

**Groundfish Committee Meeting**

Boston, Massachusetts

November 29, 2017

Meeting Motions

**Framework Adjustment 57**

Annual Catch Limits

**Motion 1:** Etrie/Alexander

For Framework 57, the Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.1.1 Annual Catch Limits to select as preferred 4.1.1.2 Option 2: Revised Annual Catch Limit Specifications with the following adjustments:

1. Gulf of Maine cod remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 8% for FY2018-FY2020,
2. Atlantic halibut remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 20% of U.S. ABC (e.g., at 125mt ABC is 25mt) not to exceed a value of 50mt for FY2018-FY2020, and
3. Gulf of Maine winter flounder remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 15% for FY2018-FY2020.

**Motion 1a to substitute Motion 1:** Griffin/McKenzie

For Framework 57, the Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.1.1 Annual Catch Limits to select as preferred 4.1.1.2 Option 2: Revised Annual Catch Limit Specifications with the following adjustments:

1. Atlantic halibut remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 20% of U.S. ABC (e.g., at 125mt ABC is 25mt) not to exceed a value of 50mt for FY2018-FY2020.

**Motion 1b to amend the substitute Motion 1a:** Heil/Etrie

For Framework 57, the Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.1.1 Annual Catch Limits to select as preferred 4.1.1.2 Option 2: Revised Annual Catch Limit with the following adjustments:

1. Atlantic halibut remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 20% of U.S. ABC (e.g., at 125mt ABC is 25mt) not to exceed a value of 50 mt for FY2018-FY2020.
2. Gulf of Maine winter flounder remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 15% for FY2018-FY2020.

Motion 1b to amend the substitute *carried* 8/2/2.

**Motion 1c to amend Motion 1:** Alexander/Etrie

For Framework 57, the Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.1.1 Annual Catch Limits to select as preferred 4.1.1.2 Option 2: Revised Annual Catch Limit Specifications with the following adjustments:

1. Gulf of Maine cod percentage value for the state sub-component of 10% for FY2018-FY2020,
2. Atlantic halibut remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 20% of U.S. ABC (e.g., at 125mt ABC is 25mt) not to exceed a value of 50 mt for FY2018-FY2020, and
3. Gulf of Maine winter flounder remains at the FY2017 percentage value for the state sub-component of 15% for FY2018-FY2020.

Motion 1c to amend Motion 1 *carried* 9/2/1.

Motion 1b as the substitute motion as amended *failed* 1/8/3.

Motion 1c as the main motion as amended *carried* 10/0/2.

**Motion 2:** Alexander/Etrie

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.1.1 Annual Catch Limits /4.1.1.2.1 Sub-Option 1: Updates to Common Pool Vessel Accountability Measures -Target (Trimester) Total Allowable Catch (TAC) to select as preferred 4.1.1.2.1.2 Option 2: Revised Common Pool Vessel Trimester Total Allowable Catch (TAC) Apportionments

Motion 2 *carried* 10/0/2.

**Motion 3:** Alexander/Kendall

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.2.1 Authority for Common Pool Trimester Total Allowable Catch (TAC) Apportionment Changes to select as preferred 4.2.1.2 Option 2: Broaden Regional Administrator Authority to Modify Common Pool Trimester TACs and/or AM Closures

Motion 3 *carried* 9/0/3.

**Motion 4:** Etrie/Godfroy

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.1.1 Annual Catch Limits to select as preferred 4.1.1.2.2 Sub-Option 2: Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Sub-ACL for Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Yellowtail Flounder.

Motion 4 *carried* 11/0/1.

Atlantic Halibut Measures

**Motion 5:** Alexander/Etrie

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.1 Atlantic Halibut Accountability Measures for Federal Fisheries to modify and select as preferred 4.3.1.1.2.2 Sub-Option 2B: Modified Gear Restricted Areas to allow in Fixed Gear Area 2 (on Platts Bank) fishing by gillnets and longlines from November to February.

