

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
June 11-13, 2019
DoubleTree by Hilton, Portland, ME

FINAL MOTIONS

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT

Great South Channel Habitat Management Area

1. Mr. Grout moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Great South Channel Habitat Management Area research planning document identify long-term evaluation of the HMA as an overarching research goal/management application.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (15/1/1).

HERRING COMMITTEE REPORT

Framework 6 (2019-2021 Specifications and Overfishing/Overfished Definition).

2. Mr. Kendall moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council select as preferred in Section 4.1, Alternative 2 update overfishing/overfished definitions, described as Option 1 in Draft Framework 6.

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

3. Mr. Kendall moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council select as preferred in Section 4.2.1, Alternative 2a, OFL and ABC consistent with the proposed Amendment 8 ABC control rule.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (15/0/2).

4. Mr. Kendall moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council select as preferred in Section 4.2.3 Alternative 2, set border transfer at 100mt.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (16/0/1).

5. Mr. Kendall moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council include several River Herring/Shad alternatives that were discussed but not included as alternatives in Framework 6 to the considered and rejected section (items 1-5 in Section 5.0).

The motion ***carried*** on a show of hands (16/0/1).

6. Mr. Kendall moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council select as preferred in Section 4.2.2.2, Option 3 for management uncertainty and use a 10-year average (2009-2018) of landing in the New Brunswick weir fishery, or 4,560 mt.

The motion ***carried*** unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

7. Mr. Kendall moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council add an additional alternative for consideration in Section 4.2.2 for a management uncertainty buffer option of 6,200 mt (No Action).

The motion ***carried*** unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

8. Mr. Kendall moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council temporarily prohibit quota carryover under low quotas, for this action only (2020 and 2021).

The motion ***carried*** on a show of hands (14/0/3).

9. Mr. Kendall moved and Mr. Pappalardo seconded:
that the Council submit Framework 6, herring specifications for FY2019-2021 to NMFS, as amended today.

The motion ***carried*** unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Process Review

10. Herring Committee Consensus:
that the Council supports the proposed plan for the review of the MSE process outlined in the PDT memo to the Committee (May 21, 2019).
- 10a. Mr. Kendall moved to amend and Mr. Bellavance seconded:
that the Council supports the overall plan for the review of the MSE process outlined in the Herring PDT memo (May 21, 2019), including any necessary adjustments if timing becomes an issue.

The motion to amend ***carried*** unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

Main motion:

that the Council supports the overall plan for the review of the MSE process outlined in the Herring PDT memo (May 21, 2019), including any necessary adjustments if timing becomes an issue.

The main motion as amended ***carried*** unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

SCALLOP COMMITTEE REPORT

2019 Priorities

11. Mr. Balzano moved and Mr. Reid seconded:
that the Council modify the 2019 scallop work priorities by:
Adding: Utilization of small scallops in the Nantucket Light Ship South-deep area as part of 2020/2021 specifications and;
Removing: Evaluation of rotational management.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (16/1/0).

Amendment 21

12. Mr. Balzano moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council reaffirms the Amendment 11 vision statement for the LACG as: “a fleet made up of relatively small vessels, with possession limits to maintain the historical character of this fleet and provide opportunities to various participants including vessels from smaller coastal communities.”

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

13. Mr. Balzano moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council approves the following objectives for Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Management in Amendment 21:
 1. Support a growing directed scallop fishery in federal waters in the NGOM.
 2. Allow for orderly access to the scallop resource in this area by the LAGC and LA components.
 3. Establish mechanisms to set allowable catch and accurately monitor catch and bycatch from the NGOM.

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

14. Mr. Balzano moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council develop an alternative that would remove the requirement for state licensed scallopers with IFQ permits to use their IFQ when fishing in state waters of the NGOM during the state season.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (13/2/2).

2020/2021 Scallop RSA Research Priorities

15. Mr. Balzano moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council approve Scallop research set-aside priorities for 2020/2021 as recommended by the Scallop Committee on pages 1 and 2 of document #3a (Tab 4). The priority list is summarized in the table below.

#	All priorities of equal importance		
1a	Intensive surveys of access areas	4	Sea Turtles: Response to climate change
1b	Intensive surveys of areas of interest	5	Bycatch: Small scallops & non-target species
1c	Broadscale surveys of GB and MA	6	Scallop Meat Quality Research
2	Variability in survey dredge efficiency	7	Research on scallop biology
3	Impact of offshore wind development	8	GOM survey optimization, data collection

- 15a. Ms. Patterson moved to amend and Mr. Alexander seconded:
that the Council approve Scallop research set-aside priorities for 2020/2021 with surveys being highest priority with all other priorities being equal in importance.

