



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: June 8, 2021
TO: Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee
FROM: Vincent Balzano, Scallop Committee Chair
SUBJECT: Purpose for Scallop AP and Committee meetings on June 14 & June 16, 2021

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council will be holding the Scallop AP and Committee meetings by webinar on June 14 (AP) and June 16, 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) Develop recommendations for the 2022/2023 Scallop RSA Research Priorities Receive an update on 2021 scallop work priorities.
- 2) Receive an update on progress toward 2021 scallop work priorities.
- 3) Review the Scallopers Campaign letter to NMFS requesting secretarial action to implement a scallop leasing program.
- 4) 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/3428615220560991756>

Committee webinar: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3662505533044797452>

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:** There are multiple ways to submit a motion for discussion:
 - i. E-mail the motions to Jonathon Peros (jperos@nefmc.org) and Sam Asci (sasci@nefmc.org) on Council staff, and cc the AP or 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:** 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: A PDF of each document will be posted to www.nefmc.org. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Jonathon Peros (jperos@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 117).

MEETING MATERIALS

1. Meeting Information
 - a. Meeting Agenda
 - b. Meeting Memo from Committee Chair, Mr. Vincent Balzano
 - c. Presentations
2. 2022/2023 Scallop RSA Research Priorities
 - a. Scallop PDT Recommendations for the 2022/2023 Scallop RSA Research Priorities
 - b. Summary of Recent Scallop RSA Awards
 - c. [2021/2022 Scallop RSA Awards – Council Press Release](#)
3. 2021 Scallop Work Priorities
 - a. Evaluation of Rotational Management - Project Overview
 - b. [Scallop Survey Working Group TORs](#)
 - c. LAGC IFQ Access Area Trip Counting Discussion Document
4. Petition for rulemaking to implement a leasing program for the LA component
 - a. Scallopers Campaign letter to NMFS requesting secretarial action (1/15/2021)
 - b. NMFS letter to NEFMC re: Scallopers Campaign petition (3/10/2021)
 - c. Scallopers Campaign letter in response to NMFS letter to NEFMC (5/4/2021)
 - d. Draft response from NEFMC to NMFS re: petition (*if available*)
5. PDT Meeting Summaries (May 20, May 27, and June 2, 2021)
6. Correspondence

2022/2023 Scallop RSA Research Recommendations

Recent Activity: The Scallop PDT developed input for the 2022/2023 Scallop RSA research priorities during its meetings on May 20, 2021, and May 27, 2021. The PDT hosted two scallop research share days this year by webinar. [The first meeting was held on May 6, 2021](#) and the [second meeting was held on May 12, 2021](#). The 2021/2022 Scallop RSA awards [were announced in March, 2021](#).

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 2022/2023 Scallop RSA Research Priorities.

2021 Scallop Work Priorities

Recent Activity: The [Scallop Survey Working Group](#) met on April 9, 2021, and the terms of reference for this effort are included in your meeting materials. The Scallop PDT discussed 2021 work priorities at its meetings on May 20, 2021, May 27, 2021, and June 2, 2021. Framework 33 was implemented on May 19, 2021. Council staff sent the preliminary submission of Amendment 21 to NMFS on June 3, 2021. The PDT has identified a work plan for implementing Amendment 21 measures as part of Framework 34 and has developed a plan for addressing the evaluation of rotational management. The PDT has drafted a discussion document on the development of LAGC IFQ Access Area Trip Counting.

Next Steps: Council staff will present progress toward these work items at your upcoming meetings. Framework 34 will be initiated at the June Council meeting.

Anticipated Outcomes from this Meeting:

- No Action is required at this meeting. The AP and Committee may wish to provide feedback on:
 - a. The workplan for Framework 34 and implementing Amendment 21.
 - b. The proposed plan for addressing the evaluation of rotational management.
 - c. The discussion document on the development of LAGC IFQ Access Area Trip Counting.

Petition for Rulemaking: Scallopers Campaign Request to NMFS requesting secretarial action to implement a scallop leasing program

Recent Activity: On January 15, 2021 the Scallopers Campaign requested that NMFS take secretarial action implement a scallop leasing program, arguing that the Council has failed to act after a reasonable period of time and the fishery is in need of conservation and management. NMFS is required to consider this petition and sent a letter to the Council on March 10, 2021 requesting that the Council consider the merits of the Scallopers Campaign petition. The Council is in the process of developing a response to the NMFS letter. If NMFS finds merit in this petition, then NMFS would develop the alternatives, approve, and implement the leasing program outside of the Council process.

Next Steps: Council staff will provide an overview of the petition process and timeline for responding to NMFS on the petition. The Council will discuss the response at its June 2021 meeting. Council staff are in the process of drafting a reply to the NMFS letter and the draft may not be available at the time of your meeting. It will be circulated when it is complete.

Anticipated Outcomes from this Meeting:

- No Action is required at this meeting. The Committee may wish to provide feedback to the Council on the merits of the petition, or other elements of the letter from NMFS.

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).