

#6b

New England Fishery Management Council

Joint Groundfish Committee, Groundfish Advisory Panel, and Recreational Advisory Panel

Wakefield, MA and by Webinar

June 10, 2026

Meeting Motions

Attendance

Groundfish Advisory Panel

Present: Hank Soule (Chair), Cassie Canastra Larsen (Vice-Chair), Al Cottone, Rick Bellavance, Bonnie Brady, Gib Brogan, Joe Letourneau, Ben Martens

Absent: Jerry Leeman

Recreational Advisory Panel

Present: Frank Blount (Chair), Jonathon Sterritt (Vice Chair), Rick Bellavance, Leo Chomen, Rip Cunningham, Tom DePersia, Andy Fishbein, Willy Hatch, Tim Tower, Mike Waine

Absent: Tony DiLernia, William Vanderhoop

Groundfish Committee

Present: John Pappalardo (Chair), Terry Alexander (Vice-Chair), Pete Christopher (GARFO), Andy Dangelo, Jim Gilmore (MAFMC), Melanie Griffin, Jackie Odell, Paul Risi (MAFMC), Geoff Smith, Megan Ware

Absent: Mike Pierdinock, Peter Whelan

The meeting started at approximately 9:30 am.

Framework 74 / Specifications and Management Measures:

Groundfish Committee Motion 1 as friendly amended (Griffin/Alexander):

To recommend to the Council to initiate Framework Adjustment 74 to include fishing year (FY) 2027-2031 specifications and management measures, as:

- Revise status determination criteria, as appropriate,
- Set FY2027 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada management units of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod and Eastern GB haddock, and FY2027-FY2028 TACs for the GB yellowtail flounder stock,
- Set FY2027 specifications for GB cod and GB haddock,
- Set FY2027-FY2028 specifications for GB yellowtail flounder,
- Set FY2027-FY2031 specifications for Gulf of Maine (GOM) haddock, American plaice, witch flounder, pollock, northern windowpane flounder, southern windowpane flounder, and Atlantic halibut,
- Review sub-component analysis for stocks with revised specifications, and others as time permits,
- Review GB haddock sub-ACL in the mid-water trawl/herring fishery, set the sub-ACL at a fixed percentage amount, and discontinue the review requirement,
- Re-evaluate approach used for Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) yellowtail flounder scallop fishery sub-ACL,
- Modify the criteria for the provision of the southern windowpane flounder accountability measures to reduce the size of the AM area for the groundfish fishery and large-mesh non-groundfish trawl fisheries,
- Adjust administration of the B DAS Program and Closed Area II Yellowtail Flounder/Haddock SAP to change the default status, and
- Re-evaluate and potentially modify Atlantic halibut accountability measures (AMs).

Rationale: To set specifications and address management measures and administrative changes as recommended by the PDT. Important to address concerns raised around Atlantic halibut.

Motion *passed* unanimously without objection.

Framework 68 / ABC Control Rules:

No motions.

Amendment 23 Monitoring Review:

No motions.

The meeting ended at approximately 3:15 pm.