

New England Fishery Management Council
Groundfish Committee Report
 December Council Meeting – Newport, RI and by Webinar
 December 2-4, 2025

Meeting Motions

Transboundary Management Guidance Committee

Motion 1: [XX / XX]

That the Council approve the Transboundary Management Guidance Committee's recommendations for United States/Canada total allowable catches (TACs) for 2026 as:

- Eastern Georges Bank cod at a TAC of 473 mt,
- Eastern Georges Bank haddock at a TAC of 4,750 mt, and
- Georges Bank yellowtail flounder at a TAC of 57 mt.

Framework 72 / Specifications and Management Measures

Action 1 – Status Determination Criteria

Motion 2: [Committee Motion]

Move to select as preferred alternative in *Section 4.1* Action 1 – Status Determination Criteria: *Section 4.1.2* Alternative 2 – Updated Status Determination Criteria for Georges Bank yellowtail flounder.

Action 3 – Recreational Fishery Management Measures

Motion 3: [Committee Motion]

Move to select as preferred alternative in *Section 4.3* Action 3 – Recreational Fishery Management Measures: *Section 4.3.2* Alternative 2 – Establish a regulatory process for Regional Administrator to adjust recreational measures for cod and haddock.

Action 2 – Revised Specifications

Motion 4: [Committee Motion]

Move to select as preferred alternative in *Section 4.2* Action 2 – Revised Specifications: *Section 4.2.2* Alternative 2 – Revised Specifications, except for the white hake specifications. This includes:

- Fishing year (FY) 2026 specifications for Georges Bank (GB) cod, GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder,
- FY2026-FY2030 specifications for Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine (CC/GOM) yellowtail flounder (as recommended by the Committee to set constant ABCs), Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish (*refer to Table 12 in the draft Framework 72 discussion document*).

Motion 5: [XX / XX]

Move to select as preferred alternative in *Section 4.2 Action 2 – Revised Specifications: Section 4.2.2 Alternative 2 – Revised Specifications*, white hake specifications for FY2026-FY2030, including the OFLs/ABCs as recommended by the SSC.

Motion to submit the action

Motion 6: [Pappalardo / XX]

Move to submit Framework Adjustment 72 to GARFO, as amended today.