



New England Fishery Management Council

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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 15, 2017
TO: Executive Committee
FROM: Tom Nies, Executive Director
SUBJECT: **Regulatory Reform**

Presidential Executive Order 13777, “Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda,” directs each agency to take steps to alleviate unnecessary regulatory burdens on the American people. We expect to receive direction from NMFS in the near future that will direct the Councils to (a) describe before the end of 2017 how the Council will review its actions to identify outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective rules; and (b) by early summer of 2018, provide a listing of the rules identified by that process. The next steps – the actual removal of these rules - will be explained at a future date.

I recommend the Council use the following process to meet these requirements.

1. An advisory panel and oversight committee meeting for each FMP will include an opportunity for the public suggest rules that may be outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective. Some APs and committees have already done this.
2. Council staff will review any regulations that are identified at these meetings, and will also review regulations within their purview.
3. A draft list of these regulations will be provided to the Council for review and approval at the April Council meeting.
4. The approved list will be forwarded to NMFS by the Executive Director.