

New England Fishery Management Council

Recreational Advisory Panel

Danvers, MA
November 12, 2019

Meeting Motions

Framework Adjustment 59/Specifications

Motion 1: Plaia/Tower:

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends the Groundfish Committee adopt the Groundfish Plan Development Team’s recommendation to “Continue to monitor recreational catches of pollock and utilization of pollock in future assessments and monitoring, especially in relation to the allocation criteria identified in A16. If utilization relative to the ACL becomes high, consider creating a sub-ACL for the recreational fishery.” (see pp. 13 of Groundfish PDT memo to Committee, October 23, 2019, re: Analysis for the priority to address allocation issues if raised by new MRIP data)

Motion 1 *carried* 5/0/0.

Motion 2: Paquette/Tower

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee updating the recreational and commercial data for years 2001-2006 to determine the Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock allocations, based on the 2019 stock assessments, in Framework Adjustment 59.

Motion 2 *carried* 5/0/0.

Motion 3: Plaia/Tower friendly.

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee updating the recreational catch target for GB cod:

- using the post-calibration (new) MRIP data average of recreational catches in CY2012-CY2016 (406 mt) from the 2019 stock assessment,
- then reduce this value by the percent change from fishing year 2019 to proposed fishing year 2020 in the US ABC (a decrease of 29%),
- resulting in a recreational catch target of 288 mt for FY2020-FY2022.

Rationale: This approach was developed with the understanding that an average of more recent data, which includes the post-calibration (new) MRIP data, would likely be used by NMFS when setting Georges Bank cod recreational measures.

Motion 3 *carried* 5/0/0.

Motion 4: Plaia/Paquette

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee extending the NMFS Regional Administrator's temporary authority to adjust management measures for Georges Bank cod for fishing years 2020 and 2021 in Framework Adjustment 59.

Motion 4 *carried* 5/0/0.

Possible Priorities for 2020

Motion 5: Sterrit/Plaia

The Recreational Advisory Panel recommends to the Groundfish Committee to remove development of limited access program for the recreational groundfish party and charter fishery from the 2020 Council priorities discussion, due to more opposition than support for it from public listening sessions and public comments.

Motion 5 *failed* 2/3/0.

The Recreational Advisory Panel lost its quorum in the midst of discussing its recommendations for possible Council priorities for 2020. Therefore, the following summary of the discussion from the remaining members is forwarded to the Groundfish Committee for consideration of possible 2020 priorities.

1. Revise accountability measures process (proactive and reactive) to allow for regulation stability and account for uncertainty in the MRIP data
2. Review Atlantic Cod Stock Structure Working Group results and develop management approach
3. Develop an amendment for limited entry for party and charter in the recreational Northeast Multispecies (groundfish) fishery.