

Framework Adjustment 57: *Specifications and Management Measures*

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**Groundfish Committee
Meeting
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Draft Framework Adjustment 57

DRAFT Scope:

- To incorporate any status changes for groundfish stocks and set specifications for all groundfish stocks for FY 2018 to FY 2020.
- To set specifications for FY 2018 for US/Canada stocks (Eastern Georges Bank cod, Eastern Georges Bank haddock, and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder).
- To evaluate the common pool trimester total allowable catches (TACs).
- To modify Atlantic halibut management.
- To modify the Southern windowpane flounder accountability measures for the large-mesh non-groundfish fisheries (e.g., scup and summer flounder).
- To revise the recreational management measures process.

DRAFT Objectives

To meet regulatory requirements to prevent overfishing, ensure rebuilding, and help achieve optimum yield in the commercial and recreational groundfish fishery.



Likely Range of Alternatives

1. Updates to status determination criteria stock status and annual catch limits

- Revised status determination criteria
- Annual Catch Limits

2. Commercial and Recreational Fishery Management Measures

Commercial

- Revise common pool trimester TACs
- Modify Atlantic halibut management
- Modify Southern windowpane flounder accountability measures for the large-mesh non-groundfish fisheries

Recreational

- Revise the recreational management measures process



Draft Timeline

Action to be in place in time for May 1, 2018

SEP 21	Groundfish Committee meeting
SEPT 26-28	NEFMC – Receives an update on the development of the action, approve range of alternatives, including discussing US/CA stocks
OCT 3	Groundfish PDT meeting
OCT 23-24	SSC meeting to recommend groundfish stocks OFLS/ABCs
NOV XX	Groundfish PDT meeting
NOV XX	Recreational Advisory Panel meeting
NOV 28	Groundfish Advisory Panel meeting
NOV XX	Groundfish Committee meeting
DEC 5-7	NEFMC- Takes final action on framework



2017 Groundfish Operational Assessments

- All groundfish stocks to be assessed
- Data through the end of 2016
- Important Dates
 - TRAC/TMGC/SC– July 11-14/September 6-8
 - Assessment Oversight Panel – July 24
 - Peer Review September 11 – 15
 - Groundfish PDT– October 3
 - SSC– October 23-24



For Today

- Discuss the development of the draft alternatives
- Make recommendations to the Council

