additional analyses for the white paper are in progress at this time.

Next Steps. On August 3rd, Council staff will provide an overview of the PDT's work (Doc. 4c). The Committee will discuss the information provided and potentially develop recommendations to the Council.

The Council is scheduled to receive an update on the development of this action at its September 2016 meeting.