1a	Intensive surveys of access areas	4	Sea Turtles: Response to climate change
1b	Intensive surveys of areas of interest	5	Bycatch: Small scallops & non-target species
1c	Broadscale surveys of GB and MA	6	Scallop Meat Quality Research
2	Variability in survey dredge efficiency	7	Research on scallop biology
3	Impact of offshore wind development	8	GOM survey optimization, data collection

The motion to amend ***carried*** on a show of hands (13/0/4).

The main motion:
that the Council approve Scallop research set-aside priorities for 2020/2021 with surveys being highest priority with all other priorities being equal in importance.

1a	Intensive surveys of access areas	4	Sea Turtles: Response to climate change
1b	Intensive surveys of areas of interest	5	Bycatch: Small scallops & non-target species
1c	Broadscale surveys of GB and MA	6	Scallop Meat Quality Research
2	Variability in survey dredge efficiency	7	Research on scallop biology
3	Impact of offshore wind development	8	GOM survey optimization, data collection

The main motion as amended ***carried*** on a show of hands (16/0/1).

Framework 32

16. Mr. Balzano moved and Mr. Alexander seconded
that the Council initiate Framework Adjustment 32, an action that will set fishery specifications for fishing year 2020 and default measures for 2021, and include alternatives to mitigate impacts on Georges Bank yellowtail flounder.

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

RESEARCH SET-ASIDE PROGRAM REVIEW

16. Mr. Balzano moved on behalf of the Scallop Committee:
the Council has reviewed RSA Program Review recommendations 1 - 6, and supports moving them forward for further consideration.
 1. When it comes to making changes in NEFMC RSA programs, caution should be exercised not to “screw up a good thing.”
 2. Several ideas for improving RSA programs that emerged during this review should be considered by the NEFMC and NMFS.
 3. To clarify the role of RSA, the NEFMC should adopt a mission statement for RSA.
 4. A series of options for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of resource surveys for scallops should be considered.
 5. NMFS, in consultation with the Council, should evaluate and document RSA program administrative capacity to determine where support is sufficient and where it could or should be increased.
 6. The NEFMC should consider preparing an Omnibus FMP for Research Set Aside Programs that would be available for all fisheries under the jurisdiction of the Council.

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (17/0/0).

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

GROUND FISH COMMITTEE REPORT

Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring

1. Mr. Stockwell moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council add to the alternatives a review process to evaluate the efficacy of rates of coverage, to include metrics or indicators of how well the program improved accuracy while maximizing value and minimizing costs.
- 1a. Mr. Reid moved to amend and Mr. Stockwell seconded:
that the Council add to the alternatives a review process to evaluate the efficacy of rates of coverage, to include metrics or indicators of how well the program improved accuracy while maximizing value and minimizing costs. This review will occur once two full fishing years of data is available (section 4.1.1.4).

The motion to amend *carried* on a show of hands (16/1/0).

Main motion:

that the Council add to the alternatives a review process to evaluate the efficacy of rates of coverage, to include metrics or indicators of how well the program improved accuracy

while maximizing value and minimizing costs. This review will occur once two full fishing years of data is available (section 4.1.1.4).

The main motion as amended *carried* on a show of hands (16/1/0).

2. Ms. Mendelson moved and Mr. Grout seconded:
that the Council add to the Fishery Program Administration an alternative that addresses the potential for bias in fisheries dependent data under current coverage rates by increasing the management uncertainty buffers as appropriate for each allocated stock by subcomponent. Buffers should be considered in a range of 6% to 15%, focused on enforceability of management measures and adequacy of catch monitoring, and may differ for sectors and the common pool. Coverage levels may be achieved through any combination of approved tools, including ASM, DSM and EM.

A friendly amendment to the motion to strike the ranges.

Main motion:

That the Council add to Fishery Program Administration an alternative that addresses the potential for bias in fisheries dependent data under current coverage rates by increasing the management uncertainty buffers as appropriate for each allocated stock by subcomponent. Buffers should be focused on enforceability of management measures and adequacy of catch monitoring, and may differ for sectors and the common pool. Coverage levels may be achieved through any combination of approved tools, including ASM, DSM and EM.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (9/7/1).

