

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
December 1-3, 2020
Via Webinar

FINAL MOTIONS

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

ECOSYSTEM-BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT

2021 PRIORITIES

EBFM						
8	Conduct information and educational workshops on EBFM, focusing on potential application to Georges Bank eFEP	✓			62	
8	Conduct initial stakeholder-engaged management strategy evaluation workshops and work with the NEFSC (or others) to develop operating models to evaluate management procedures and strategies for potential application to a Georges Bank Ecosystem Production Unit.	✓			72	
1	Support EBFM activities (WGNARS, SOE, etc.)	✓	✓		67	
8	Time Balance					0

1. Mr. Pappalardo moved and Dr. McKenzie seconded:
that the Council advance the EBFM priorities for 2021.
- 1a. Mr. Reid moved to amend and Mr. Alexander seconded:
to modify the first priority to read “conduct information educational workshops on EBFM and elicit stakeholder comments focusing on potential application to a Georges Bank Ecosystem Production Unit” and not approve the second bullet.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Aarrestad, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Etrie, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Pentony, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine and Tracy.

No:

Abstain:

The motion to amend ***carried*** unanimously on a roll call vote (17/0/0).

The main motion as amended:

to modify the first priority to read “conduct information educational workshops on EBFM and elicit stakeholder comments focusing on potential application to a Georges Bank Ecosystem Production Unit” and not approve the second bullet.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Aarrestad, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Pentony, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine and Tracy.

No: Ware
Abstain: Etrie

The motion *carried* on a roll call vote (15/1/1).

HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT

2. Mr. Reid moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council adopt the aquaculture policy as revised on November 17, 2020.

The Council agreed by consensus.

3. Mr. Reid moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council adopt the submarine cable policy as revised on November 17, 2020.

The Council agreed by consensus.

4. Mr. Reid moved and Mr. Alexander seconded:
that the Council send a letter to Manna Fish Farms, Inc. conveying fisheries-related considerations related to the siting of their pre-application phase project southeast of Shinnecock Inlet, NY.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Aarrestad, Alexander, Bellavance, Etrie, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine, Tracy, Balzano

No:

Abstain: Pentony

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

5. Mr. Reid moved and Mr. Bellavance seconded:
that the Council respond to NOAA Fisheries' request for information on Aquaculture Opportunity Areas, focusing on questions 9 and 10 on page 67521 of the Federal Register notice.

The Council agreed by consensus with one abstention.

Tuesday, December 2, 2020

SMALL-MESH MULTISPECIES (WHITING) COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Mr. Bellavance moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council consider southern whiting possession limit changes in the specifications package based on mesh size.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Aarrestad, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Etrie, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine and Tracy

No:

Abstain: Pentony

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

2. Mr. Bellavance moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council include as a measure changing the northern red hake TAL trigger from 37.9% to 90%.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Aarrestad, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Etrie, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Pentony, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine and Tracy

No:

Abstain:

The motion *carried* unanimously on a roll call vote (17/0/0).

3. Mr. Bellavance moved on behalf of the Committee:
that based on the PDT recommendation in the SAFE Report, the Council should advise the Regional Administrator to not make the automatic adjustment to the southern red hake TAL trigger because of 2019 catch overages. This would leave the 40.4% TAL trigger in place.

The motion was withdrawn by its maker.

4. Mr. Bellavance moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council ask the PDT to analyze the factors why the northern whiting fishery is not achieving OY and recommend measures that could allow greater resource utilization.

The motion was withdrawn by its maker.

GROUND FISH COMMITTEE REPORT

Framework Adjustment 61 / Specifications and Management Measures

5. Mr. Alexander moved on behalf of the Committee:
that under Action 1 (4.1 - Status Determination Criteria), the Council selects as preferred 4.1.2 Alternative 2 – Updated Status Determination Criteria.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Gates, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Pentony, Godfroy, Tracy, Sissenwine, Griffin and Reid

No:

Abstain: Etrie

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

6. Mr. Alexander moved on behalf of the Committee:
that under Action 2 (4.2 – Formal Rebuilding Program), the Council selects as preferred 4.2.2 Alternative 2 - Revised Rebuilding Strategy for White Hake, Option B (T_{target} of 10 years, rebuilding by 2031, at F_{rebuild} of 70% $F_{\text{MSY}} = 0.117$, which results in a 87.4% probability of achieving B_{MSY}).

Roll call vote:

Yes: Gates, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Pentony, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine and Tracy

No:

Abstain: Etrie

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

7. Mr. Alexander moved on behalf of the Committee:
that under Action 3 (4.3 - Specifications), the Council selects as preferred 4.3.2 Alternative 2 – Revised Specifications with the inclusion of Option 2 for Southern windowpane flounder for the other sub-component (i.e., maintain at 46%) as outlined in the PDT memo on the sub-component review for FW61 (dated Nov 23, 2020, pp.4).

