

**NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Groundfish Committee**

**I. STATUS**

- A. Meetings: The Groundfish Committee met on April 7, 2016 to 1) receive an update from the Plan Development Team (PDT) on analysis of the groundfish monitoring program; 2) discuss the draft Council staff white paper on windowpane flounder management alternatives; and 3) discuss the draft Council staff white paper on the recreational management measures process. The Groundfish PDT met on March 30, 2016 to discuss the groundfish monitoring program.
- B. Framework Adjustment 55: In December 2015 and January 2016, the Council took final action on Framework 55 (FW 55). The formal submission of FW 55 to NMFS was on February 19, 2016. A proposed rule for this action was published in the Federal Register on March 21, 2016, and the public comment period closed on April 5, 2016. FW 55 was scheduled to be resubmitted to NMFS, with corrections, on April 8, 2016.

**II. COUNCIL ACTION**

- A. Discuss recent work to evaluate the groundfish monitoring program.
- B. Discuss other groundfish priorities for 2016 including windowpane flounder management measures and improving the process to develop recreational fishery management measures.

**III. INFORMATION**

- 1. Groundfish Presentation - Council staff (*to be provided*)
- 2. Groundfish Committee Meeting Motions, April 7, 2016
- 3. Groundfish Monitoring Program
  - a. Draft PDT Memo the Groundfish Committee re Groundfish Monitoring Program, Version 1 (April 5, 2016)
  - b. PDT Memo the Groundfish Committee re Groundfish Monitoring Program, Version 2 (April 13, 2016)
- 4. Windowpane Flounder Management Alternatives
  - a. Draft Windowpane Flounder Discussion Paper, Version 1, Council Staff (April 1, 2016)
- 5. Recreational Management Measures Process
  - a. Draft Outline for a Council Staff White Paper on the Recreational Measure Process (March 31, 2016)
- 6. Groundfish Committee Meeting Summary, January 14, 2016
- 7. Correspondence