



## 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:** September 7, 2018  
**TO:** Groundfish Committee  
**FROM:** Terry Stockwell, Groundfish Committee Chairman  
**SUBJECT:** Groundfish Committee meeting on Tuesday September 18, 2018

There will be a **Groundfish Committee** meeting at the **Four Points by Sheraton, Wakefield, MA** on **Tuesday, September 18, starting at 1:30 pm.**

**Purpose.** The purpose of the Groundfish Committee meeting is to discuss and make recommendations to the Council on: (1) draft alternatives and analysis in Framework Adjustment 58: Specifications/Management Measures, (2) an update on Amendment 23: Groundfish Monitoring, (3) a draft list of possible groundfish priorities for 2019 for the Council, and (4) 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](http://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](mailto:jcournane@nefmc.org); 978-465-0492 ext. 103).

1. Meeting memo and agenda (this memo)
2. Presentation: Council staff (*to be provided*)
3. TRAC/TMGC:  
Presentation: Transboundary Management Guidance Committee Chair (*to be provided*)
4. Framework Adjustment 58: Specifications and Management Measures
  - a. Draft alternatives under development (September 14, 2018)
  - b. Memo from Groundfish PDT to SSC re GB yellowtail flounder ABCs, including a memo from the Scallop PDT (August 9, 2018)
  - c. Memo from Groundfish PDT to SSC re Rebuilding strategies for several groundfish stocks (August 13, 2018).
  - d. Memo from Groundfish PDT to the Committee re development of alternatives for Framework Adjustment 58 (September 14, 2018)

5. Amendment 23: Groundfish Monitoring - Memo from Groundfish PDT to the Committee re progress report on Amendment 23 (September 10, 2018)
6. Meeting Summaries
  - a. Groundfish Committee meeting summary, June 1, 2018
  - b. Fishery Data for Stock Assessments Working Group meeting summaries from June 25, Aug. 6, and Sept. 7, 2018, located here:  
<https://www.nefmc.org/committees/fishery-data-for-stock-assessment-working-group>
  - c. SSC meeting summary, Aug. 15, 2018 as two SSC memos to Executive Director Tom Nies re 1) GB yellowtail flounder and 2) rebuilding strategies, located here:  
<https://www.nefmc.org/committees/scientific-and-statistical-committee>
  - d. DRAFT Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting motions, Sept. 18, 2018 (*to be provided*)
7. Correspondence

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

#### **Groundfish Advisory Panel Report**

The meeting will open with a report from the Groundfish Advisory Panel (Doc. 6d). The Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting will precede the Committee meeting in the same room. Committee members may wish to come early to listen to the Panel's discussion.

#### **Framework Adjustment 58: Specifications and Management Measures**

The U.S. Transboundary Management Guidance Committee (TMGC) Co-Chair will provide an overview of the recent TMGC meeting (Doc. 3). Then, Council staff will provide an overview of the draft alternatives and Plan Development Team (PDT) analysis (Docs. 2, 4a-4d, and 6c). The Committee may wish to make recommendations to the Council.

#### **Amendment 23: Groundfish Monitoring**

Council staff will provide an update on progress on Amendment 23 including recent PDT analysis, and a progress report from the Fishery Data for Stock Assessments Working Group (Docs. 2 5, and 6b). The Committee may wish to make recommendations to the Council.

#### **Possible Priorities for 2019**

Upon reviewing recommendations from the Groundfish Advisory Panel (made at their Sept. 18 meeting) and Recreational Advisory Panel (compiled via correspondence), the Committee may wish to develop initial recommendations to the Council regarding priorities for 2019.

#### **After the Meeting**

The Council will discuss Framework Adjustment 58 and Amendment 23 on Sept. 26, 2018. The Council is scheduled to hold an initial discussion of 2019 priorities on Sept. 27, 2018. The Council plans to have a full discussion of 2019 priorities at its December 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](mailto:jcournane@nefmc.org)).



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### AGENDA

#### GROUNDFISH COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

**Four Points by Sheraton  
1 Audubon Road  
Wakefield, MA 01880  
Phone: (781) 245-9300**

*The Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting will precede the Committee meeting in the same room.*

- 1:30 pm Opening remarks and agenda review.....(Stockwell)
- 1:40 pm Groundfish Advisory Panel Report .....(Martens)
- 2:00 pm Transboundary Management Guidance Committee meeting overview .....(Stockwell)
- 2:30 pm Framework Adjustment 58 ..... (Stockwell/Cournane)
- Discuss draft alternatives and Plan Development Team analysis including:
    - Rebuilding plans for several stocks (ocean pout, Georges Bank winter flounder, witch flounder, Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank (Northern) windowpane flounder, and Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder),
    - 2019 total allowable catches for U.S./Canada stocks (Eastern Georges Bank cod, Eastern Georges Bank haddock, and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder),
    - Sub-component analysis for selected stocks,
    - Minimum size exemptions for vessels fishing in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization waters, and
    - Guidance on sector overages.
  - Make recommendations to the Council
- 4:30 pm Groundfish Monitoring Amendment 23 .....(Stockwell/Frede/Cournane)
- Receive an update on the development of the draft alternatives and analysis, and a progress report from the Fishery Data for Stock Assessments Working Group
  - Make recommendations to the Council
- 5:30 pm Council's Groundfish Priorities for 2019 ..... (Stockwell/Cournane)
- Discuss a draft list of possible groundfish priorities for 2019
  - Make recommendations to the Council
- 5:50 pm Other business.....(Stockwell)
- 6:00 pm Adjourn