



## New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116

John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 21, 2020  
**TO:** Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee  
**FROM:** Vincent Balzano, Scallop Committee Chair  
**SUBJECT:** **Purpose for Scallop AP and Committee meetings on May 26 & 28, 2020**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council will be holding Scallop AP and Committee meetings by webinar on May 26 and May 28, 2020. Documents for this meeting will be e-mailed to you and posted to the Council's website as they become available.

**Purpose:** The main objectives of the Advisory Panel meeting are to:

- 1) Develop research recommendations for the 2021/2022 Scallop RSA.
- 2) Discuss the impact the COVID-19 pandemic will have on the development of 2021/2022 Scallop Fishery specifications, and other 2020 work priorities.
- 3) Begin discussions around President Trump's Executive Order on Promoting Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth.
- 4) Other Business

**Webinar:** In order to participate in the meeting, 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://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6278612023450284812>

Committee webinar: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4987533584278529548>

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 don't, staff will not be able unmute you.

The public and AP/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:**
  - a. **Making Motions:** There are multiple ways to submit a motion for discussion:

- i. E-mail the 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 Committee Chair (*preferred approach*).
  - ii. When called upon by the Chair, make a motion over the webinar (*be prepared to watch staff type*).
- b. **Seconding Motions:** 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 Committee 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:** A PDF of each document will be posted to [www.nefmc.org](http://www.nefmc.org). 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 – Subject to Change**

- 1. Meeting Information
  - a. Meeting Agenda
  - b. Meeting Memo from Committee Chair, Mr. Vincent Balzano
  - c. Staff presentation on RSA and 2021/2022 Specifications Process
  - d. Remote Participation Guide
- 2. 2021/2022 Scallop RSA Research Priorities
  - a. Summary of Recent RSA Awards
  - b. Scallop PDT research recommendations
- 3. Outlook for 2021/2022 Specifications Process, timing of 2020 scallop surveys
  - a. Draft Guiding Principles for completing work on 2021/2022 Specifications
  - b. Summary of May 8, 2020 Survey Group Call
- 4. Executive Order on Promoting Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth
  - a. Staff Presentation
- 5. Relevant Meeting Summaries:
  - a. May 12, 2020 Scallop PDT meeting summary
  - b. May 19, 2020 RSA Share Day meeting summary
  - c. May 21, 2020 Scallop PDT meeting summary
- 6. Updating Commercial Fisheries Data on the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portals
- 7. Correspondence

## **2021/2022 Scallop RSA Research Recommendations**

**Recent Activity:** The Scallop PDT developed input for the 2021/2022 Scallop RSA research priorities during its meeting on May 21, 2020. [The Scallop RSA Share Day](#) was held on May 19, 2020. The 2020/2021 Scallop RSA awards were announced on March 11, 2020.

**Next Steps:** Council staff will present information on the RSA program, recent awards, and input from the PDT and Scallop RSA Share Day.

**Anticipated Outcomes from this Meeting:**

- Develop recommendations for the 2021/2022 Scallop RSA Research Priorities.

### **Impact of COVID-19: Outlook for 2021/2022 Specifications Process, timing of 2020 scallop surveys**

**Recent Activity:** As the number of confirmed cases of has increased in the United State, federal and state governments have taken steps to promote public safety and reduce the transmission of the virus. Public health policies and restrictions have had impacts on the ability for survey groups to conduct research as planned. The PDT has discussed alternative timing scenarios for the 2021/2022 specifications process at recent meetings. The PDT and survey groups discussed developing a set of ‘guiding principles’ that would serve as guidelines for completing work.

**Next Steps:** Council staff will update the AP and Committee on the status of the 2020 scallop surveys, and options for completing specifications for the 2021/2022 fishing season. As the situation for several survey groups is evolving daily, staff may have more updates by the start of your meeting.

**Anticipated Outcomes:**

- The AP and Committee may wish to provide feedback or suggestions on the idea of ‘guiding principles’ that would serve as guidelines for completing work.

### **Executive Order on Promoting Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth**

**Recent Activity:** President Trump recently signed an Executive Order on Promoting Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth. Section 4 of the Executive Order highlights that Regional Fishery Management Councils are requested to take several steps within 180 days to identify actions that would “reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production with sustainable fisheries...”

**Next Steps:** Staff will introduce the Executive Order at your meeting, and the AP and Committee will have an opportunity to suggest possible actions. The Council will discuss this Executive Order in June and decide how to respond. Given the 180 day window, there will only be one more Council meeting (September) to finalize a response.

**Anticipated Outcomes:**

- Develop an initial list of Council actions aimed at reducing burdens on domestic fishing and to increasing production with sustainable fisheries.

## **Other Business**

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

*AP Only:* Brief review of NROC/MARCO/RODA fishery dependent data project and request for feedback (Dr. Fiona Hogan)

Please review all documents before the meeting.

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