

2015 SPRING NRCC MEETING AGENDA
Westin Georgetown, 2350 M. St. NW, Washington, DC
All times are approximate

Wednesday, May 27

0900

1. Welcome, introductions, modifications and additions to agenda, announcements
(Bullard, Karp, Moore, Gilbert)

0910-1600

2. Stock Assessment Priority Setting: Scheduling and Specific Assessment Topics
Discussion leader: Karp
 - Stock Assessment Efficiency Initiative, including a presentation on the Alaska Approach and update on Standardization Initiative (Rago and Weinberg) (Fall 2014 Action Item #1)
 - Update on Assessment Prioritization (Methot)
 - i. Update of the document
 - ii. Provide some prototype examples using data from the Northeast
 - Review Assessment Schedule for FY16 and FY17 (Rago and Weinberg)
 - i. Update, as needed, previously established 2016 and 2017 schedules
 - ii. Update on Spring 2016 SARC TORS (Action Item #3 from Fall 2014 meeting)
 - iii. Discuss next year's discard methods review
 - Update on black sea bass assessment
 - i. ASMFC data meeting, MAFMC RFP for stock assessment scientist, timing of assessment, etc.
 - Delivery of ACCSP data for the June bluefish and scup benchmark assessments
 - Incorporation of the MRIP Transition Plan into priority setting for 2016 and 2017
 - Update on fall 2015 operational groundfish assessment
 - i. Where will they be held? What are the TORs? Will there be a preliminary meeting? When will assessment overview panel meet?
 - Update from SAW Working Group (Jim Weinberg)

Working lunch break 1200-1220

1220-1430

3. Continue Assessment Related Discussion
Discussion leader: Karp

Break 1430-1445

1445-1600

4. Continue Assessment Related Discussion
Discussion leader: Karp

1600-1615

5. NEFSC SSC Liaison Discussion
Discussion leader: Karp

1615-1630

6. Update and Discussion of Center's Strategic Plan
Discussion leader: Karp

1630-1645

7. NRCC SAFE Report Working Group Follow up Discussion
Discussion leader: Weinberg

1645-Day 1 Wrap Up; Prep for Day 2 Discussions

1715 Adjourn Day 1

1800(ish): Happy Hour at Bóveda (located at the Westin Georgetown)

Thursday, May 28

0800-0820

8. Update on progress of reconstituting Trawl Survey AP
Discussion to clarify membership, administrative details, and the NEFSC's suggested TORs
Discussion leader: Weinberg

0820-0900

9. Report of the NEFSC Climate Ecosystem, Habitat and Assessment Steering Group
Discussion leader: Karp (presenter – Jon Hare)

0900-0945

10. Discussion of efforts to coordinate with Councils and Commission plans for EBFM/EAFM
Discussion leader: Nies

Break 0945-1000

1000-1045

11. Cod stock structure plan
Discussion leader: Nies
Discuss the 2012 initiative to review the cod stock structure
Develop plan so this issue will move forward

1045-1215

12. Bycatch Monitoring Topics
a. Marine Mammal bycatch – SceMFis (Russ Brown)

- b. Lobster/cod bycatch issue: short progress update
Discussion leader: Nies
- c. Update on potential legislative changes for observer funding coverage and update on Industry-Funded Observer Amendment
Discussion leader: Robins
- d. Discuss plan for future bycatch monitoring in small mesh fisheries
Discussion leader: Stockwell
 - i. Background of request: ACCSP future funding is uncertain and the NRCC could discuss how to address monitoring in the future. The Industry-Funded Amendment may be part of the solution, but this needs to be explored.

Working lunch break 1215-1240

1240-1300

- 13. Update on Catch Limit Specifications Process (Fall 2014 Action Item #7)
Discussion Leader: Pentony

1300-1430

- 14. Priority setting discussion
 - Discuss prioritization and coordination of resources, as needed

Break 1430-1445

1445-1515

- 15. Meeting wrap up
 - Complete any unfinished discussions or unresolved new business
 - Review action items and assignments
 - Identify mid-term call date/time
 - Confirm 2015 Fall (NEFSC host; October 20-21, 2015, Providence, RI) and identify 2016 Spring (NEFMC host) meeting dates
 - Adjourn meeting

Note: hard stop for all participants at 4:00 pm