

New England Fishery Management Council
Groundfish Advisory Panel
Wakefield, Massachusetts
January 21, 2020

DRAFT Meeting Motions

Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring

Motion 1: Raymond/Odell

The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee include an addition to the impacts analysis for the review rate of electronic monitoring as follows: 20% (audit) and 30% (maximum retention).

Rationale: It would be consistent with NEPA to offer more than one alternative for consideration, particularly given the cost differential. Some analysis of 20% trips/10% haul rate for NE groundfish has already been conducted (Dan Linden, GARFO). A similar motion was passed unanimously by both the GAP and the Committee in November 2019. The west coast Canadian groundfish fishery has required 10% of trips since inception of the program (10 years ago) and regulators find the program to meet catch accounting and enforcement needs.

Motion 1 *carried* 7/2/0.

Motion 2: Smith/XX

The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee recommend approving the Draft Amendment 23 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public hearings.

Motion 2 *failed* for lack of second

Motion 3: Raymond/Soule

The Groundfish Advisory Panel requests that the Groundfish Committee include in the next available action a provision to allow US fishermen fishing in the eastern US/CA area to use the same trawl gear used by Canadian fishermen and to explore using smaller mesh gillnets such as 5.5in - 6 in mesh.

Rationale: The Georges Bank haddock resource is grossly underutilized. US fishermen are disadvantaged in catch by using less efficient/effective gear and economically be Canadian catch of haddock shipped into US markets.

Motion 3 *carried* 7/2/0.