



New England Fishery Management Council

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E.F. "Terry" Stockwell III, *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

Risk Policy Working Group

August 27, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Mary Beth Tooley (Chairman), Mike Sissenwine (NEFMC), Lori Steele, Demet Haksever, Fiona Hogan, Chris Kellogg (NEFMC staff); Moira Kelly (NMFS GARFO staff); Steve Cadrin, Dan Georgianna, Jason McNamee, Patricia Pinto da Silva (SSC); (David Pierce and Sarah Heil absent).

KEY OUTCOMES:

- The Risk Policy Working Group (RPWG) met on August 27, 2015 to continue development of the Risk Policy Roadmap. Most of the RPWG discussion and recommendations that resulted from this meeting will be incorporated into the Risk Policy Roadmap (work in progress).
- The RPWG will reconvene (either in person or by conference call/webinar) to finalize the Risk Policy Roadmap and discuss plans for presenting the Roadmap to the Council sometime during 2016.

DISCUSSION OF RISK POLICY ROADMAP

During 2014, the Risk Policy Working Group (RPWG) developed a Risk Policy Statement for the Council, which was approved unanimously at the November 2014 Council meeting. As part of the 2015 management priorities, the Council identified the RPWG's work to review FMP risk policies for consistency with overall policy. In response to the direction from the Council, the RPWG considered various approaches to providing guidance to the Council regarding the risk policy. During RPWG discussions it became clear that most FMPs did not contain risk policies and rather than approaching this on an FMP by FMP a more appropriate approach was to prepare a guidance document that lays out the process for the technical work to be done in each FMP in compliance with the policy. The composition of the RPWG does not support FMP specific recommendations. The RPWG acknowledges that these are recommendations for a longer term approach and there is not an expectation that the Council will universally adopt these guidelines within a certain timeframe.

The Risk Policy Roadmap provides a comprehensive discussion of the risk policy and management strategy evaluation. The Roadmap also outlines a long-term strategy for implementing the NEFMC Risk Policy across all FMPs. For more information regarding the

work conducted at this RPWG meeting, please refer to the Draft Risk Policy Roadmap (work in progress).