

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Herring Committee

I. STATUS

A. Meetings:

- On December 10, 2015, the Herring Plan Development Team (PDT) met to discuss 2016 Council priorities for Atlantic herring, review scoping comments and develop information and analyses for Amendment 8 to the Atlantic Herring FMP, discuss the potential for using state port-side monitoring data to monitor the river herring/shad (RH/S) catch caps, review/discuss development of industry-funded monitoring options for the Atlantic herring fishery in the omnibus IFM amendment, and develop recommendations for 2017-2022 research priorities for Atlantic herring.
- On January 12, 2016, the Herring Advisory Panel (AP) met to review Amendment 8 scoping comments and provide recommendations to the Herring Committee on the development of this action. This included discussion of a potential management strategy evaluation of the herring acceptable biological catch (ABC) control rule. In addition, the AP developed recommendations for RH/S catch cap monitoring, research priorities, and the Georges Bank haddock accountability measure.
- On January 13, 2016, the Herring Committee met to review the AP recommendations, discuss all topics considered by the AP, and develop PDT tasks and recommendations for the Council.
- On January 21, 2016, the Herring PDT met to discuss AP and Committee meeting outcomes, PDT tasks, and work planning, pending further direction from the January Council meeting.

- B. 2016-2018 Atlantic Herring Specifications: The preliminary submission to NMFS was on November 4, 2015. The Council took final action in September 2015.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Consider the Committee recommendation to develop a Management Strategy Evaluation of the Atlantic Herring ABC control rule for Amendment 8.
- B. Consider the Committee recommendation to support the motion postponed from the September 2015 Council meeting regarding the request to use state portside data to monitor river herring/shad catch caps, with the inclusion of using the data to monitor the haddock catch caps.

III. INFORMATION

1. December 10, 2015 Herring PDT Meeting Summary (revised January 15, 2016)
2. Amendment 8 draft action plan, Version 2 - December 15, 2015
3. Amendment 8 Scoping Comments Summary - December 21, 2015. The comments are available at <http://www.nefmc.org/library/amendment-8-2>.
4. Herring PDT memo on Georges Bank haddock accountability measure - January 5, 2016
5. January 12, 2016 Herring Advisory Panel meeting motions (draft)
6. January 13, 2016 Herring Committee meeting motions (draft)
7. Staff presentation - January 26, 2016
8. Correspondence