Northeast Multispecies Groundfish Framework Adjustment 63

(to be initiated today)

New England Fishery Management Council

June 23, 2021

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Council 2021 Priorities

Annual

- Set ABCs/ACLs for half of the groundfish stocks for FY2022 - FY2024 and US/CA stocks for FY2022 *[modified list of stocks]*
- Adopt additional measures to promote stock rebuilding
- In consultation with the SSC, revise ABC control rules for Northeast Multispecies stocks *[suggest multi-year]*
- Groundfish operational assessments and haddock research track assessments *[some stocks now 2022 and RT extended into 2022]*
- TRAC/TMGC

Multi-Year

- Begin adjustments to management measures needed as a result of revised understanding of cod stock structure
- Develop metrics to be used in the review process that will evaluate the monitoring system, as per Amendment 23
- Receive the party/charter limited entry strawman report and decide if an amendment should be initiated *[completed]*

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Draft List of Framework Adjustment Items

2022-2024 Specifications/Management Measures

- Set 2022 total allowable catches for US/Canada management units of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod and Eastern GB haddock, and 2022-2023 specifications for the GB yellowtail flounder stock,
- Set 2022-2024 specifications for GB cod and Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod, and possibly adjust 2022 specifications for GB haddock and GOM haddock,
- Adjust 2022 specifications for white hake, based on the rebuilding plan,
- Possible cod protection measures,
- Other management measures, as necessary.

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Draft Council Milestones

- **June** – initiate the action
- **December** ***(may move back to September)*** – receive and approve TMGC's TAC recommendations for U.S./Canada stocks, update on any draft alternatives under other measures
- **December** – receive specifications alternatives and take final action on entire action - specifications and other measures
- Implementation by **May 1, 2022,** NMFS

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For Today

- Initiate the action and identify the items for inclusion.

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