

New England Fishery Management Council

Groundfish Committee

South Portland, Maine

May 21, 2019

Meeting Motions

Groundfish Sector and Common Pool Monitoring Program Revisions (Section 4.2.1)

Motion 1: Alexander/Godfroy

To task the Plan Development Team, in the context of dockside monitoring, with providing an explanation of the groundfish landings amongst each of the regional dealers and an estimate of costs of groundfish unloaded.

Motion 1 *failed* 2/6/1.

Motion 2: Mendelson/Etrie

To add to the alternatives a review process to evaluate the efficacy of rates of coverage, to include metrics or indicators of how well the program improved accuracy while maximizing value and minimizing costs.

Motion 2 *carried* 3/0/5.

Motion 3: Griffin/Pappalardo

To include the Plan Development Team’s Attachment 1 (see Plan Development Team Meeting Summary from May 14, 2019) into the dockside monitoring alternative in Section 4.2.1.1.2 (Option 2: Dockside Monitoring Program).

Motion 3 *carried* 8/1/0.

Groundfish Sector Monitoring Program (Section 4.2.2)

Motion 4: Mendelson/Etrie

In Section 4.2.2 (Groundfish Sector Monitoring Program Revisions), to add an alternative that would increase management uncertainty buffers and allow sectors to increase monitoring coverage in order to reduce that buffer at a sector level.

Motion 4 *failed* 3/5/1.

Motion 5: Etrie/Alexander

To task the Plan Development Team to analyze different stratification approaches on ways to determine coverage selection of "trips" under 4.2.2.1.2 (Option 2: Fixed Total At-Sea Monitoring Coverage Level Based on a Percentage of Trips) including but not limited to fleet-level trips, sector-level trips, and vessel-level trips.

Motion 5 carried 8/0/1.

Motion 6: Alexander/XX

To add an alternative for coverage levels based on trips of the vessel (e.g., if the coverage level is 25% of trips taken by the vessel, then the vessel takes four trips, it would get covered once). These would be vessel-specific coverage rates.

Failed for lack of a second.

Motion 7: Mendelson/Pappalardo

To add an option to (a) set a standard (i.e., observer bias) to measure the effectiveness of at-sea monitoring at the sector-level, and (b) if the sector is not meeting the set standard, then provide the ability in the monitoring plans to correct the problem.

Motion 7 carried 6/0/3.

Motion 8: Etrie/Alexander

To include in Section 4.2.2.2 (Sector Monitoring Tools) an option that would use electronic monitoring as a replacement for human at-sea monitoring when selected for monitoring.

Motion 8 carried 8/0/1.

Exemptions from Groundfish Sector and Common Pool Monitoring Program Requirements (Section 4.2.3)

Motion 9: Etrie/Kendall

That under exemptions, to include an option that allows sectors to request, through their sector operation plans, exemptions from at-sea monitoring and/or dockside monitoring if groundfish landings and discards are not significant – i.e., 5% or less of the catch – sector or vessel (e.g., non-directed groundfish trips). When considering such exemption requests, the Agency will review historical fishing data to see if the overall catch composition for combined exempted requested trips has 5% or less groundfish associated with it. Such exemption requests may be geographic or seasonal in nature if necessary and appropriate.

Motion 9 failed 4/4/1

Motion 10: Alexander/Etrie

Move that if the Council agrees to exempt vessels based on catch composition that those exemptions be reviewed every five years.

Motion 11: Alexander/Pappalardo

Move to table Motion 10 and – postpone discussion to the June 2019 Council meeting.

Motion 11 carried 8/0/1.