



New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116
John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 9, 2018
TO: Recreational Advisory Panel
FROM: Terry Stockwell, Groundfish Committee Chairman
SUBJECT: **Recreational Advisory Panel meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2018**

There will be a **Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP)** meeting at the **DoubleTree by Hilton, Danvers, MA** on **Wednesday, January 24, starting at 9 am.**

Purpose. The purpose of the RAP meeting is to discuss: (1) recreational measures for fishing year 2018 for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock, and possibly Georges Bank cod, (2) the control date for the charter/party fishery (3) the Council's Groundfish priorities for 2018, (4) 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 and agenda (this memo)
2. Presentation: Council staff
3. Recreational measures for fishing year 2018 discussion documents, NEFSC staff
4. Meeting Summaries
 - a. Recreational Advisory Panel Motions/draft meeting summary, Nov. 14, 2017
 - b. Groundfish Committee Motions/draft meeting summary, Nov. 29, 2017
5. Correspondence

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

Recreational Management Measures for Fishing Year 2018

At the Meeting:

- NEFSC staff will provide an overview of recent recreational catch and effort data for Gulf of Maine cod, Gulf of Maine haddock, and Georges Bank cod. Staff will also provide results from the bioeconomic model for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock (Doc. 3)
- NEFSC and GARFO staff will answer questions from the advisors.
- The advisors may wish to develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee on the recreational management measures for fishing year 2018 for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock, and possibly Georges Bank cod.

After the Meeting:

- The Groundfish Committee will consider RAP recommendations at its meeting on January 25 in Danvers, MA – the day following the RAP meeting.
- The Council is scheduled to make recommendations to GARFO on January 31 at its meeting in Portsmouth, NH.

Control Date for the Charter/Party Fishery

Briefly, the current “control date” is March 30, 2006 and may be used for establishing eligibility criteria for determining levels of future access to the charter/party fishery subject to Federal authority. An excerpt from the Federal Register notice summarizing the “control date” is below and the full notice can be accessed here: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2006-03-30/pdf/E6-4665.pdf>

The control date is intended to discourage speculative entry into the charter/party NE multispecies fishery while controlled access restrictions are considered by the Council. The control date will help to distinguish established participants from speculative entrants to the fishery. Although entering the fishery after the control date will not ensure fishing vessels of future access to the NE multispecies resource on the grounds of previous participation, additional and/or other qualifying criteria may be applied. The Council may choose different and variably weighted measures to qualify participants based on the type and length of participation in the charter/party NE multispecies fishery. This notification establishes March 30, 2006 as the control date for potential use in determining historical or traditional participation in the NE multispecies charter/party fishery. Consideration of a control date does not commit the Council or NMFS to develop any particular management system or criteria for participation in this fishery. The Council may choose a different control date, or may choose a management program that does not make use of such a date. Fishers are not guaranteed future participation in the fishery, regardless of their entry dates or level of participation in this fishery before or after the control date. The Council may choose to give variably weighted consideration to fishers active in the fishery before and after the control date. The Council may also choose to take no further action to control entry or access to the fishery, in which case the control date may be rescinded. Any action by the Council will be taken pursuant to the requirements for the development of FMP amendments

established under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This notification also gives the public notice that interested participants should locate and preserve records that substantiate and verify their participation in the NE multispecies charter/party fishery in Federal waters.

At the January 2018 Council meeting, the Council will consider recommending a new control date for the charter/party fishery.

At the Meeting:

- Council staff will provide an overview of the current control date for the charter/party fishery (Doc. 2).
- The advisors may wish to develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee on a new control date for the charter/party fishery.

After the Meeting:

- The Groundfish Committee will consider RAP recommendations at its meeting on January 25 in Danvers, MA – the day following the RAP meeting.
- The Council is scheduled to discuss this topic on January 31 at its meeting in Portsmouth, NH.

Priorities for 2018

At the Meeting:

Council staff will provide an overview of the Council's 2018 priorities for groundfish (Doc. 2) and answer questions from the advisors.

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).



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AGENDA

**RECREATIONAL ADVISORY PANEL
JANUARY 24, 2018**

**Doubletree by Hilton
50 Ferncroft Road
Danvers, MA 01950
Phone: (978) 777-2500**

- 9:00 am Opening remarks and agenda review..... (*Blount*)
- 9:10 am Recreational measures for fishing year 2018..... (*Steinback/Cournane*)
 - Receive an overview of fishing year 2016 and 2017 catch and effort data for Gulf of Maine cod, Gulf of Maine haddock, and Georges Bank cod
 - Discuss results from the bioeconomic model for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock
 - Provide recommendations to the Groundfish Committee on fishing year 2018 recreational measures for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock, and possibly Georges Bank cod
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:15 pm Control date (*Blount/Cournane*)
Consider providing a recommendation to the Groundfish Committee for a new control date for the charter/party fishery
- 2:30 pm Priorities for 2018 (*Blount/Stockwell/Cournane*)
Receive an overview of the Council’s priorities for 2018
- 3:30 pm Other business..... (*Blount*)
- 4:00 pm Adjourn