

New England Fishery Management Council

Recreational Advisory Panel

Danvers, Massachusetts

January 24, 2018

DRAFT Meeting Motions

Recreational Management Measures for Fishing Year 2018

Motion 1: Sterrit/Gibson

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee that an additional run be provided for consideration with a lower length limit (i.e., 15 in or 16 in) on Gulf of Maine haddock to help achieve the recreational quota.

Motion 1 *carried*. 6/0/3

Motion 2: Pierdinock/Gibson

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee that for whichever option is selected for fishing year 2018 that recreational fishing opportunity be maximized to achieve the Gulf of Maine haddock quota while not exceeding the Gulf of Maine cod quota.

Motion 2 *failed*. 2/4/3

Motion 3: Sterrit/Tower

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee that the Council recommends to the State of Massachusetts to drop the bag limit to zero fish for Gulf of Maine cod (“Option 1”) because the alternative would be closed for the month of May to Gulf of Maine haddock fishing (“Option 2”) and that would be far worse for the recreational fishery.

Motion 3 *failed*. 4/4/1

Motion 4: Tower/DePersia

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee Status Quo (“Option 0”) management measures for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock for fishing year 2018.

Motion 4 *carried*. 6/3/0

Motion 5: Sterrit/DePersia

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee that the Council asks NMFS to verify the private boat effort and catch data for Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock with some other data source (e.g., aerial surveys, salt-water registry, and last five years comparison of MRIP to VTRs for party/charter).

Motion 5 *carried*. 8/0/1

Control Date

Motion 6: Plaia/Tower

To recommend a revised control date for the charter/party groundfish fishery of May 1, 2018.

Motion 6 *carried*. 7/2/0

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