

**Final Motions**  
**New England Fishery Management Council Meeting**  
**February 1-3, 2022**  
**By Webinar**

**Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

**SKATE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Framework 9**

1. Committee consensus statement:  
that the word “skate” be inserted between the words “encourage research” in Objective 5.  
The resulting language would read:  
*“Promote and encourage **skate** research for critical biological, ecological, and fishery information based on the research needs identified and updated by the Council.”*

The Council agreed by Consensus.

2. Mr. Olszewski moved on behalf of the committee:  
that the Council recommends Alternative 1 (No Action) as the preferred alternative for Framework 9.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Aarrestad, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Bellavance, Ms. Brawn, Ms. Etrie, Mr. Godfroy, Ms. Patterson, Mr. Salerno, Ms. Ware, Mr. Olszewski, Mr. Pierdinock, Mr. Pentony, Ms. Griffin, Dr. Sissenwine and Mr. Tracy

No: Mr. Pappalardo and Mr. Smith

Abstain:

The motion ***carried*** on a roll call vote (15/2/0).

3. Mr. Olszewski moved on behalf of the committee:  
to submit Amendment 8 to NOAA Fisheries, which includes updates to the Northeast Skate Complex FMP objectives.

The Council agreed by Consensus with one abstention (Mr. Pentony).

**HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT**

4. Mr. Reid moved on behalf of the committee:  
that the Council initiate a Framework to develop a Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) in Southern New England, with the following problem statement: A new HAPC in Southern New England is needed to provide conservation focus for specific New England Fishery Management Council managed species with essential fish habitat in the

area. This is due to concerns about impacts from offshore development, specifically offshore wind in the near term, and possibly offshore aquaculture in the future.

The Council agreed by Consensus.

#### Great South Channel Habitat Management Area

5. Dr. Sissenwine moved and Mr. Olszewski seconded:  
that the Habitat Committee supported by the Plan Development Team review the results of Coonamessett Farm Foundation's clam dredge mapping study, conducted in a subset of the Rose and Crown area under an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP), once a report has been provided to the Council. The purpose of this review is to ascertain the utility of this study for management of fishing gear impacts within the Great South Channel Habitat Management Area. This assessment could be used to support NOAA Fisheries consideration of an extension for this EFP, or approval of similar EFPs.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Alexander, Ms. Brawn, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Ware, Mr. Olszewski, Ms. Griffin, Dr. Sissenwine, Mr. Tracy and Mr. Aarrestad

No: Mr. Bellavance, Mr. Godfroy, Mr. Salerno, Mr. Pappalardo, Mr. Pierdinock and Mr. Smith

Abstain: Ms. Etrie and Mr. Pentony

The motion *carried* on a roll call vote (9/6/2).

6. Ms. Patterson moved and Ms. Etrie seconded:  
that the Council task the staff to prepare a letter regarding Running Tide Aquaculture to address habitat and fisheries concerns. The Executive Committee will review and approve the letter.

The Council agreed by Consensus.

#### Wednesday, February 2, 2022

#### OTHER BUSINESS – PART ONE

##### Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary

1. That the Council send the approved comment letter to NOAA regarding the Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary nomination with additional figures and charts as discussed.

The Council agreed by Consensus.

#### Thursday, February 3, 2022

## **GROUNDFISH COMMITTEE REPORT**

### **Recreational Fishery Management Measures for Fishing Year 2022**

1. Mr. Bellavance moved on behalf of the committee:  
that the Council recommend to GARFO the following recreational fishery measures:  
Gulf of Maine cod- Adjust the open season, same for all modes, with a slot limit

- Open season: September 1 - October 7; April 1 - 14
- Slot size: 22 inches to 28 inches
- Possession limit: 1 fish per day

Gulf of Maine haddock – Increase the bag limit to 20 fish (from 15 fish)

- Open season: May 1–Feb 28/29; April 1–30
- Minimum size: 17 inches
- Possession limit: 20 fish per day

- 1a. Mr. Pierdinock moved to amend and Mr. Godfroy seconded:  
that the Council recommend to GARFO the following recreational fishery measures:  
Gulf of Maine cod- Adjust the open season, same for all modes.

- Open season: September 1 - October 7; April 1 - 14
- Minimum size: 21 inches
- Possession limit: 1 fish per day

Gulf of Maine haddock – Increase the bag limit to 20 fish (from 15 fish)

- Open season: May 1–Feb 28/29; April 1–30
- Minimum size: 17 inches
- Possession limit: 20 fish per day

- 1b. Mr. Pierdinock moved to amend the amendment and Mr. Godfroy seconded:  
that the Council recommend to GARFO the following recreational fishery measures:  
Gulf of Maine cod- Adjust the open season, same for all modes.

