

# Framework Adjustment 56 Specifications and Management Measures and White Paper

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Meeting  
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# Framework Adjustment 56



*Credit: Paul Nitschke, NEFSC*

# Objectives

- To meet regulatory requirements to prevent overfishing, ensure rebuilding, and help achieve optimum yield in the commercial and recreational groundfish fishery.
- To evaluate an appropriate level of northern windowpane flounder catch in the scallop fishery.
- To evaluate an appropriate level of Georges Bank haddock catch in the mid-water Atlantic herring fishery.
- To evaluate the trigger for the Georges Bank yellowtail flounder accountability measures for the scallop fishery.

These include regulatory requirements:

- Stock status changes, if any
- Specifications:
  - US/CA stocks – Georges Bank cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder for FY 2017- FY 2018
  - Witch flounder for FY 2017 – FY 2019



# Range of Alternatives

## 4.1 Updates to status determination criteria and annual catch limits

4.1.1 Revised Status Determination Criteria (if any)

4.1.2 Annual Catch Limits

- US/CA stocks and witch flounder, sub-component analysis for all stocks
- Establish a Sub-Annual Catch Limit for northern windowpane flounder for the scallop fishery
- Increase the Sub-Annual Catch Limit for Georges Bank haddock for the Atlantic herring mid-water trawl fishery
- Exception to the scallop fishery AM implementation policy for the GB yellowtail flounder stock

## 4.2 Management measures for the recreational fishery

4.2.1 Revise the recreational management measures process

# Timeline for Framework 56

<b>2016-2017</b>	June, 2016	Council initiates action
	Jul-Jan	Develop specifications and management measures
	Sep	Council receives an update on progress
	Oct-Jan	Develop NEPA analysis
	Nov	Council takes final action (except for witch flounder specifications)
	Jan, 2017	Council takes final action on witch flounder specifications





# Background- Amendment 16

## Recreational accountability measures –

- As soon as data (based on MRIP) are available for the entire fishing year (usually around June or July), recreational catches will be totaled and compared to the ACL.
- If catches exceed the ACL, NMFS will determine the measures necessary to prevent exceeding the ACL in future years following consultation with the Council and publish the accountability measure that would be put into effect .
- Final measures will be published no later than January.



# Background- Amendment 16

## Recreational accountability measures (AMs)

- Recreational AMs will be either/or adjustments to minimum size or bag limits.
- Separate AMs can be determined for the private boats and party/charter components.
- Timing – anticipated that AMs for an overage in year one will be implemented at the end of fishing year two,
- Period – may be in effect for an extended period, applicable period will be specified when the AM is announced
- Evaluation – three-year average of recreational catch compared to three-year average ACL



# Background- Framework 48

## Recreational accountability measures -

- Framework 48 revised the recreational AM so that the Regional Administrator may proactively adjust recreational management measures to ensure the recreational fishery will achieve, but not exceed, its sub-ACL.
- To the extent possible, any changes to the recreational management measures would be made prior to the start of the fishing year
- The Administrator would consult with the Council, or the Council's designee, and would tell the Council, or its designee, what recreational measures are under consideration for the upcoming fishing year.





# Background- Framework 48

## Recreational accountability measures -

- If time allows, the Council would also provide its Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP) an opportunity to meet and discuss the proposed management measures.
- These AMs require development in consultation with the Council, because the appropriate suite of measures (e.g., bag limit, minimum fish size, season) depends on the ACL specified.



# Background- Framework 48

## Recreational accountability measures -

- The Council provided guidance on its preference of measures that NMFS should consider if additional recreational effort controls are necessary to reduce GOM cod or GOM haddock catches, though this guidance does not restrict NMFS's discretion in selecting management measures that would best achieve, but not exceed, the recreational sub-ACL.
  - COD: If additional effort controls are necessary to reduce cod catches, the Council's non-binding preference is that NMFS first consider increases to minimum fish sizes, then adjustments to seasons, followed by changes to bag limits.
  - HADDOCK: If additional effort controls are necessary to reduce haddock catches, the Council's non-binding preference is that NMFS first consider increases to minimum size limits, then changes to bag limits, and adjustments to seasons last.



# Recreational Measures Management Process – DRAFT

Council Staff White Paper July 27, 2016

- 1) Overview
- 2) The recreational measures management process for Gulf of Maine cod and haddock
- 3) Perspectives on the process
- 4) Approaches to addressing current concerns
- 5) Appendices



# **ADDENDUM- Recreational Measures Management Process – DRAFT**

**Council Staff White Paper October 21, 2016**

- 1) Management summary for Gulf of Maine cod and haddock**
- 2) Recreational fishery catch performance for Gulf of Maine cod and haddock**

