



New England Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 30, 2021
TO: Groundfish Committee
FROM: Terry Alexander, Groundfish Committee Chairman
SUBJECT: Meeting on August 6, 2021

The **Groundfish Committee (Committee)** will meet by **Webinar** on **Friday, August 6**, starting at **9:00 am**. Please check the Council website and meeting notice for webinar details, located at the meeting webpage here:

<https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/aug-6-2021-groundfish-committee-webinar>

Agenda Topics

1. Framework Adjustment 63/Specifications and Management Measures,
2. Progress on 2021 Council Priorities for Groundfish,
3. Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team schedule and measures, and
4. Other business, as necessary.

Meeting Materials

A PDF of each document is sent to the Committee members in advance and posted to the meeting webpage (listed above), which is regularly updated. 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 63/Specifications and Management Measures
 - a. Draft alternatives outline and timeline
 - b. Memo from Groundfish PDT to Groundfish Committee re discussion questions to consider when developing measures for FW63
 - c. Memo from Nies to Council re Background Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Default Specifications
 - d. Memo from Council Staff to SSC re Groundfish ABC Control Rule and Issues to Consider
 - e. Presentation
4. 2021 Council Priorities for Groundfish
 - a. 2021 Council Priorities
 - b. Presentation
5. Large Whale Take Reduction Team
 - a. Background presentation

- b. Background TRT scoping ideas
- 6. Correspondence

Meeting Topics

The following section outlines the meeting expected outcomes. You are encouraged to prepare motions and rationale in advance and send them to: jcournane@nefmc.org .

Expected meeting outcomes

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Documents</u>	<u>Presentations/Discussion</u>	<u>Anticipated Committee Motions</u>
<i>Framework Adjustment 63/Specifications and Management Measures</i>	3a-3e	Discuss development of draft Framework Adjustment 63/Specifications and Management Measures.	Make recommendations on draft measures for the PDT to develop.
<i>2021 Council Priorities</i>	4a-4b	Receive a progress report and discuss next steps.	None.
<i>Large Whale TRT</i>	5a-5b	Report on and discuss the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team schedule for developing measures to reduce the risks to large whales from sink gillnet and other trap/pot fisheries.	None.

Next Steps

The Groundfish Committee will meet on Aug. 18, 2021 to continue development of FW63.