



New England Fishery Management Council

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Eric Reid, *Chair* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

August 11, 2022

Mr. Matthew Brookhart  
NOAA office of National Marine Sanctuaries  
1305 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring MD 20910

Dear Ms. Brookhart:

Thank you for your letter requesting input from the New England Fishery Management Council (Council) on the potential need for fishing regulations to implement the proposed designation of a Hudson Canyon national Marine Sanctuary. We appreciate your presentation on this topic at our June Council meeting, as well as several explanatory conversations you have had with our staff. We plan to review our fisheries and provide a response.

While the area being considered is outside the geographic boundaries of our Council, several fisheries we manage extend outside of these boundaries and into the area south of Long Island and off New Jersey, near Hudson Canyon. These include the Atlantic Sea Scallop, Northeast Multispecies, Monkfish and Spiny Dogfish (both jointly managed with the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council), Atlantic Herring, Red Crab, and Small-Mesh Multispecies fisheries. Our review of these fisheries to determine if additional regulations are needed will take time and will need to be coordinated with the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Since fall is a very busy time for the Council as we prepare and submit actions proposed for the next fishing year, I request an extension to February 1, 2023. This will facilitate preparation of a reply after our December Council meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'ER' or 'ERID', written in a cursive, flowing style.

Eric Reid  
Chair

cc: John Carmichael, SAFMC  
Robert Beal, ASFMC  
Michael Pentony, GARFO