



## New England Fishery Management Council

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

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 29, 2021  
**TO:** Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee  
**FROM:** Melanie Griffin, Scallop Committee Chair  
**SUBJECT:** **Purpose for Scallop AP and Committee meetings on December 2 & 3, 2021**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council will be holding the Scallop Advisory Panel and Committee meetings by webinar on December 2 (AP) and December 3, 2021 (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) Review analyses and impacts, and recommend final preferred alternatives in Framework 34.
- 2) Receive and review the draft report from the Evaluation of Rotational Management project.
- 3) Receive an update on the progress of the Scallop Survey Working Group.
- 4) *Committee only:* Provide clarification on October 27, 2021 motion that recommended 2022 scallop work priorities.
- 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/9136197676274751757>

Committee webinar: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5448562120551399437>

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](mailto:jperos@nefmc.org)) and Sam Asci ([sasci@nefmc.org](mailto: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](mailto:jperos@nefmc.org); 978-465-0492 ext. 117).

### **MEETING MATERIALS**

1. Meeting Information
  - a. Meeting Agenda
  - b. Meeting Memo from Committee Chair, Ms. Melanie Griffin
  - c. Council Staff Presentation
2. 2022 Scallop Work Priorities Discussion Document/Presentation (Committee meeting)
3. Framework 34:
  - a. Decision Document
  - b. Framework 34 Alternatives (updated Nov. 29 with impacts)
  - c. Bycatch memo to the Groundfish PDT
4. Evaluation of Rotational Management
  - a. Presentation
  - b. Draft Report
5. Scallop Survey Working Group
  - a. Presentation
  - b. Background Documents
6. Meeting Summaries
  - a. Scallop AP and Committee meetings, October 26 & 27, 2021
  - b. Recent PDT meeting summaries
7. Correspondence

Links of interest:

- [Scallop Survey Working Group page](#)
- [Evaluation of Rotational Management RFP](#)

## Framework 34

**Recent Activity:** The Scallop PDT has met several times to address Committee tasking and develop projections for 2021 and 2022 (default) specifications. Council staff will present information on the range of alternatives under consideration in Framework 34. The AP and Committee will have the opportunity to select preferred alternatives at this meeting. This is the final opportunity for both groups to weigh in on FW34 development before the [Council takes final action on December 9, 2021](#). Council staff recommends that the AP and Committee work through Framework 34 decisions in the order specified in Anticipated Outcomes (below). This list is intended to help guide discussion and does not preclude either group from developing additional recommendations.

The Council will be notified about the final decision for measures proposed in Amendment 21 by the December 3, 2021 Committee meeting.

### **Anticipated Outcomes: Develop recommendations for preferred alternatives in FW34:**

1. Select the preferred alternative for overfishing limit and acceptable biological catch (Section 4.1).
2. Select preferred alternatives for Northern Gulf of Maine management and total allowable landings in FY 2022 and FY 2023 (Section 4.2).
3. Select the preferred alternative for fishery specifications for FY 2022 and FW 2023 (default), including access area and DAS allocations (Section 4.3).
4. Select the preferred alternative for LAGC IFQ access area trip allocations (Section 4.4).
5. Select the preferred alternative for where RSA compensation fishing can occur (Section 4.5).

## Scallop Survey Working Group

**Recent Activity:** The Scallop Survey Working Group met most recently on November 17, 2021. The group is in the process of addressing four Terms of Reference and will continue work into 2022. Mr. Peter Chase, co-Chair of the SSWG, will present an update to the AP and Committee.

**Anticipated Outcomes:** No action necessary.

## Evaluation of Rotational Management

**Recent Activity.** The Scallop PDT, with the assistance of Dr. Cate O’Keefe of Fishery Applications Consulting, have been assembling information to address the goals and objectives of this project. Dr. Cate O’Keefe will present a draft report at your December meetings. A final report is expected to be delivered to the Council for the February 2022 Council meeting.

### **Anticipated Outcomes:**

1. Provide feedback and consider making recommendations for next steps (if necessary).

## 2022 Scallop Work Priorities Clarification

**Recent Activity.** On October 27, 2021 the Scallop Committee passed a motion with recommendations for the 2022 work priorities. In the motion, the Committee did not clarify if it viewed work on Limited Access leasing as a multi-step one-year effort to determine if future work on the issue is warranted, or feel that the Council should embark on a multi-year effort to develop a Limited Access leasing amendment. This is an important distinction because the multi-step approach will include a public process (scoping or

listening sessions), followed by a decision by the Council to either develop an amendment or stop work on this topic. The difference in approaches will drive what kind of feedback the Council is looking for in the next steps of the process. For example, if the Council selects a one-year process to gather input from stakeholders, one of the central questions would be *do you support the development of a leasing program?* If the Council elects to commit to a multi-year leasing priority, a key question in scoping would be *what should a leasing program consider?* In the multi-year priority, work on an amendment would begin immediately following a scoping process, and stopping work on the amendment would represent a change in priorities and would require a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote by the Council

**Anticipated Outcomes:**

1. Provide clarification about the length of the leasing priority. Either:
  - a. Multi-step effort to gather feedback on whether or not to further develop a Limited Access leasing program. After scoping or listening sessions (step one), the Council would decide to develop an amendment or stop work on this topic (step two).
  - b. Multi-year commitment to work on leasing, beginning with scoping, and moving directly into the development of a leasing amendment following the scoping process. If the Council decides to stop work on the amendment at a later date, it would require a 2/3rds vote (i.e., change of priority).

**Other Business**

**Anticipated Outcomes:** Additional items and issues may be taken up under other business.

Please review all documents before the meeting.

If you have any questions about these enclosures, please contact Jonathon Peros (978-465-0492 ext. 117).