New England Fishery Management Council
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Daniel Salerno, *Chair* | Cate O'Keefe, PhD, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 13, 2026

TO: Groundfish Committee

FROM: Terry Alexander, Groundfish Committee Chair

SUBJECT: **Meeting on October 19, 2026**

On **Monday October 19th**, the **Groundfish Committee (Committee)** and the **Groundfish Advisory Panel (GAP)** will meet **jointly** by **webinar** starting at **9:00 am**.

For details, check the meeting notice or meeting webpage: https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/oct-19-2026-groundfish-joint-committee-and-advisory-panel-webinar

Agenda Topics

1. Framework 68 / Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rules
2. Framework 74 / Specifications and Management Measures
3. Draft 2027 Council Priorities for Groundfish
4. Other business, as necessary

Meeting Materials

Check the link in your email for the meeting materials or the meeting webpage. Contact Robin Frede (rfrede@nefmc.org ; 978-465-0492 ext. 124) with any questions about the documents.

1. Meeting memorandum
2. Agenda
3. Presentation, Council staff
4. Framework 68 / ABC Control Rules: Draft framework discussion document
5. Framework 74 / Specifications and Management Measures:
   a. Draft outline of alternatives
   b. Past Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) meeting materials: October 7, 2026 (see Groundfish documents)
6. Draft 2027 Council Priorities for Groundfish: 2027 Draft Proposed Council Priorities
7. Meeting Summary: Groundfish Committee, August 25, 2026
8. Correspondence

Meeting Topics

The following table outlines the expected outcomes by topic. Please prepare motions and rationale in advance and email to rfrede@nefmc.org.

Expected meeting outcomes.

Topic	Documents	Presentations/Discussion	Anticipated Motions/Outcomes
Framework 68 / ABC Control Rules	3, 4	Receive a progress report from the PDT on development of the action, focused on development of draft alternatives for ABC stability tools. Discuss and provide feedback on the draft alternatives and discussion questions.	Discussion/Possible motions.
Framework 74 / Specifications and Management Measures	3, 5a-b	Receive a progress report from the PDT on development of the action.	Discussion.
Draft 2027 Council Priorities for Groundfish	3, 6	Discuss draft proposed 2027 Council Priorities for Groundfish and provide feedback for Council consideration at the December 2026 Council meeting. Provide recommendations to the Council regarding prioritization of existing items and input to refine scope of potential priorities. Note the Executive Committee recommended not soliciting for additional 2027 topics. New ideas can be included for 2028 and beyond.	Discussion/ Recommendations.

Upcoming Meetings

November 12 – *Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP) Meeting* by webinar
https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/nov-12-2026-recreational-advisory-panel-webinar

November 16 – *Joint Groundfish Committee and GAP Meeting* Boston, MA, and by webinar
https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/nov-16-2026-groundfish-joint-committee-and-advisory-panel-meeting

December 8-10 – ***Council Meeting*** Newport, RI, and by webinar
https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/december-2026-council-meeting