

Final Motions
New England Fishery Management Council Meeting
June 24-26, 2025
Hilton Hotel, Freeport, ME
Hybrid meeting with remote participants

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Executive Order 14276 and Management Flexibility Action Report

1. Mr. Salerno moved and Ms. Ware seconded:
that the Council initiate the Management Flexibility Omnibus Amendment.

The motion *carried* by unanimous consent.

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Scallop Committee Report

1. Ms. Griffin moved and Mr. Pappalardo seconded:
that the Council initiate Framework Adjustment 40, an action that will set fishery specifications for fishing year 2026 and default measures for 2027.

The motion *carried* by unanimous consent.

2. Ms. Griffin moved on behalf of the Scallop Committee:
that the Council send a letter to NOAA OLE requesting data on enforcement from the 2025 NGOM fishing season in comparison to previous seasons, e.g. number of boardings, location of boardings (inside/outside of demarcation line), whether fishing activity was occurring, trends in violations, and noteworthy observations.

- 2a. Mr. Salerno moved to amend and Ms. Griffin seconded:
that the Scallop PDT work with NOAA OLE to request data on enforcement from the 2025 NGOM fishing season in comparison to previous seasons, e.g. number of boardings, location of boardings (inside/outside of demarcation line), whether fishing activity was occurring, trends in types of violations, and noteworthy observations.

The motion to amend *carried* by unanimous consent.

- 2b. The main motion as amended:
that the Scallop PDT work with NOAA OLE to request data on enforcement from the 2025 NGOM fishing season in comparison to previous seasons, e.g. number of boardings, location of boardings (inside/outside of demarcation line), whether fishing activity was occurring, trends in types of violations, and noteworthy observations.

The main motion as amended *carried* by unanimous consent.

Spiny Dogfish Committee Report

3. Mr. Platz moved and Mr. Lucey seconded:
to initiate a framework adjustment to the Spiny Dogfish Fishery Management Plan to include:
 1. Modifications to accountability measures, and
 2. Specifications for fishing years 2026 and 2027

The motion *carried* by unanimous consent.

4. Mr. Platz moved and Mr. Lucey seconded:
that Alternative Set 5 (consider projections when implementing paybacks) and Alternative Set 6 (automatically triggered landings closure buffers) in the June 2025 draft framework document be moved to “considered but rejected”.

The motion *carried* by unanimous consent.

5. Mr. Platz moved and Mr. Lucey seconded:
to endorse further perfection of the framework document based on the alternative range in the June 2025 draft framework document, as amended today but without any preliminarily preferred alternatives, with final action anticipated later in 2025, after meetings of the Advisory Panel, the MAFMC’s SSC (for ABCs), Monitoring Committee, and Joint Spiny Dogfish Committee.

The motion *carried* by unanimous consent.

Groundfish Committee Report

Framework Adjustment 72

6. Mr. Bellavance moved on behalf of the Groundfish Committee
to initiate Framework Adjustment 72 to include fishing year (FY) 2026-2028 specifications and management measures, as:
 - Revise status determination criteria, as appropriate,
 - Set FY2026 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada management units of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod and Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder stock,
 - Set FY2026-FY2027 specifications for GB cod and GB haddock,
 - Set FY2026-FY2028 specifications for GB yellowtail flounder, Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine (CC/GOM) yellowtail flounder, Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, white hake, Acadian redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish,
 - Review sub-component analysis for stocks with revised specifications, Atlantic halibut, and others as time permits, and

- Establish Regional Administrator authority to adjust recreational measures for Eastern Gulf of Maine (EGOM) cod and GB cod for FY2026-FY2027 only

6a. Mr. Salerno moved to amend and Ms. Odell seconded:
to initiate Framework Adjustment 72 to include fishing year (FY) 2026-2028 specifications and management measures, as:

- Revise status determination criteria, as appropriate,
- Set FY2026 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada management units of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod and Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder stock,
- Set FY2026-FY2027 specifications for GB cod and GB haddock,
- Set FY2026-FY2028 specifications for GB yellowtail flounder, Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine (CC/GOM) yellowtail flounder, Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, white hake, Acadian redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish,
- Review sub-component analysis for stocks with revised specifications, Atlantic halibut, and others as time permits, and
- Establish Regional Administrator authority to adjust recreational measures for haddock and cod

The motion to amend *carried* by unanimous consent.

6b. The main motion as amended:
to initiate Framework Adjustment 72 to include fishing year (FY) 2026-2028 specifications and management measures, as:

- Revise status determination criteria, as appropriate,
- Set FY2026 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada management units of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod and Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder stock,
- Set FY2026-FY2027 specifications for GB cod and GB haddock,
- Set FY2026-FY2028 specifications for GB yellowtail flounder, Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine (CC/GOM) yellowtail flounder, Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, white hake, Acadian redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish,
- Review sub-component analysis for stocks with revised specifications, Atlantic halibut, and others as time permits, and
- Establish Regional Administrator authority to adjust recreational measures for haddock and cod

The main motion as amended *carried* by unanimous consent.

Amendment 25

7. Ms. Ware moved and Mr. Salerno seconded:

to substitute the following 2025 Priorities:

- Review redfish sector exemption program
- Complete development of metrics to be used in the review process that will evaluate the monitoring system, per Amendment 23
- Amendment 23 monitoring system review
- In consultation with the SSC, continue work to revise ABC control rules for Northeast Multispecies stocks

With the following new 2025 Priority:

- Re-submit Amendment 25 as advised by NOAA's May 19th letter to the Council, focusing only on reformatting the cod-specific management measures as previously submitted in Amendment 25 (Sept. 2024 Council final action) and Framework 69 (Dec. 2024 Council final action)
- This substitution would pause work on above identified groundfish priorities until Amendment 25 is completed. Contract work related to IRA 1 – Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rules for Northeast Multispecies will continue in 2025. Resuming work on other groundfish priorities would be considered during the Council's annual priority setting process in December 2025.

Yes: Ms. Brawn, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Lucey, Mr. Salerno, Ms. Ware, Mr. Olszewski, Ms. Griffin, Ms. Zobel, Mr. Tracy, Mr. Whelan, Mr. Pierdinock, Mr. Pentony, Mr. Aarrestad, Mr. Whelan, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Platz

No:

Abstain: Ms. Odell

The motion *carried* on a roll call vote (16/0/1).

8. Ms. Griffin moved and Mr. Pappalardo seconded:

to reinitiate A25 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan as advised by NOAA's May 19th letter to the Council, focusing only on reformatting the cod-specific management measures as previously submitted in Amendment 25 (Sept. 2024 Council final action) and Framework 69 (Dec. 2024 Council final action).

The motion *carried* with one abstention, Ms. Odell.

Thursday, June 26, 2025

Scientific and Statistical Committee Social Sciences Subcommittee Report

1. Mr. Salerno moved and Ms. Odell seconded:

that the Council approve the objectives of the Scientific and Statistical Committee Social Sciences Subcommittee (SSC SSS) as revised:

1. Create more opportunities for integrating social sciences tools to inform management.

2. Better understand the Council's socioeconomic objectives to help address management needs.
3. Increase coordination between the SSS and Social Sciences Branch staff in various Council Plan Development Teams.
4. Better integrate existing tools and data from SSB and other sources into fisheries management advice and decision-making processes.
5. Improve effectiveness and optimize timing of social science data inputs and recommendations.

The motion *carried* by unanimous consent.