

New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 Daniel Salerno, *Chair* | Cate O'Keefe, PhD, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 19, 2025

TO: Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee

FROM: Melanie Griffin, Scallop Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Purpose for Scallop AP and Committee meetings on November 19 & 20, 2025

The Council will hold the upcoming Scallop Advisory Panel (AP) on November 19, followed by a meeting of the Scallop Committee on November 20. These meetings will be held via webinar. Documents for this meeting will be posted to a Sharefile site and then to the <u>Council's website</u> as they become available. You will receive a link to access files ahead of the meeting.

Purpose: The main objectives of the meetings are to:

- 1) Review analyses and recommend final preferred alternatives in Framework 40
- 2) Receive the final draft of the Long-Term Scallop Strategic Plan
- 3) Discuss other business, as necessary.

Webinar: In order to participate in the meetings, you will need to register for the webinar. Please register before the meeting begins. You can use the following links to register:

Scallop AP:

 $\underline{https://nefmc\text{-}org.zoom.us/meeting/register/x3Xh12HuRyOVsaFTB3H0nQ}$

Scallop Committee:

https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/DcI5OhNvRIWi62HpbhUWUO

1. **Participating in the meeting**: To participate, you MUST register for the meeting. If you do not register, staff will not be able unmute you.

The public and Committee members will be able to participate in the webinar. Council staff will be working closely with the Chair to accommodate remote participation during the meeting. Staff will review how individuals can participate during the meeting. As with in-person meetings, questions about presentations will be entertained before taking comments. The Committee will have the first opportunity to weigh-in, followed by the public. Individuals interested in speaking should raise their hand on the webinar.

2. Motions via Webinar:

a. **Making Motions:** The preferred approach is for AP and Committee members to e-mail motions to Connor Buckley (cbuckley@nefmc.org) and Chandler Nelson (cnelson@nefmc.org) on Council staff, and cc the AP or Committee Chair.

- b. **Seconding Motions:** AP and Committee: You can raise your hand in the webinar to second the motion. Council staff or the Chair will confirm this by voice over the webinar so it is clear who the maker and seconder of each motion are.
- c. **Discussion on each Motion:** The AP and the Committee will have an opportunity to discuss each motion, followed by an opportunity for the public to comment. Please raise your hand on the webinar if you would like to speak to a motion. The Chair will call on individuals who would like to address the motion. After the AP or Committee has a chance to discuss this motion, the Chair will call on members of the public.
- d. **Voting:** When the Chair is ready to call the vote, Council staff will do a roll call vote. Staff will provide the vote count, which will be confirmed by the Chair. At the discretion of the Chair, motions can also be approved by a show of hands or unanimous consent in lieu of a roll call vote.

MEETING MATERIALS

If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Connor Buckley (cbuckley@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 115).

- 1. Meeting Information
 - a. Meeting Agenda
 - b. Meeting Memo from Committee Chair, Ms. Melanie Griffin
- 2. Presentations
 - a. Staff Presentation
- 3. Framework 40
 - a. Framework 40 Decision Document
 - b. Framework 40 Draft
- 4. Long-Term Scallop Strategic Plan
 - a. Long-Term Strategic Plan
 - b. Appendix I Goals & Objectives of the Scallop FMP and Subsequent Actions
 - c. Appendix II Evaluation Criteria
- 5. Meeting Summaries and Memos:
 - a. Recent meeting summaries (October November)
 - b. SSC Report to NEFMC re: Scallop OFLs & ABCs for FY2026/2027
- 6. Correspondence
- 7. Background Materials
 - a. <u>Link to materials from August 27-28, 2025 Scallop PDT meeting, including survey group</u> short reports and presentations
 - b. Fishery Performance Report Scallop landings, grades, and LPUE
 - c. Scallop Quota Monitoring Report

Framework 40

Recent Activity: Framework 40 was initiated at the June 2025 Council meeting and currently includes: scallop fishery specifications for FY2026 and default measures for FY2027 (ABC/ACLs, DAS, access area allocations for LA and LAGC, TAL for NGOM management area, target-TAC for LAGC incidental catch and set-asides for the observer and research programs). The Scallop PDT has met several times to develop the annual projected landings and economic impacts for the range of scallop fishery specifications alternatives for 2026 and 2027 (default).

Anticipated Outcomes:

Prior to selecting final preferred alternatives, the AP and Committee will receive a presentation on measures under consideration in Framework 40 and their analyzed impacts. Council staff recommend that the AP and Committee work through Framework 40 topics in the following order:

- 1. Select the *preferred alternative* for overfishing limits and acceptable biological catches (Section 4.1)
- 2. Select the *preferred alternative* for Northern Gulf of Maine total allowable landings in FY 2026 and FY 2027 (Section 4.2.1).
- 3. Consider any modifications to the specification alternatives in Section 4.3. If changes are recommended, they should be made as a motion.
- 4. Select the *preferred alternative* for fishery specifications for FY 2026 and FY 2027 (default) including access area and DAS allocations (Section 4.3).
- 5. Select the *preferred alternative* for LAGC IFQ access area trip allocations (Section 4.4).
- 6. Develop motions or consensus statements to move measures that were not selected as *preferred* to considered but rejected.

Long-Term Strategic Plan

Recent Activity: Staff have continued to revise the Strategic Plan Roadmap document based on input from the Scallop PDT, AP, and Committee, and have developed a set of evaluation criteria for annual assessment of on-going work and progress toward the outlined objectives. The Council will receive the final Long-Term Scallop Strategic Plan at their December 2025 meeting.

Anticipated Outcomes:

The AP and Committee will receive a presentation from Council staff on the Long-Term Scallop Strategic Plan. The Committee may wish to put forward a motion to accept the Long-Term Scallop Strategic Plan as complete.

Other Business

Anticipated Outcomes: Additional items and issues may be taken up under other business.

<u>Please review all meeting materials (Documents 1-6) before the meeting.</u> **Staff recommend the AP and Committee prioritize review of Documents 3a and 4a**. If you have any questions about these enclosures, please contact Connor Buckley (cbuckley@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 115).