

2026 SPRING NRCC MEETING AGENDA

[Hotel Providence](#), Providence, RI

[Virtual Attendance](#)

Or dial: (US) +1 401-594-2228 PIN: 496 333 882#

All times are approximate and subject to change

Wednesday, May 27

9:00 AM – 9:20 AM

1. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements (Dr. Hare, Ms. Deighan)

Desired Outcomes: Set expectations, confirm agenda, and finalize dinner logistics

9:20 AM – 9:40 AM

2. Updates on Previous Action Items (All)

Desired Outcomes: Receive updates on Spring 2025 and January 2026 Intersessional action items that are not discrete agenda topics

9:40 AM – 10:10 AM

3. Inflation Reduction Act and East Coast Coordination Group Updates (All)

Desired Outcomes: Receive updates on East Coast Coordination Group (ECCG) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) projects relevant to NRCC

10:10 AM – 10:30 AM *Morning Break*

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

4. Vessel Baselines (Dr. Moore, Dr. O'Keefe)

Desired Outcomes: Develop a shared understanding about the challenges from the current vessel baseline restrictions and receive a progress update from the Councils on potential actions

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

5. National Risk-Value Matrix Process (Ms. Kelly)

Desired Outcomes: Receive an update on the direction of the national risk-value matrix effort and discuss implications for the Greater Atlantic Region

12:00 PM – 1:15 PM *Lunch (individually)*

1:15 PM – 1:45 PM

6. Reducing Management Workloads (Dr. O'Keefe, Dr. Moore)

Desired Outcomes: Receive an update from the Councils on potential changes to reduce overall management workloads by dropping stocks from management, moving stocks to ecosystem component species, and/or taking a lighter approach to management for specific stocks

1:45 PM – 2:05 PM

7. Management Flexibility Actions (Dr. O'Keefe, Dr. Moore)

Desired Outcomes: Receive a progress update from the Councils on actions to increase management flexibility

2:05 PM – 2:35 PM

8. Deregulatory Fishery Management Actions and E.O. Responses (Dr. O'Keefe, Dr. Moore)

Desired Outcomes: Receive a progress update from the Councils on deregulatory management actions and Council actions responsive to recent executive orders (E.O.)

2:35 PM – 3:05 PM

9. NEFMC Strategic Plan Initiative (Dr. O'Keefe)

Desired Outcomes: Receive an overview of the New England Fishery Management Council's (NEFMC) process to develop its Holistic Strategic Plan, the current draft Strategic Plan, and the next steps to develop the Implementation Plan

3:05 PM – 3:25 PM *Afternoon Break*

3:25 PM – 3:55 PM

10. Recreational Data Program Changes (Mr. Foster, Mr. Sartwell)

Desired Outcomes: Develop a shared understanding of the changes being implemented to national recreational data programs, the expected timelines for those changes, and the implications of those timelines for the Greater Atlantic Region

3:55 PM – 4:10 PM

11. RDM Updates (Dr. Hare)

Desired Outcomes: Receive updates on the Recreation Demand Model (RDM), with specific outcomes to be updated in advance of the meeting based on ongoing conversations

4:10 PM – 4:40 PM

12. 2027 Assessment Schedule (Dr. Simpkins)

Desired Outcomes: Review and confirm the 2027 assessment schedule

4:40 PM – 5:00 PM

13. End of Day 1 Housekeeping (Ms. Deighan, Dr. Hare)

Desired Outcomes: Confirm the Day 1 decisions and action items; adjust the Day 2 agenda as needed

5:00 PM Recess Day 1

6:30 PM Dinner, TBD

Additional information to follow.

Thursday, May 28

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

14. Housekeeping (Dr. Hare, Ms. Deighan)

Desired Outcomes: Set Day 2 expectations; address any changes or updates from Day 1

9:15 AM – 9:45 AM

15. PBSP State Workshop (Mr. Brown)

Desired Outcomes: Receive an update on the outcomes from the Port Biological Sampling Program's (PBSP) state workshop; identify future opportunities for cooperation as appropriate

9:45 AM – 10:15 AM

16. NEFOP/PBSP Merger (Ms. McArdle, Ms. Rossi)

Desired Outcomes: Receive an update on the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program (NEFOP) and PBSP merger and its benefits to date

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM *Morning Break (Check out by 12 PM)*

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

17. Recommendations for Developing a 5-year Assessment Schedule (Dr. Simpkins)

Desired Outcomes: Agree to a general process and timeline to return to 5-year assessment planning

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM *Lunch (individually)*

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

18. Research Track Recommendations (Dr. Simpkins)

Desired Outcomes: Agree to a general process and timeline to unpause research track assessments

1:30 PM – 1:45 PM

19. Peer Reviewer Solicitation Process (Dr. Simpkins)

Desired Outcomes: TBD based on Deputies progress on this topic

1:45 PM – 2:30 PM

20. Stakeholder Input in Assessments (Dr. Simpkins)

Desired Outcomes: Receive an update on the implementation of the stakeholder input process and collect feedback on how the process is going; Discuss plans for the "closing-the-loop" phase of the stakeholder input process

2:30 PM – 2:50 PM Afternoon Break

2:50 PM – 3:20 PM

21. Transitioning from ASAP to WHAM (Dr. Simpkins)

Desired Outcomes: Decide whether stocks may transition from ASAP to WHAM during management track assessments

3:20 PM – 3:50 PM

22. Review Action Items and Decisions (Ms. Deighan, Dr. Hare)

Desired Outcomes: Confirm decisions made during the meeting and agree on the action items

3:50 PM Adjourn Meeting