



New England Fishery Management Council

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Eric Reid, *Chair* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 15, 2022
TO: Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee
FROM: Melanie Griffin, Scallop Committee Chair
SUBJECT: **Purpose for Scallop AP and Committee meetings on March 21 & March 22, 2022**

The Council will be holding the Scallop Advisory Panel and Committee meetings by webinar on March 21 (AP) and March 22 (Committee). Documents for this meeting will be posted to a Sharefile site and then the Council's website as they become available. You will receive a link to access files ahead of the meeting.

Purpose: The main objectives of the meetings are to:

- 1) Receive updates on scallop related issues and 2022 work priorities.
- 2) Provide feedback on the scoping document for a Limited Access days-at-sea (DAS) and access area leasing program to assess: 1) the need for a leasing program, and 2) what a leasing program should consider.
- 3) Discuss follow-up to the Evaluation of Rotational Management program review.
- 4) Recommend updates/modifications to the Council's 5-year Research Priorities (2022-2026).
- 5) Discuss other business.

Webinar: In order to participate in the meetings, you will need to register for the webinar. Please register before the meeting begins. You can use the following links to register.

AP webinar: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2118013858816000525>

Committee webinar: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5050963324931766029>

If you do not register for the meeting, you will not be able to participate in the meeting. The Council has developed an instruction guide for GoToWebinar remote participation. It can be found at [this link](#).

1. **Participating in the meeting:** **To participate, you MUST register for the meeting.** If you do not register, staff will not be able unmute you.

The public, AP, and Committee members will be able to participate in the webinar. Council staff will be working closely with the Chair to accommodate remote participation during the meeting. Staff will review how individuals can participate during the meeting. As with in-person meetings, questions about presentations will be entertained before taking comments. The AP and Committee will have the first opportunity to weigh-in, followed by the public. Individuals interested in speaking should raise their hand on the webinar.

2. **Motions via Webinar:** AP and Committee members may make motions.
 - a. **Making Motions:** The preferred approach is for AP and Committee members to e-mail motions to Jonathon Peros (jperos@nefmc.org) and Sam Asci (sasci@nefmc.org) on Council staff, and cc the AP or Committee Chair.
 - b. **Seconding Motions:** AP and Committee: You can raise your hand in the webinar to second the motion. Council staff will confirm this by voice over the webinar so it is clear who the maker and seconder of each motion are.
 - c. **Discussion on each Motion:** The AP and Committee will have an opportunity to discuss each motion, followed by an opportunity for the public to comment. Please raise your hand on the webinar if you would like to speak to a motion. The Chair will call on individuals who would like to address the motion. After the AP/Committee have a chance to discuss this motion, the Chair will call on members of the public.
 - d. **Voting:** When the Chair is ready to call the vote, Council staff will do a roll call vote. Staff will provide the vote count, which will be confirmed by the Committee chair. At the discretion of the Chair, motions can also be approved by unanimous consent in lieu of a roll call vote.

MEETING MATERIALS

[All background materials can be accessed at this link.](#)

If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Jonathon Peros (jperos@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 117).

1. Meeting Information
 - a. Meeting Agenda
 - b. Meeting Memo from Committee Chair, Ms. Melanie Griffin
 - c. Council Staff Presentation
2. Draft scoping document for Limited Access leasing
3. Evaluation of Rotational Management report
 - a. Report recommendations with PDT input
4. 2021-2025 Council Research Priorities (Scallop Focus)
 - a. Priorities for 2022-2026 with PDT input
5. Correspondence

BACKGROUND MATERIALS

- a. 2022/2023 Scallop RSA Awards – Press Release
- b. Information on 2022 NGOM Observer Requirements
- c. SBNMS Shipwreck Avoidance Program

Updates

Recent Activity: The Council transmitted the final submission of Framework 34 to the NMFS on March 10, 2022. NMFS is working on the final rule, and the target implementation of Framework 34 continues to be April 1, 2022. The Amendment 21 final rule published on January 12, 2022 and will be effective on March 31, 2022. Council staff will provide updates on other issues that may be of interest.

Anticipated Outcomes: No action is required.

Scoping for Limited Access Leasing

Recent Activity. The Council is conducting scoping for a scallop fishery Limited Access days-at-sea (DAS) and access area leasing program to assess: 1) the need for a leasing program, and 2) what a leasing program should consider. In September of 2022, the Council will decide whether to initiate an amendment to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that may allow the leasing of access area allocations and DAS in the Limited Access component of the fishery. The Council will develop the scoping document through March and is scheduled to approve it at its April 2022 meeting. Scoping meetings would be held in May and June, with the comment period ending in early July.

Anticipated Outcomes: Provide input on the draft scoping document.

Evaluation of Rotational Management

Recent Activity. The Council reviewed the final report at its February 2022 meeting. Council staff will be present the recommendations and share PDT input on possible next steps.

Anticipated Outcomes: Provide recommendations on next steps.

Council Research Priorities (2022-2026)

Recent Activity: Per the Magnuson Stevens Reauthorization Act of 2006, Councils are required to develop five-year research priority plans and submit them to the Secretary of Commerce. The Scallop PDT met on March 1, 2022 to discuss potential ways to update the Council's research priorities for 2022 - 2026, focusing only on scallop related items. Input from this meeting will be considered by the Council's SSC at an upcoming meeting. The Council is expected to update 2022-2026 research priorities at their June 2022 meeting.

Anticipated Outcomes: Recommend updates/modifications to the Council's 5-year Research Priorities (2022-2026)

Other Business

Anticipated Outcomes: Additional items and issues may be taken up under other business. This discussion will include an update on the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary's Shipwreck Avoidance Program and an update on 2022 NGOM observer requirements.

Please review all documents before the meeting. If you have any questions about these enclosures, please contact Jonathon Peros (978-465-0492 ext. 117).