



## New England Fishery Management Council

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Eric Reid, *Chair* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 25, 2023  
**TO:** EBFM PDT  
**FROM:** Andrew Applegate, EBFM PDT Chair  
**SUBJECT:** Purpose and agenda for meeting

The **Ecosystem Based Fishery Management (EBFM) Plan Development Team (PDT)** will meet by webinar from 1:00 to 5:00 pm on April 25, 2023.

**Purpose:** This meeting will review the initial runs and sample output from a **Prototype Management Strategy Evaluation (pMSE)** for **Georges Bank Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM)**. The pMSE is based on the ceilings and floors catch management approach outlined in the example **Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP)**. The meeting will also seek technical guidance and feedback from the PDT, which will be incorporated into the final results expected in June. Specifically, the PDT's guidance is expected on the output of simulations that evaluate management procedures under a variety of scenarios from the **Hydra operating model**, as well as examples of summaries that convey the relative performance of management measures.

The Council is conducting the pMSE to develop the necessary tools for potentially conducting a full stakeholder-engaged MSE in 2024 and to understand the gaps in information and analyses that will be needed. Dr. Gavin Fay and Dr. Lisa Kerr are leading and conducting the pMSE. The PDT, stakeholders, and the Scientific and Statistical Committee have provided input on the objectives, performance metrics, operating models, and management procedures that will be used in a closed-loop simulation.

Summaries of pMSE stakeholder meetings are available on the [Council's EBFM page](#). A draft summary of the March 16 stakeholder workshop will be distributed with the package of PDT meeting materials. In addition, the Council will be conducting deep-dive workshops to engage with stakeholders about eFEP and potential EBFM strategies, using the communication tools that were developed by the PDT and refined by Greenfin Studio. Two one-day webinars and one plenary of up to two days are being planned for late summer/early fall.

**Meeting materials.** Staff will provide access to additional meeting materials that are not included in this package. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Andrew Applegate (aapplegate@nefmc.org ; 978-465-0492 ext. 114). Although the Council is not currently staffing the office, phone calls to the office will ring through to many staffers.

Meeting materials to be distributed:

1. Meeting memo and agenda (this memo)
2. Prototype MSE materials
  - a. Presentation
  - b. Management alternatives summary table
  - c. [Management alternatives table](#)
  - d. [Operating model scenarios](#)
3. [SSC comments and guidance on pMSE model framework and stakeholder input, February 8, 2023](#)
4. [Summary stakeholder workshop March 16, 2023](#)

**AGENDA**

**ECOSYSTEM BASED FISHERIES MANAGEMENT  
PLAN DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

**Webinar**

**April 25, 2023**

1:00 pm	Agenda and purpose of meeting (Document 1) .....	(Applegate)
1:15	Project Presentation .....	(Fay, Kerr, Guyant)
	a. Model scenarios and initial simulation results	
	b. Examples of summary products	
3:15 pm	pMSE discussion and guidance .....	(PDT)
4:15	pMSE final review workplan discussion .....	(Applegate)
4:45	Other business and issues .....	(PDT)
5:00	Adjourn	