



New England Fishery Management Council

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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 22, 2019  
**TO:** Groundfish Committee  
**FROM:** Groundfish Plan Development Team  
**SUBJECT:** **Draft impacts analysis for Framework Adjustment 59, version 1**

*Draft Impacts Analysis*

The Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT) is working on the draft impacts analysis for Framework Adjustment 59 (FW59). The PDT plans to send the biological and economic impacts analysis next week directly to the Council. In the meantime, “version 1” of the impacts analysis (see enclosed- Attachment 1) includes some of the tables that will be included in the PDT’s draft impacts analysis.

*Georges Bank Cod Recreational Catch Target*

In addition, the Recreational Advisory Panel made the following motion related to Georges Bank (GB) cod on November 12, 2019:

The Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP) recommends to the Groundfish Committee updating the recreational catch target for GB cod:

- using the post-calibration (new) MRIP data average of recreational catches in CY2012-CY2016 (406 mt) from the 2019 stock assessment,
- then reduce this value by the percent change from fishing year 2019 to proposed fishing year 2020 in the US ABC (a decrease of 29%),
- resulting in a recreational catch target of 288 mt for FY2020-FY2022.

*Rationale:* This approach was developed with the understanding that an average of more recent data, which includes the post-calibration (new) MRIP data, would likely be used by NMFS when setting Georges Bank cod recreational measures.

*Motion 3 carried 5/0/0.*

The PDT did not include this option as an alternative in the document as the Groundfish Committee would need to discuss it at its upcoming meeting. If the RAP’s option was added to the document, here is the resulting specification breakdown for the Committee’s consideration:

<b>Stock</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>OFL</b>	<b>US ABC</b>	<b>State-Waters Sub-Component</b>	<b>Other sub-component</b>	<b>Scallops</b>	<b>Groundfish Sub-ACL</b>	<b>Comm. Ground-fish Sub-ACL</b>	<b>Rec Ground-fish Sub-ACL</b>	<b>Preliminary Sectors Sub-ACL</b>	<b>Preliminary Non-sector Groundfish Sub-ACL</b>	<b>MWT or Small mesh Sub-ACL</b>	<b>Total ACL</b>
<u>GB Cod*</u>	2020		1,301	39	286		927	927		895		32	1,252
<i>RAP Option: Recreational catch target 288 mt, FY2020-FY2022</i>	<u>2021</u>		1,301	39	286		927	927		895		32	1,252
	<u>2022</u>		1,301	39	286		927	927		895		32	1,252

Values provided in metric tons, live weight, based on final 2019 sector rosters.

Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton.

Underlined indicates subject to adjustments in 2021 and 2020 based on US/CA quotas, 2020 CA quotas were used to adjust in the interim.

Includes adjustments for Canadian catches (\*), and state waters component and other sub-component.

**Attachment #1 – Draft tables for impacts analysis for Framework Adjustment 59**

**Table 1. Summary of recent catches (mt) of Georges Bank cod by the US commercial groundfish fishery, FY2015-FY2018 and preliminary in-season FY2019. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO, and FY2019 in-season catch report, GARFO, Nov. 19, 2019.**

		<i><b>Commercial Groundfish Fishery- Georges Bank Cod</b></i>				
Fishing Year	Sub-ACL	Landings	Discards	Catch	Percentage of sub-ACL	
2015	1,787	1,608.5	28.3	1,636.8	92%	
2016	608	571.9	24.6	596.6	98%	
2017	531	432.8	13.1	446	78%	
2018	1,519	833.2	4.7	837.9	62%	
<i>In-season 2019</i>	1,568.2	226.5	5.1	231.7	15%	

**Table 2. Georges Bank cod recreational catch (mt), FY2011-FY2018. Sources: FY2011 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO.**

		<i><b>Recreational Fishery – Georges Bank Cod</b></i>				
Fishing Year	Federal Waters Recreational Catch	State Waters Recreational Catch	All Recreational Catch	Total US Catch	Recreational Portion of Total US Catch (Percent)	
2011	54.6	0.0	54.6	3,405.9	1.6%	
2012	62.7	4.4	67.1	1,724.1	3.9%	
2013	8.0	0.0	8.0	1,616.3	0.5%	
2014	75.9	15.5	91.4	1,514.4	6.0%	
2015	132.1	33.0	165.1	1,835.4	9.0%	
2016	419.7	57.8	477.5	1,125.5	42.4%	
2017	50.1	2.8	52.9	522.5	10.1%	
2018	31.6	5.5	37.1	887.3	4.2%	

