



New England Fishery Management Council

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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEETING SUMMARY

Groundfish Plan Development Team

NOAA Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office

55 Great Republic Drive

Gloucester, MA 01930-9300

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

The Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT) met to discuss Amendment 23/Groundfish, gear standards policy, and Council priorities for 2019.

Meeting Attendance: Jamie M. Cournane PhD (Chair), Chad Demarest, Dan Caless, Greg DeCelles PhD, Julia Beaty, Katherine McArdle, Kevin Sullivan, Liz Sullivan, Mark Grant, Matt Cieri PhD, Melissa Errend, Paul Nitschke, Robin Frede, and Tim Cardiasmenos, Terry Stockwell (Groundfish Committee Chair); Libby Etrie (Groundfish Committee member); Rebecca Peters (ME DMR) and Emily Keiley and Jason Berthiaume (GARFO); and the audience included Maggie Raymond, Jackie Odell, and Allison Lorenc.

The meeting began at 10:00 am.

Key Outcomes:

- The PDT discussed restructuring of the draft alternatives for Amendment 23(A23)/Groundfish Monitoring.
- The PDT held a preliminary discussion of the gear standards policy.

Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring

The PDT discussed possible revisions to the draft alternatives. See the separate memo documenting the PDT's questions for the Committee and revisions, *Updates to Draft Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring Alternatives*.

Gear Standards Policy

Dr. Cournane, Mr. Grant, and Ms. Keiley agreed to work together after the PDT meeting to develop revisions to the Council policy on gear standards to facilitate use of gear in accountability measures, in time for the April Groundfish Advisory Panel and Groundfish Committee meetings. Given the focus on A23 progress, their work would be presented at the meeting.

Council Priorities for 2019

Dr. Cournane referred the PDT to the recent announcement of the public listening sessions for possible limited access in the groundfish recreational party and charter fishery. These sessions will be held in April and May this year. Other 2019 Council priorities were not discussed in detail.

Other Business

No other business.

The Groundfish PDT meeting adjourned at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Table 1- Follow-up items from March 19, 2019 Groundfish PDT meeting.

Task	Name(s)	Due Date
Draft meeting summary	Jamie	3/22/2019
Draft memo on A23 and updated draft A23 alternatives	Robin	3/22/2019
Review draft meeting summary	PDT	3/26/2019
Review draft memo on A23 and updated draft A23 alternatives	PDT	3/26/2019
Draft A23 analyses write-ups for PDT review	Lead analysts – Chad/Melissa/ Dan L./Paul	3/22/2019
Draft A23 peer review Terms of Reference	Jamie/Paul	3/25/2019
Schedule next PDT meeting	Jamie	ASAP