New England Fishery Management Council

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DRAFT MEETING MOTIONS

Herring Committee

DoubleTree by Hilton, Danvers, MA

January 13, 2016

AMENDMENT 8

Motion #1 (Tooley/Kaelin)

The Herring Committee recommends to the Council that a Management Strategy Evaluation be conducted to support developing measures in Amendment 8 for the Acceptable Biological Catch control rule for Atlantic herring.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (9/0/1).

Motion #2 (Pierce/Grout)

The Herring Committee tasks the Herring PDT with the following analysis: (1) define "inshore" as all areas shoreward of the 12 mile territorial sea line; (2) identify areas within the 12-mile line where herring fishing seasonally intensifies (e.g., Ipswich Bay, Nantucket shoals); (3) determine and compare midwater trawl trip catches over time in each area, considering variation in tow-specific catches, accounting for tow time, number of tows and trip duration; (4) determine if, over the time of intensified fishing, catches could only be maintained by longer tows, more tows and/or longer trips, thereby indicting local depletion (e.g., F much higher than F set for entire stock).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/3/1).

Consensus statement

The Herring Committee tasks the Herring PDT with the following analyses:

- Identify herring fishing locations, by season and gear type.
- Identify predator fishery (e.g., striped bass, tuna) locations, by season and gear type.
- Identify any evidence of pulse fishing (i.e., multiple herring vessels in a concentrated time/area).
- Examine ideas for analysis identified in the public scoping comments for Amendment 8.

- Repeat the preliminary PDT analysis (by Dr. Deroba), examining Area 1A in the years prior to 2006 (i.e., Amendment 1) and examining catch of predators in the second week after herring catches (across the full time range).
- How much herring is set aside currently to account for the forage needs of predators? What is the best estimate of how much herring is needed for forage?
- Examine predator/prey relationships between cod and herring in Ipswich Bay.
- Examine potential impacts (biological, economic, social) to different fisheries (herring, tuna, striped bass, etc.) of closing the following 30-minute squares to midwater trawl gear year-round: 99, 100, 114, 115, and 123.
- Calculate the percent of the total Atlantic herring stock area each of the following 30-minute square comprises: 99, 100, 114, 115, and 123.

RIVER HERRING/SHAD CATCH CAPS

Motion #3 (Pierce/Grout)

The Herring Committee supports the state portside sampling programs and moving towards using the data to monitor caps.

The motion was **withdrawn**.

Motion #4 (Grout/Kaelin)

The Herring Committee recommends that the Council supports the motion postponed from the September 2015 Council meeting regarding use of portside data to monitor river herring/shad catch caps, with the inclusion of using portside data to monitor the haddock catch caps.

> *Postponed motion from September 2015:*
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> *"That because River herring/Shad bycatch in the sea herring fishery is monitored by NMFS solely from observer data, the Council requests NMFS include state portside monitoring of RH/S catch to determine that catch relative to the bycatch caps."*

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/0/4).

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

Motion #5 (Tooley/Kaelin)

For the 2017-2021 Council research priorities, the Herring Committee recommends the list of priorities provided in Table 5 of the December 10, 2015 Herring PDT meeting summary, with the highest priorities being those already identified as the 2016-2018 Research Set-Aside priorities (in the 2016-2018 Atlantic herring draft specifications).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (5/1/3).

GEORGES BANK HADDOCK CATCH CAP ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURE

Motion #6 (Tooley/Kaelin)

The Herring Committee tasks the Herring PDT with examining the potential for using the same approach of the Georges Bank yellowtail flounder cap accountability measure (AM) for the Atlantic sea scallop fishery for the Georges Bank haddock cap AM in the Atlantic herring fishery, and reviewing the current GB haddock AM area closure for its continued relevance (e.g., abundance/distribution of haddock within the area).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (5/3/1).