The Council agreed by consensus:

To include Section 4.1.1.5 - This measure would allow vessels to be issued waivers to exempt them from industry funded monitoring requirements if coverage was unavailable due to insufficient funding for NMFS shoreside costs for specified coverage level.

3. Ms. Etrie moved and Mr. Reid seconded:
To task the PDT to edit the draft alternatives to refer to proposed coverage rates as targets.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (15/1/0).

Dockside Monitoring

4. Mr. Stockwell moved and Ms. Griffin seconded:
to include the sub-Options developed in Section 4.2.1.1.2 (Option 2 Dockside Monitoring (DSM) Program) which address issues identified with the previous DSM Program and in the PDT's dockside monitoring discussion document.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (13/2/1).

At-Sea Monitoring

5. Mr. Stockwell moved and Mr. Reid seconded:

to add a sub-Option to section 4.2.2.1.2 for coverage levels based on trips of the vessel (e.g., if the coverage level is 25% of trips taken by the vessel, then the vessel takes four trips, it would get covered once). These would be vessel specific coverage rates.

- 5a. Dr. McKenzie moved to amend and Mr. Grout seconded:
to add a sub-Option to section 4.2.2.1.2 for coverage levels based on time fished by the vessel (e.g., if the coverage level is 25% of trips taken by the vessel, then the vessel takes four trips, it would get covered once). These would be vessel specific coverage rates.

The motion to amend carried on a show of hands (10/5/1).

Main Motion:

to add a sub-Option to section 4.2.2.1.2 for coverage levels based on time fished by the vessel (e.g., if the coverage level is 25% of trips taken by the vessel, then the vessel takes four trips, it would get covered once). These would be vessel specific coverage rates.

The main motion as amended *carried* on a show of hands (12/4/0).

6. Dr. McKenzie moved to reconsider the previous motion with no objection.
- 6a. Dr. McKenzie moved to amend and Mr. Reid seconded:
to add a sub-Option to section 4.2.2.1.2 for coverage levels based on trips or time fished by the vessel (days absent) (e.g. if the coverage level is 25% of trips taken by the vessel, then the vessel takes four trips, it would get covered once). These would be vessel specific coverage rates.

The motion *failed* on a show of hands (7/9/0).

- 6b. Mr. Grout moved to amend and Mr. Reid seconded:
to add a sub-Option to section 4.2.2.1.2 for coverage levels based on trips by the vessel (e.g., if the coverage level is 25% of trips taken by the vessel, then the vessel takes four trips, it would get covered once). These would be vessel specific coverage rates.

The motion *failed* on a show of hands (7/8/0).

- 6c. Main reconsidered motion:
to add a sub-Option to section 4.2.2.1.2 for coverage levels based on trips and time fished by the vessel (e.g., if the coverage level is 25% of trips taken by the vessel, then the vessel takes four trips, it would get covered once). These would be vessel specific coverage rates.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Etrie, Grout, McKenzie and Reid

No: Aarrestad, Balzano, Bellavance , Godfroy, Kendall, Pappalardo, Heil, Griffin, Sissenwine, Stockwell and Olszewski

Abstain: Ms. Mendelson

The motion *failed* on a roll call vote (4/11/1).

Sector Monitoring

7. Mr. Stockwell moved on behalf of the Committee:
to include in Section 4.2.2.2 (Sector Monitoring Tools)
An option that would use Electronic Monitoring as a replacement for human at-sea monitoring when selected for monitoring.

The motion ***carried*** on a show of hands (13/3/0).

8. Mr. Stockwell moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council add an option to (a) set a standard (i.e., observer bias) to measure the effectiveness of at-sea monitoring at the sector-level, and (b) if the sector is not meeting the set standard, then provide the ability in the monitoring plans to correct the problem.

The motion ***failed*** on a show of hands (1/14/1).

9. Ms. Etrie moved and Ms. Mendelson seconded:
to add to the list of framework items new sector monitoring tools that meet the Council's selected standard.

The motion ***carried*** on a show of hands (13/1/2).

10. Mr. Stockwell moved on behalf of the Committee:
that if the Council agrees to exempt vessels based on catch composition that those exemptions be reviewed every five years.

- 10a. Mr. Reid moved to amend and Mr. Kendall seconded:
that if the Council agrees to exemptions based on catch composition that those exemptions be reviewed after two years of fishing data is available and every three years after that.

