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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 17, 2026

TO: Joint Scallop Committee and Advisory Panel (AP)

FROM: Melanie Griffin, Scallop Committee Chair

SUBJECT: **Charge for Joint Scallop Committee and AP meeting on November 17, 2026**

The purpose of this memo is to help prepare the Scallop Committee and AP for their meeting on November 17, 2026, from 9am – 3pm at Hilton Garden Inn, Boston, MA and via webinar.

MEETING PURPOSE. The purpose of the meeting is to: 1) discuss fishing year (FY) 2027 and FY 2028 (default) specifications action and select final preferred alternatives; and 2) discuss other business, as necessary. FW42 is not scheduled for the December Council agenda so the PDT, AP and CTE will next discuss FW42 measures in the new year.

The action will set specifications for FY 2027 and FY 2028 (default) including the overfishing limit (OFL), acceptable biological catch/annual catch limit (ABC/ACLs), days-at-sea (DAS), access area allocations for Limited Access (LA) vessels, quota and access area trip allocation to the Limited Access General Category (LAGC) Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) component, Total Allowable Landings (TAL) for the Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) management area, a target-Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for LAGC incidental catch and set-asides for the observer and research programs.

RECENT ACTIVITY. Since the last Scallop Joint AP and Committee meeting, the Scallop PDT met on November 5th to review and discuss new projection results, to review projected economic impacts of range of days-at-sea (DAS) and access area allocations, and to make recommendations for FY 2027 and FY 2028 (default) specifications.

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES. The AP and Committee are anticipated to make final preferred recommendations on FY 2027 and FY 2028 (default) specifications. Specifically, the AP and Committee are anticipated to make motions that identify:

1. Overfishing limit (OFL) and acceptable biological catch (ABC) for FY 2027 and FY 2028 (default).
2. Fishery allocations for FY 2027 and FY 2028 (default), including access area and DAS allocations for full-time and part-time Limited Access vessels, as well as Limited Access General Category IFQ quota and distribution of any access area trips, a target-Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for LAGC incidental catch and set-asides for the observer and research programs.
3. A seasonal closure of a potential Nantucket Lightship Access Area.
4. Northern Gulf of Maine total allowable landings (TAL) in FY 2027 and FY 2028 (default).

FUTURE STEPS. Outcomes from this meeting will be presented to the Council for their consideration during their December 8-10 meeting where final recommendations on the specifications action are anticipated.

WEBINAR REGISTRATION. https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/jYhFeiQ1QfmoYpDvwU9Egg#/registration. To be able to view the webinar, listen and speak, you must: 1) register for the webinar in advance and 2) join the webinar on the day of the meeting (you can then select phone or computer for your audio connection). For the best audio and visual experience, update your Zoom desktop application prior to the meeting. Please join the webinar ten minutes prior to test audio and help the meeting start on time.

CONDUCT OF MEETING. Generally, *Roberts Rules of Order* are followed during Council committee meetings, and Council staff will work closely with the Chair to accommodate remote participation. Questions about presentations will be entertained before taking comments and motions. The Committee will have the first opportunity to weigh in, followed by the public. Individuals on the webinar should use the "raise hand" button when wishing to speak. The extent of public comment taken is at the discretion of the Chair. Please see the Council's *Statement of Organization, Practices and Procedures* (Section 1.10) and the Council's *Operations Handbook* for more information about the conduct of meetings.

VOTING PROCEDURE.

Note: The AP will make motions first, followed by the Committee.

A. **Making Motion:** The preferred approach is for AP and Committee members to e-mail motions to Council staff and the AP or Committee Chair.
B. **Seconding Motion:** AP and Committee: You can raise your hand in the room/webinar to second the motion. Council staff or the Chair will confirm this by voice, so it is clear who the maker and seconder of each motion are.
C. **Discussion on Motion:** The AP or Committee will have an opportunity to discuss each motion, followed by an opportunity for public comment. Please raise your hand if you would like to speak to a motion. After the AP or Committee has discussed a 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.

QUESTIONS/TECHNICAL SUPPORT. If you have any questions about the meeting documents, agenda, or how to participate, please contact Connor Buckley (cbuckley@nefmc.org, 978-465-0492 ext. 115) or Jenny Couture (jcouture@nefmc.org, ext. 111). Staff would be happy to set up a practice webinar for you ahead of the meeting if that would be helpful.

MEETING MATERIALS. To make the most of our meeting time, please familiarize yourself with the documents beforehand and come ready to make any recommendations. As documents become

available, they will be posted on the Council webpage: https://www.nefmc.org/calendar/nov-17-2026-scallop-joint-committee-and-advisory-panel-meeting.

Meeting Notice

Agenda

Meeting Memo from Committee Chair

Staff presentation

1. **FY 2027 & FY 2028 (default) Specifications**
    a. Final 2027 Stock Projections
    b. 2027 Scallop Bycatch Projections (*if available*)
    c. Decision Document (draft)
2. **Meeting Summaries**
    a. Scallop PDT, November 5, 2026
3. **Other Documents**
    a. Correspondence