



New England Fishery Management Council

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Daniel Salerno, *Chair* | Cate O'Keefe, PhD, *Executive Director*

MEETING NOTICE HABITAT JOINT COMMITTEE AND ADVISORY PANEL MEETING

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Fairfield Inn & Suites
185 MacArthur Drive
New Bedford, MA 02740
Phone: (774) 634-2000

Agenda:

The Habitat Committee will meet to:

- Review the draft 2026 Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Framework including EFH designation alternatives and identify a preferred alternative for Council consideration at the September 15-17 meeting.
 - Species list: Acadian redfish, American plaice, Atlantic halibut, Atlantic sea scallop, Atlantic wolffish, haddock, ocean pout, offshore hake, pollock, red hake, silver hake, white hake, windowpane flounder, winter flounder, witch flounder, and yellowtail flounder.
- Review a draft report about the clam dredge exemption program within the Great South Channel Habitat Management Area.
- Discuss other business, as necessary.

Online access: This meeting will be broadcast online via Zoom. Preregistration is required. Register here: <https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/JPKr4NWtT9OLGt8OYpjZzQ>. Use VoIP with a microphone and speakers for audio. A headset is recommended. For the best audio and visual experience, your Zoom desktop application must be updated prior to the meeting.

Call in information: After registering for the meeting you will be e-mailed webinar information, including a call-in number. Please note that this is not a toll-free number.

If you would like written comments to be considered at these meetings, they must be received at the NEFMC office no later than **Monday, August 17, 2026**. Please address them to Council Chair Dan Salerno or Executive Director Cate O'Keefe. Email submissions should be sent to comments@nefmc.org.

For information about meeting materials and detailed agenda, please consult the Council's website at www.nefmc.org.

This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.

This schedule is subject to change. If you have questions, please call the Council.

TA #: 26-122

cc: Habitat Advisors, PDT and IPs, Council Members

Notice date: July 27, 2026