**Motion 5a:** Pappalardo/McKenzie

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.1 Atlantic Halibut Accountability Measures for Federal Fisheries to modify and select as preferred 4.3.1.1.2.2 Sub-Option 2B: Modified Gear Restricted Areas to exempt longline gear from the fixed gear AM areas (Fixed Gear Area 1 and 2) and allow in Fixed Gear Area 2 (on Platts Bank) fishing by gillnets from November to February.

Motion 5a to amend *carried* 9/0/3.

Motion 5a as the amended main motion *carried* 9/0/3.

**Motion 6:** Alexander/Kendall

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.1 Atlantic Halibut Accountability Measures for Federal Fisheries to modify and select as preferred 4.3.1.1.2.2 Sub-Option 2B: Modified Gear Restricted Areas to allow standard trawl gear from April 1 through July 31 in the area between 41 degrees 40 minutes and 42 degrees.

Motion 6 *carried* 10/0/2.

**Motion 7:** Alexander/Pappalardo

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.1 Atlantic Halibut Accountability Measures for Federal Fisheries to modify and select as preferred 4.3.1.1.2.2 Sub-Option 2B: Modified Gear Restricted Areas to remove the Fixed Gear AM Area 1(on Stellwagen Bank).

Motion 7 *carried* 9/0/3.

**Motion 8** as perfected: Alexander/Etrie

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.1 Atlantic Halibut Accountability Measures for Federal Fisheries to select as preferred 4.3.1.1.2.1 Sub-Option 2A: Reactive AM of No Possession Would Apply to All Federal Permit Holders, with the addition of exempting party/charter permits.

**Motion 8** as further perfected: Alexander/Etrie

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.1 Atlantic Halibut Accountability Measures for Federal Fisheries to select as preferred 4.3.1.1.2.1 Sub-Option 2A: Reactive AM of No Possession Would Apply to All Federal Permit Holders while in federal waters, with the addition of exempting party/charter permits.

***To table Motion 8 until the Council meeting on December 6, 2017, carried by consensus and without objection.***

Windowpane Flounder Measures

**Motion 10:** Nolan/Heins

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.2 Southern Windowpane Flounder Accountability Measures for Large-Mesh Non-Groundfish Fisheries to select as preferred: 4.3.1.2.2.1 Sub-Option 2A: Extension of FW 52 Provisions to Large-Mesh Non-Groundfish Trawl Fisheries, and 4.3.1.2.2.2 Sub-Option 2B: Modified Gear Restricted Areas

Motion 10 *carried* 12/0/0.

Accountability Measures Policy for Scallop Fishery

**Motion 11:** Etrie/Griffin

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.3.1 Scallop Fishery AM Implementation Policy to select as preferred 4.3.1.3.1.2 Option 2: Extend the Temporary Change to the Scallop Fishery AM Implementation Policy to the SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder Stock.

Motion 11 *carried* 10/0/2.

Recreational Management Measures

**Motion 12:** Bellavance/Godfroy

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.4 Recreational Fishery Measures to move section 4.3.1.4.1 Recreational Management Measures Process to considered but rejected and discontinue work on this section.

Motion 12 *carried* 10/0/2.

**Motion 13:** Etrie/Bellavance

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council that in 4.3.1.4 Recreational Fishery Measures to select as preferred 4.3.1.4.2.2 Option 2 Temporary Administrative Measure To Allow the Regional Administrator Authority to Adjust the Recreational Measures for Georges Bank Cod.

Motion 13 *carried* 11/0/1.

Atlantic Halibut Specifications

**Motion 14:** Etrie/Alexander

The Groundfish Committee recommends that the Council accept the SSC's recommendations once made and without objection for Atlantic halibut for FY2018-FY2020.

Motion 14 *carried* 9/0/3.

**Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring**

**Motion 15:** McKenzie/Bellavance

To explore an Optimized Retention approach for EM, where EM runs on 100% of trips and a subset of hauls or trips is reviewed to verify vessel trip reported (VTR)-reported discards. The optimized retention model would eliminate minimum fish size restrictions, but fishermen could choose which fish to keep based on their marketability, and/or the difficulty handling and sorting on deck—modeled upon the West Coast EM program.

Motion 15 *carried* 10/0/2.