



New England Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 9, 2017
TO: Recreational Advisory Panel
FROM: Terry Stockwell, Groundfish Committee Chairman
SUBJECT: **Recreational Advisory Panel meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2017**

There will be a Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP) meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport, Maine on Wednesday, January 18, starting at 1:30 pm.

Purpose. The purpose of the RAP meeting is to discuss: (1) recommendations to the Groundfish Committee for FY 2017 Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock recreational measures, (2) the Council's 2017 priorities, (3) 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. Presentation: Council Priorities for 2017
4. Recreational Measures in the Gulf of Maine for FY 2017
 - a. Preliminary 2016 recreational catch and effort summary, NEFSC, January 4, 2017
 - b. FY 2017 measures simulations, NEFSC (*to be provided*)
 - c. Presentation: Possible 2017 recreational measures, NEFSC (*to be provided*)
5. Correspondence

Drafting Motions. You are encouraged to prepare motions in advance and either bring them to the meeting or send them to Jamie Cournane (jcournane@nefmc.org).

Council's 2017 Groundfish Priorities

Next Steps: On Jan. 18, Council staff will provide an overview of the Council's 2017 groundfish priorities (Doc. 3). The RAP may discuss the Council's groundfish priorities for 2017 including recreational measures timing and others. The RAP may wish make recommendations to the Groundfish Committee, as appropriate.

Recreational Measures in the Gulf of Maine for FY 2017

Next Steps. On Jan. 18, NEFSC staff will provide an overview of recent catches of Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock (Doc. 4a). Staff will also provide results from the bioeconomic model used (Doc. 4b and Doc. 4c) to develop options for recreational fishery measures (i.e., bag limit, size limit, and season).

The RAP may wish to develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee regarding Gulf of Maine measures for FY 2017.

- The Groundfish Committee is meeting on Jan. 19 to recommend recreational measures for FY 2017 to the Council and consider any RAP discussion and motions.
- The Council is scheduled to discuss these issues at its January 2017 meeting and then make recommendations to NMFS.