

New England Fishery Management Council

Groundfish Committee
Wakefield, Massachusetts

January 23, 2020

Meeting Motions

Recreational Measures for Fishing Year 2020: Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock

Motion 1: Bellavance/Godfroy

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council for fishing year 2020 recreational measures:

Gulf of Maine cod

- Open Season: September 15-30 and April 1-14
- Bag Limit: 1 fish
- Minimum Size: 21 inches

Gulf of Maine haddock

- Open Season: May 1 – February 28 and April 1-30
- Bag Limit: 15 fish
- Minimum Size: 17 inches

Motion 1 *carried* 8/0/2.

Other Business – Recreational

Motion 2: Bellavance/Godfroy

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council to adjust the fishing year 2019 recreational measures as:

Gulf of Maine cod

- Open Season: September 15-30 and April 1-14
- Bag Limit: 1 fish
- Minimum Size: 21 inches

Gulf of Maine haddock

- Open Season: Year-Round
- Bag Limit: 15 fish
- Minimum Size: 17 inches

Motion 3: Griffin/Etrie

Move to table Motion 2.

Motion 3 *carried* 6/4/0.

Motion 4: Bellavance/Godfroy:

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council to increase the recreational Atlantic halibut possession limit to 2 legal-sized fish (from 1 fish), with no changes to other measures.

Motion 4 *failed* 2/7/1.

Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring

Motion 5: Kendall/McKenzie

The Groundfish Committee recommends to the Council to approve the Draft Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring document for public hearings and declines to recommend preliminary preferred alternatives today.

A roll call vote was taken.

VOTE RECORD

Terry Alexander - NO
Rick Bellavance - YES
Libby Etrie - NO
Mark Godfroy - YES
Meredith Mendelsohn - NO
Peter Kendall - YES
Matt McKenzie - YES
Melanie Griffin - YES
Pete Christopher - YES
Steve Heines - YES

Motion 5 *carried* 7/3/0

Other Business – Commercial

Motion 6: Alexander/Etrie

The Groundfish Committee tasks the Plan Development Team to include in the next available action a provision on Georges Bank (for targeting haddock) with a specific focus 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 5.5 in - 6 in mesh.

Motion 6 *carried* 7/1/1. (*One member was absent for this vote.*)