**Table 3. Calculation of the GB cod catch target for the recreational fishery. Data source: Recreational catches in 2017 groundfish operational assessment of GB cod, NEFSC.**

Catch (mt)	Calendar Year					Recreational	
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Average 12-16	
Commercial landings	2,007	1,312	1,514	1,300	1,109		
Commercial discards	120	83	19	31	33		
Recreational landings	56	6	88	124	369	sum =	643
Recreational discards	1	1	2	15	30	sum =	49
Canadian landings	395	384	430	472	428		
Canadian discards	75	39	28	20	12		
<b>Catch for Assessment</b>	<b>2,653</b>	<b>1,824</b>	<b>2,081</b>	<b>1,962</b>	<b>1,982</b>		
							692
						5-yr avg	<b>138.4</b>

**Table 4. Summary of recent catches (mt) of Gulf of Maine cod by the US commercial groundfish fishery, groundfish FY2015-FY2018 and preliminary in-season FY2019. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO, and FY 2019 in-season catch report, GARFO, Nov. 19, 2019.**

<i>Commercial Groundfish Fishery- Gulf of Maine Cod</i>					
Groundfish Fishing Year	Sub-ACL	Landings	Discards	Catch	Percentage of sub-ACL
2015	207	172.4	14	186.4	90%
2016	280	256.3	10.2	266.5	95%
2017	280	250.3	18.6	268.8	96%
2018	369	306.4	8.6	315	85%
<i>In-season 2019</i>	360.4	113.1	5.4	118.5	32.9%

**Table 5. Summary of recent catches (mt) of GOM cod by the US recreational groundfish fishery, groundfish FY2015-FY2018. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO.**

Fishing Year	<i>Recreational Groundfish Fishery- Gulf of Maine Cod</i>				
	Sub-ACL	Landings	Discards	Catch	Percentage of sub-ACL
2015	121	4.5	80	84.5	69.8
2016	157	94.5	186.4	280.9	178.9
2017	157	26.6	218.8	245.4	156.3
2018	220	4.3	142.6	146.9	66.8

**Table 6. Summary of recent catches (mt) of GOM haddock by the commercial groundfish fishery, groundfish FY2015-FY2018 and preliminary in-season FY2019. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO, FY2019 in-season catch report, GARFO, Nov.19, 2019.**

Fishing Year	<i>Commercial Groundfish Fishery- Gulf of Maine Haddock</i>				
	Sub-ACL	Landings	Discards	Catch	Percentage of sub-ACL
2015	958	683.1	46.2	729.3	76%
2016	2416	1502.3	84.2	1586.5	66%
2017	3017.3	2167	98	2265	75%
2018	8738.4	2820	50.1	2870.1	33%
<i>In-season 2019</i>	8311.8	2058.4	36.5	2094.9	25.2%

**Table 7. Summary of recent catches (mt) of GOM haddock by the commercial midwater trawl herring fishery, groundfish FY2015-FY2018. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO.**

Groundfish Fishing Year	<i>Midwater Trawl Atlantic Herring Fishery- Gulf of Maine Haddock</i>				
	Sub-ACL	Landings	Discards	Catch	Percentage of sub-ACL
2015	14	-	-	-	-
2016	34	1.9	-	1.9	5.7
2017	42	-	-	-	-
2018	122	-	-	0.0	-

**Table 8. Summary of recent catches (mt) of Georges Bank haddock by the midwater trawl Atlantic herring fishery, groundfish FY2015- FY2018. Source: Groundfish FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end catch reports, GARFO.**

Groundfish Fishing Year	<i>Midwater Trawl- Georges Bank Haddock</i>				
	Sub-ACL	Landings	Discards	Catch	Percentage of sub-ACL
2015	227	235.0	0.6	235.5	103.9%
2016	512	115.3	3.6	118.9	23.2%
2017	801	47.9	0	47.9	6.0%
2018	680	43.9	0	43.9	6.5%

**Table 9. Recent GB yellowtail flounder TACs, groundfish fishery sub-ACLs, and catches for fishing years 2015 through in-season 2019, Nov. 19, 2019. Values shown in metric tons (mt). Source: GARFO year-end catch reports.**

