



New England Fishery Management Council

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**DRAFT MEETING MOTIONS**

**Herring Advisory Panel (AP)**

DoubleTree by Hilton, Danvers, MA

January 12, 2016

***AMENDMENT 8***

***Motion #1 (Bichrest/O’Neill):***

The Herring AP generally supports a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) approach to developing an Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) control rule for Atlantic herring. The AP offers these suggestions:

- The projected performance of the control rules should be compared at different stock levels relative to the current control rule;
- Examples of other MSE processes should be provided to improve understanding of the MSE approach;
- The public needs time to absorb the information to give input throughout the MSE process;
- Make sure the information is understandable to the public; and
- Apart from the MSE, there should be better public understanding of the impacts (biological, economic, social) of all the regulatory changes for the Atlantic herring fishery over the years.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (7/0/0).

***Motion #2 (Lapp/Moore)***

The Herring AP recommends that the geographic area(s) in question, and the term “inshore”, be clearly defined prior to further consideration or analysis of the localized depletion option.

***Rationale:*** Discussion and information about localized depletion should be focused prior to developing measures, rather than later in the process.

Perfected motion #2a (Lapp/Moore)

Prior to further analysis of “localized depletion” or development of related alternatives, the Herring AP recommends that the geographic area(s) in question be clearly defined.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (7/1/0).

Motion #3 (Kane/Swanson)

The Herring AP recommends that alternatives be analyzed and developed to address localized depletion based on suggestions that came out of the scoping process.

*Rationale:* There is a lack of understanding of localized depletion, so upfront analysis would be good.

Perfected motion #3a (Kane/Swanson)

The Herring AP recommends that localized depletion be analyzed based on suggestions that came out of the scoping process.

The motion **failed** on a show of hands (2/5/1).

Motion #4 (O’Neill/Moore)

The Herring AP recommends examining localized depletion based on scientific, biologically based data.

*Rationale:* Science is needed to support decision-making, including examination of ecological factors like temperature, herring prey, etc.

Perfected motion #4a (O’Neill/Moore)

The Herring AP recommends examining localized depletion based on scientific, biologically and ecologically-based data.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/2/0).

Herring AP discussion (no motion/consensus)

Herring AP members raised the following ideas for analysis of localized depletion, but did not come to consensus or offer a motion.

- Examine Ipswich Bay in October when Atlantic herring are spawning.
- Focus on where Atlantic herring are residing (vs. migrating).
- Examine if the Area 1A midwater trawl closure (June-September) and the state spawning closures are accomplishing their goals and what the effects on various stakeholder interests have been.
- Identify what is inhibiting herring fishing effort offshore.

Motion #5 (Moore/O'Neill)

The Herring AP recommends that the goals and objectives of the Area 1A midwater trawl closure (June-September) be examined to see if they are being accomplished. This would help identify if and what modifications are appropriate.

*Rationale:* There should be an examination of the impacts of prior decisions to help make informed decisions in Amendment 8.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/2/0).

***RIVER HERRING/SHAD CATCH CAPS***

Motion #6 (Moore/Lapp)

The Herring AP recommends that the Herring Committee task the Herring PDT with examining the Study Fleet data for its potential use in managing fisheries.

*Rationale:* The Study Fleet program has a lot of important data and their use should be considered.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (8/0/0).

***GEORGES BANK HADDOCK CATCH CAP ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURE***

Motion #7 (O'Neil/Bilodeau)

The Herring AP recommends that the Georges Bank haddock catch cap for the 2015-2016 groundfish fishing year (May1 – April 30) be increased by whatever means possible (e.g., emergency action).

*Rationale:* With the good condition of the Georges Bank haddock stock, it does not make sense to constrain the herring fishery.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/2/0).

Motion #8 (Lapp/O'Neill)

The Herring AP recommends moving the haddock accountability measures from the groundfish plan to the herring plan.

The motion was **withdrawn**.

Motion #9 (Lapp/Bilodeau)

The Herring AP recommends that the Georges Bank haddock catch cap accountability measure for the Atlantic herring fishery be made similar to the GB yellowtail flounder AM in the Atlantic sea scallop fishery.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/1/0).

## ***FIVE-YEAR RESEARCH PRIORITIES FOR ATLANTIC HERRING, 2017-2022***

### ***Motion #10 (Moore/Lapp)***

The Herring AP recommends that for the draft Atlantic herring research priorities for 2017-2022 (Herring PDT December 10, 2015 meeting summary, Table 5), under the ecosystem studies priorities, Atlantic herring be examined both as predator and prey in any ecosystem studies in the northwest Atlantic.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/1/1).

## ***OTHER BUSINESS***

### ***Motion #11– Moore/O’Neil***

The Herring AP recommends that fishery performance evaluations be conducted for all New England fisheries similar to what occurs in the Mid-Atlantic.

*Rationale:* The performance evaluations provide a lot of information and explanations of why the catch data is what it is in a given year.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands 6/0/2.