- Open season: September 1 - October 7; April 1 - 14
- Minimum size: 22 inches
- Possession limit: 1 fish per day

Gulf of Maine haddock – Increase the bag limit to 20 fish (from 15 fish)

- Open season: May 1–Feb 28/29; April 1–30
- Minimum size: 17 inches
- Possession limit: 20 fish per day

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Gates, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Bellavance, Ms. Brawn, Mr. Godfroy Ms. Patterson,  
Mr. Salerno, Ms. Ware, Mr. Olszewski, Mr. Pentony, Mr. Pierdinock, Ms. Griffin,  
Dr. Sissenwine and Mr. Smith

No: Ms. Etrie and Mr. Tracy

Abstain:

The motion to amend the amendment *carried* on a roll call vote (14/2/0).

The motion to amend as amended:

That the Council recommend to GARFO the following recreational fishery measures:

Gulf of Maine cod- Adjust the open season, same for all modes.

- Open season: September 1 - October 7; April 1 - 14
- Minimum size: 22 inches
- Possession limit: 1 fish per day

Gulf of Maine haddock – Increase the bag limit to 20 fish (from 15 fish)

- Open season: May 1–Feb 28/29; April 1–30
- Minimum size: 17 inches
- Possession limit: 20 fish per day

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Gates, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Bellavance, Ms. Brawn, Mr. Godfroy, Ms. Patterson, Mr. Olszewski, Mr. Pierdinock and Ms. Griffin

No: Ms. Etrie, Mr. Salerno, Ms. Ware, Dr. Sissenwine, Mr. Smith and Mr. Tracy

Abstain: Mr. Pentony

The motion to amend as amended *carried* on a roll call vote (9/6/1).

The main motion:

That the Council recommend to GARFO the following recreational fishery measures:

Gulf of Maine cod- Adjust the open season, same for all modes.

- Open season: September 1 - October 7; April 1 - 14
- Minimum size: 22 inches
- Possession limit: 1 fish per day

Gulf of Maine haddock – Increase the bag limit to 20 fish (from 15 fish)

- Open season: May 1–Feb 28/29; April 1–30
- Minimum size: 17 inches
- Possession limit: 20 fish per day

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Gates, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Bellavance, Ms. Brawn, Mr. Godfroy, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Ware, Mr. Olszewski, Mr. Pierdinock and Ms. Griffin

No: Ms. Etrie, Mr. Salerno, Dr. Sissenwine, Mr. Smith and Mr. Tracy

Abstain: Mr. Pentony

The main motion *carried* on a roll call vote (10/5/1).

#### Atlantic Cod Research Track Working Group

2. Mr. Bellavance moved and Mr. Godfroy seconded:  
that the Council task the committee with developing a strawman for Atlantic cod management units to be discussed at the April Council meeting.

- 2a. Dr. Sissenwine moved and Ms. Griffin seconded:  
that the GF Committee be tasked to develop a plan for transitioning from the current two cod management units to from 2 to 5 revised management units that:
1. Take account of the upcoming research track assessment that will be conducted for biological units deemed most appropriate given the understanding of stock structure and available data,
  2. Prorates ACLs for the assessment of biological stock units into the current 2 cod management units,
  3. Contributes to the conduct of a MSE to evaluate the tradeoffs in terms of conservation risk, impacts on fishing opportunities and practical considerations,
  4. Adopt new management units and management procedures in light of the MSE.

The motion was perfected to read:

that the Groundfish Committee consider whether priorities should be changed to develop a plan for transitioning from the current two cod management units to from 2 to 5 revised management units.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Gates, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Bellavance, Mr. Godfroy, Ms. Patterson, Mr. Pierdinock, Mr. Pentony, Ms. Griffin, Dr. Sissenwine, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tracy, Mr. Olszewski and Ms. Ware

No: Ms. Etrie, Mr. Salerno and Ms. Brawn

Abstain:

The motion *carried* on a roll call vote (13/3/0).

The main motion:

that the Groundfish Committee consider whether priorities should be changed to develop a plan for transitioning from the current two cod management units to from 2 to 5 revised management units.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Gates, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Bellavance, Ms. Brawn, Mr. Godfroy, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Ware, Mr. Olszewski, Mr. Pierdinock, Mr. Pentony, Ms. Griffin, Dr. Sissenwine, Mr. Smith and Mr. Tracy

No: Ms. Etrie and Mr. Salerno

Abstain:

The motion *carried* on a roll call vote (14/2/0).

## **OTHER BUSINESS – PART TWO**

3. That the Council approve the comment letter on the American Conservation and Stewardship Atlas, which is part of the America the Beautiful initiative under Executive Order 14008.

The Council agreed by Consensus.