Fishing Year	<i>Groundfish Fishery- GB Yellowtail Flounder</i>						
	Total Shared TAC – US & CA (mt)	US % Share	US TAC (mt)	% US TAC Caught	Groundfish sub-ACL (mt)	Groundfish catch (mt)	Percent Groundfish ACL Caught (%)
2015	354	70%	248	27.5%	202.9	38.4	18.9%
2016	354	76%	269	11.4%	250.8	23.9	9.5%
2017	300	69%	207	40.6%	162.6	31.4	19.1%
2018	300	71%	213	18.9%	187.9	27.6	14.7%
In-season 2019	140	76%	106	n/a	84.6	3.0	3.5%

**Table 10. Recent GB yellowtail TACs and scallop fishery sub-ACLs and catches. Values are shown in metric tons (mt).**

Groundfish Fishing Year	<i>Scallop Fishery- GB Yellowtail Flounder</i>						
	Total Shared TAC	US % Share	US TAC	% US TAC Caught	Scallop sub-ACL	Scallop catch	%Scallop sub-ACL Caught
FY2015*	354	70%	248	28%	38	29.7	78%
FY2016*	354	76%	269	12%	42	2.1	5%
FY2017*	300	69%	207	44%	32	52.6	164%
FY2018*	300	71%	213	19%	15	12.7	87.5%
FY2019*	140	76%	106	n/a	17	n/a	n/a

\* retention of GB yellowtail prohibited for scallop fishery  
n/a = data not yet finalized.

**Table 11. Recent GB yellowtail flounder small-mesh fisheries sub-ACLs and catches (mt) for fishing years 2015 through 2018. Values shown in metric tons (mt). Source: GARFO year-end catch reports. The sub-ACL was implemented in FY2013 and is not evaluated in-season. FY2019 is not available at this time. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO.**

Groundfish Fishing Year	<i>Small Mesh Fishery- GB Yellowtail Flounder</i>		
	Small-mesh fisheries sub-ACL (mt)	Small-mesh fisheries (mt)	Percent small-mesh fisheries Caught (%)
FY2015	5	0.1	1.0%
FY2016	5	4.8	95.2%
FY2017	4	0.4	9.7%
FY2018	4	0.1	2.5%
In-season FY2019	2	n/a	n/a

**Table 12. Recent SNE/MA yellowtail flounder ACLs, scallop fishery sub-ACLs and catches, and groundfish fishery sub-ACLs and catches. Values shown in metric tons (mt).**

<i>Scallop and Groundfish Fishery—SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder</i>									
Groundfish Fishing Year	Total ACL (mt)	Total Catch (mt)	Percent Total ACL Caught	Scallop sub-ACL (mt)	Scallop Catch (mt)	Percent Scallop ACL Caught	Groundfish sub-ACL (mt)	Groundfish Catch (mt)	Percent Groundfish ACL Caught
FY2015*	666	326.6	49%	44	34.6	79.1%	579	283.5	48.9%
FY2016*	256	85.2	33.3%	17	10.7	63.9%	204	62.5	30.6%
FY2017*	256	24.4	9.6%	4	4.3	104.1	187.5	14.5	6.7%
FY2018	66	14.7	22.3%	3	2.6	79.7%	43	8.5	19.6%

\* Indicates that retention of SNE/MA YT was prohibited for scallop fishery

**Table 13. Final year-end catch data (mt) for northern windowpane flounder. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO. \*In FY2017 a scallop-specific AM was created, in previous years scallop landings were part of the ‘other’ fisheries catch, reflected here.**

			Northern Windowpane Flounder Catch (mt)				
			Groundfish Fishery		Sub-Components		
FY	ACL	Total Catch	Sector	Common Pool	Scallop Fishery	State Waters	Other
2015	144	189.8	73.6	0	114.6	1.3	114.9
2016	177	83.7	45.0	0	31.8	.7	37.9
2017*	170	87.4	33.9	1.2	44.1	.5	7.7
2018	86	56.7	33	.3	22.3	.4	.7

**Table 14. Final year-end catch data (mt) for southern windowpane flounder. Sources: FY2015 – FY2018 final year-end multispecies catch reports, GARFO.**

			Southern Windowpane Flounder Catch (mt)				
			Groundfish Fishery		Sub-Components with AMs		
FY	ACL	Total Catch	Sector	Common Pool	Scallop Fishery	State Waters	Other
2015	527	22.7	-	.2	-	22.1	0.5
2016	599	417.2	45	0	84.4	28	178.1
2017	599	440.9	33.9	1.2	44.1	0.5	7.7
2018	457	454.7	49.7	16.8	157.1	26.1	205