



New England Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 9, 2017
TO: Recreational Advisory Panel
FROM: Terry Stockwell, Groundfish Committee Chairman
SUBJECT: **Recreational Advisory Panel meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2017**

There will be a **Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP)** meeting at the **DoubleTree by Hilton, South Portland, Maine** on **Tuesday, November 14, starting at 10 am.**

Purpose. The purpose of the RAP meeting is to discuss: (1) Framework Adjustment 57- Specifications and Management Measures, (2) recreational fishing data for fishing year 2016 and preliminary fishing year 2017, (3) possible Council priorities for 2018, (4) recent Executive Orders, and (5) and 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 57: Specifications and Management Measures
 - a. Draft Alternatives for FW57 (November 6, 2017)
 - b. Presentation: PDT Report (*to be provided*)
4. Presentation: Additional information – 2018 priorities and recent Executive Orders
5. Reports from NMFS
 - a. Recreational fishery data from fishing year 2016 and in-season 2017 (November 8, 2017)
 - b. Report from GARFO's recreational management workshop on November 13, 2017 (*to be provided*)
6. RAP meeting summary, June 6, 2017
7. Correspondence

Meetings Topics. The following section outlines the meeting expected outcomes and future related meetings by discussion topic.

Reports from NMFS: Recreational management measures workshop and Preliminary FY 2017 data

At the Meeting:

- GARFO staff will provide an overview of the workshop held on November 13, 2017 (Doc. 5b)
- GARFO staff will provide an overview of fishing year 2016 data and preliminary 2017 data for Gulf of Maine cod and haddock (Doc. 5a), and answer questions from the advisors.

Framework Adjustment 57: Specifications and Management Measures

At the Meeting:

- Council staff will provide a summary of Plan Development Team (PDT) work to date (Docs. 3a-3b).
- The advisors may wish to develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee on the draft alternatives for FW57.

After the Meeting:

The Council is scheduled to take final action on FW57 at its December 2017 meeting.

Priorities for 2018

At the Meeting:

The advisors will develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee regarding priorities for 2018 (Doc. 4).

After the Meeting:

The Council plans to discuss 2018 priorities at its December 2017 meeting.

Regulatory streamlining in response to recent Executive Orders

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.

At the Meeting:

- The advisors will discuss whether there are any regulations in the Northeast Multispecies (groundfish) fishery management plan that could be eliminated, improved, or streamlined (Doc. 4).
- The advisors will develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee.

After the Meeting:

Recommendations from the Committee will be summarized and provided to the Council.

Upcoming Management Meetings

Groundfish Committee:

The Committee will meet on November 29, 2017 in Boston, MA. Recommendations by the RAP will be considered at this meeting.

Council:

The Council will meet on December 5-7 in Newport, RI. Recommendations by the Committee will be considered at this meeting.

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).