



New England Fishery Management Council

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DRAFT MEETING MOTIONS

Herring Advisory Panel

March 29, 2016

GEORGES BANK HADDOCK CATCH CAP ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

1. Motion (Klyver/Kane)

The AP recommends maintaining the Georges Bank haddock catch cap at 1% (no action).

Rationale: Herring vessels have potential to catch haddock. Cap based on observer data, but fishery may be taking more than 1%. Unsure due to lack of observer coverage.

The motion **failed** on a show of hands (3/6/0).

2. Motion (Moore/Bichrest)

The AP recommends developing a mechanism similar for transferring haddock from the groundfish fishery to the herring fishery as exists in the scallop fishery with moving their unused yellowtail flounder to the groundfish fishery.

Rationale: There should be flexibility for the herring fishery while ensuring the Georges Bank haddock stock is sustainable. Most of the haddock quota is underused and is not in danger of collapse.

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

3. Motion (O'Neill/Jongerden)

The AP recommends developing an alternative that the Georges Bank haddock catch cap for the herring fishery be increased to 2%, with splitting the cap seasonally: 80% in May - October and 20% November – April.

Rationale: The way the fishery operates, having a bit more haddock would allow a seasonal cap to work. In future, if the cap keeps increasing, it will be enough to prosecute the fishery with the SBRM restrictions. This will have a negligible impact on the haddock stock.

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

4. Motion (Jongerden/Moore)

The AP recommends developing an alternative that would allow an individual groundfish sector to transfer their GB haddock quota to the herring fishery (individual vessels and/or fishery-wide) for use as a bycatch cap.

Rationale: The groundfish sectors have expressed interest in moving their quota to herring vessels.

Motion **carried** on a show of hands (5/1/2).

5. Motion (Lapp/Moore)

The AP recommends that this framework allow for flexibility for the herring fishery while ensuring the Georges Bank haddock stock is sustainable.

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

AMENDMENT 8

Consensus statement #1

The AP recommends that the Committee task the PDT with develop “heat maps” showing herring effort overlaid with all current and proposed spatial regulations to better identify the importance of areas to the fishery and potential impacts of measures developed through Amendment 8, such as:

- Groundfish closed areas (with 15 mi move along)
- Distances 12, 30, 50 mi from shore
- Stat areas/30-min squares
- Herring management areas
- Bathymetry (100 fathom or 200 mi depth)
- ASMFC spatial regs (spawning closed areas)
- RH/S bycatch cap areas
- Haddock AM areas

Consensus statement #2

The AP recommends using bottom temperature data to identify key areas of preferable habitat areas for fish (herring and predators).

Consensus statement #3

The AP feels that localized depletion is unlikely in areas where herring migrate. Further efforts to identify localized depletion should be on areas where herring are resident (feeding, spawning).

6. Motion (O'Neill/Jongerden)

The AP recommends developing an alternative that would remove the seasonal Area 1B quota restriction (currently 0% January-May).

Rationale: This would help mitigate user conflict in Area 1B and allow for mackerel fishing if the mackerel are present.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (6/3/0).

OTHER BUSINESS – ASMFC AMENDMENT 3

Consensus Statement #4

The AP supports the ASMFC decision to not rollover the FGSA to the Area 1A fishery (currently, after November 1, any unused FGSA quota is rolled into the Area 1A quota).