Roll call vote:

Yes: Gates, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Pentony, Griffin, Sissenwine and Tracy

No: Reid

Abstain: Etrie

The motion *carried* on a roll call vote (15/1/1).

8. Ms. Etrie moved and Mr. Salerno seconded:
to clarify that it's the Councils intent that the redfish exemption focuses on development of a universal exemption solely for redfish.

The Council agreed by consensus with one abstention.

9. Mr. Salerno moved and Ms. Etrie seconded:
that the Council write a letter to the MAFMC expressing concern over recent catches of southern windowpane flounder in the squid fishery and the potential impacts this catch may have on future triggers of AMs that would impact the groundfish, scallop and other large mesh fisheries (e.g. fluke) in light of recent reductions in the southern windowpane flounder ACL.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Gates, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Etrie, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Griffin, Sissenwine and Tracy

No: Reid

Abstain: Pentony

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

10. Mr. Alexander moved on behalf of the Committee:
that for groundfish stocks where the assessment has identified catch at age information as an important source of uncertainty (e.g. white hake and redbfish), the Council requests the Science Center prioritize the processing of age samples prior to the next update/assessment.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Gates, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Etrie, Godfroy, Patterson, Salerno, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine and Tracy

No:

Abstain: Pentony

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

Thursday, December 3, 2020

SPINY DOGFISH

1. Mr. Bellavance moved and Mr. Balzano seconded:
that the council adopt the following for the 2021 and 2022 fishing years' spiny dogfish specifications from Table 1 in the MAFMC Spiny Dogfish Monitoring Committee summary memo:

Table 1. Spiny Dogfish Specifications

Specifications	Basis for Original 2019-2021 Specifications	2019 (pounds)	2019 (mt)	2020 (pounds)	2020 (mt)	2021 Original (pounds)	2021 Original (mt)	2021 Revised/ 2022 (pounds)	2021 Revised/ 2022 (mt)	Basis for Revised 2021 (and 2022) Specifications
OFL (from SSC)	Projected Catch at Fmsy	47,507,413	21,549	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
ABC (from SSC)	Council Risk Policy	28,470,497	12,914	31,142,499	14,126	35,368,761	16,043	38,576,487	17,498	SSC, Revised Council Risk Policy
Canadian Landings	= 2017 estimate	108,027	49	108,027	49	108,027	49	99,208	45	= 2018 estimate
Domestic ABC	= ABC – Canadian Landings	28,362,470	12,865	31,034,473	14,077	35,260,734	15,994	38,477,279	17,453	= ABC – Canadian Landings
ACL	= Domestic ABC	28,362,470	12,865	31,034,473	14,077	35,260,734	15,994	38,477,279	17,453	= Domestic ABC
Mgmt Uncert Buffer	Ave pct overage since 2011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	= Ave pct overage since 2011
ACT	= ACL - mgmt uncert buffer	28,362,470	12,865	31,034,473	14,077	35,260,734	15,994	38,477,279	17,453	= ACL - mgmt uncert buffer
U.S. Discards	= 3 year average 2015-16-17	7,661,064	3,475	7,661,064	3,475	7,661,064	3,475	8,800,854	3,992	= 3 year average 2016-17-18
TAL	ACT – Discards	20,701,406	9,390	23,373,409	10,602	27,599,671	12,519	29,676,425	13,461	ACT – Discards
U.S. Rec Landings	= 2017 estimate	178,574	81	178,574	81	178,574	81	116,845	53	= 2019 estimate
Comm Quota	TAL – Rec Landings	20,522,832	9,309	23,194,835	10,521	27,421,096	12,438	29,559,580	13,408	TAL – Rec Landings

The 2021/2022 Specifications recommended by the SDMC

Roll call vote:

Yes: Gates, Alexander, Balzano, Bellavance, Etrie, Godfroy, Patterson, Ware, McKenzie, Olszewski, Pappalardo, Pentony, Griffin, Reid, Sissenwine, and Salerno

No:

Abstain: Tracy

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

2. Dr. McKenzie moved and Mr. Olszewski seconded:
that the Council approves:
 1. The following edit to the problem statement of Amendment 5 the Northeast Skate Complex Fishery Management Plan: replace “The incidental limit has been triggered two times in the last ten years...” with “An incidental limit has been triggered five times since first implemented in July 2010...”.
 2. The Supplemental Scoping Document for Amendment 5 to the Northeast Skate Complex Fishery Management Plan.

The Council agreed by consensus.