The motion to amend ***carried*** on a show of hands (10/5/1).

The main motion as amended ***carried*** on a show of hands (14/2/0).

11. Ms. Etrie moved and Mr. Stockwell seconded:
to task the PDT to continue work on Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) peer reviewed analyses 3 & 4 to help further refine the magnitude of problem as recommended by SSC. This work should be reported back in time for consideration of preferred alternatives in September.

- 11a. Mr. Stockwell moved to amend and Ms. Mendelson seconded:
to task the PDT to continue work on Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) peer reviewed analyses 3 & 4 to help further refine the magnitude of problem as recommended by SSC.

The motion to amend *carried* on a show of hands (12/3/1).

The main motion as amended *carried* on a show of hands (13/1/1).

12. Mr. Reid moved and Dr. McKenzie seconded:
to develop an alternative to task the Plan Development Team to analyze different stratification approaches on ways to determine coverage selection of "trips" under 4.2.2.1.2 (Option 2: Fixed Total At-Sea Monitoring Coverage Level Based on a Percentage of Trips) including but not limited to fleet-level trips, sector-level trips, and vessel-level trips.

The motion was withdrawn by its maker.

13. Mr. Reid moved and Dr. McKenzie seconded:
that the Council write a letter to NEFSC to request observer deployment data at the vessel level for Groundfish trips.

The Council agreed by consensus.

14. Mr. Stockwell moved and Mr. Bellavance seconded:
to approve the range of alternatives in Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring, as modified today.

The motion *carried* on a show of hands (14/1/0).

Framework Adjustment 59/Specifications

15. Mr. Stockwell moved and Mr. Pappalardo seconded:
to initiate Framework Adjustment 59/Specifications to include:
2020 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada stocks of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder, 2020-2022 specifications for fifteen groundfish stocks, and address commercial/recreational allocation issues if raised by new Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) data.

- 15a. Ms. Heil moved to amend and Ms. Etrie seconded:
To add to the list of items: to remove the allocation to the CAI Haddock SAP.
To initiate Framework Adjustment 59/Specifications to include:
2020 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada stocks of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder, 2020-2022 specifications for fifteen groundfish stocks, and address commercial/recreational allocation issues if raised by new Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) data.

The motion to amend *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (15/0/0).

The main motion as amended *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (15/0/0).

Thursday, June 13, 2019

RECREATIONAL ISSUES

1. Mr. Stockwell moved and Mr. Bellavance seconded:
to allocate at least one position on the Atlantic Herring and Habitat Advisory Panels to a representative of the recreational fishing industry. This change will be incorporated into the Operations Handbook.

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (15/0/0).

MONKFISH COMMITTEE REPORT

2. Ms. Etrie moved and Mr. Balzano seconded:
that the Council initiate a framework adjustment to set monkfish specifications for FYs 2020, 2021, and 2022, and associated management alternatives.

The Council agreed by consensus.

COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC VESSEL TRIP REPORTS (eVTR)

3. Tabled motion from the April Council meeting:
that the Council initiate a framework action to develop a commercial eVTR reporting requirement jointly with the MAFMC for Spiny dogfish and Monkfish.
- 3a. Ms. Etrie moved to amend and Ms. Heil seconded:
that the Council engage in a joint omnibus eVTR action with the MAFMC for Spiny Dogfish and Monkfish FMPs. And to expand the framework action to include all NEFMC fisheries including the commercial and for-hire fleets.

The motion to amend *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (16/0/0).

The main motion as amended *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (16/0/0).

SKATE COMMITTEE REPORT

4. Dr. McKenzie moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council include as an objective that any management measure adopted in this limited access action does not have a direct impact on any other fisheries that have interactions with Skates.
- 4a. Dr. Sissenwine moved to amend and Dr. McKenzie seconded:
that the Council include as an objective that any management measure adopted in this limited access action that minimizes the impact on any other fisheries that has interactions with Skates.

The motion to amend *carried* on a show of hands (12/3/0).

The main motion as amended *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (15/0/0).

5. Dr. McKenzie moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council have as an objective to identify the various fishery components that use the Skate resources and to preserve, to the extent possible, through limited access ongoing participation in the fishery consistent with how past utilization has occurred.

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (15/0/0).

6. Dr. McKenzie moved and Ms. Etrie seconded:
that the Council initiate a framework adjustment to set Skate specifications for FYs 2020 & 2021, including possession limits.

The motion *carried* unanimously on a show of hands (15/0/0).