



New England Fishery Management Council

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PRESS CONTACT: Janice Plante
(607) 592-4817, jplante@nefmc.org

New England Council Elects Dr. John Quinn as Chair, Eric Reid as Vice Chair; Bids Fond Farewell to Two Long-Time Members

At the start of its September 23-26, 2019 meeting in Gloucester, MA, the New England Fishery Management Council unanimously elected Dr. John Quinn of Massachusetts to serve a fourth consecutive term as Council chairman. The Council also elected Eric Reid of Rhode Island to serve as Council vice chair.

Dr. Quinn is Assistant Dean of Public Interest Law and External Relations at the University of Massachusetts (UMass) School of Law. He is a former member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, where he spent 18 years serving on numerous important committees. He also represented many fishing interests while practicing law in private practice for over two decades in New Bedford before joining UMass. He is serving his third term on the Council.

"I appreciate everyone's trust in my leading this Council for the next year," said Dr. Quinn.

Eric Reid is serving his second term on the Council. He has been involved with commercial and recreational fisheries for over 45 years. He currently works for Seafreeze Shoreside Inc., a large, full-service seafood processing facility in Galilee, Rhode Island. He previously owned and operated his own business, Deep Sea Fish of Rhode Island, for 11 years before joining Seafreeze in 2013, and he worked for numerous other processing companies before that. In his earlier years, he spent time on for-hire vessels and as a commercial fisherman. He replaces Terry Stockwell of Maine, who served as Council vice chair for the past four years and was chairman prior to Dr. Quinn's tenure.

Executive Committee

The Council's Executive Committee is made up of the Council chair, vice chair, and three elected members. This year, the Council elected **Elizabeth "Libby" Etrie** of Massachusetts, **Terry Alexander of Maine**, and **Dr. Matt McKenzie** of Connecticut to fill out the slate. The committee oversees the Council budget, appoints advisory panel members, addresses administrative matters, and provides Council leadership and direction on numerous policy matters. The committee works closely with the Council's executive director and meets prior to each Council meeting.



Council Chairman Dr. John Quinn. –NEFMC photo



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Three members of the New England Council were reappointed this summer to serve an additional term. Appointees are allowed to serve three consecutive three-year terms before being required to step down. The reappointed members are: **Mark Godfroy** of New Hampshire, 2nd term; **Dr. Mike Sissenwine** of Massachusetts, 3rd term, and **Rick Bellavance** of Rhode Island, 2nd term.

Meet Our
Council Members
and Read Their Bios
[HERE](#)

Council Bids Fond Farewell and Pays Tribute to Dr. David Pierce and Doug Grout

The Council also paid tribute to two long-serving members – Dr. David Pierce, director of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, and Doug Grout, chief of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department’s Marine Division. Both are retiring from their state positions and, as such, were participating in their last New England Fishery Management Council meeting in an official capacity.

Dr. Pierce has been involved in Council activities for over 40 years, almost from the Council’s inception. He brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table, and his focused attention on herring and hands-on involvement in the management of all fisheries greatly benefitted the Council during many challenging discussions. Dr. Pierce witnessed the evolution of the groundfish and scallop fisheries as they transitioned from open access to closed access. To many, he will be long remembered for championing fair and measured management of the spiny dogfish fishery.

Chairman Quinn, who pointed out Dr. Pierce’s affinity for making very long motions, said, “Through your balanced reasoning and careful study, you often made us think deeply about hard issues. We want to express our thanks for the countless contributions you have made to our work over your storied career.”

Doug Grout began sitting at the Council table as New Hampshire’s marine fisheries official over a decade ago. He also has made numerous contribution to the advancement of the Council’s management actions.

“We appreciated your service in all facets of our work,” said Chairman Quinn, “but your leadership on habitat issues is where you truly left your mark on this Council. Once you took over as chair of the Habitat Committee, you navigated the Council through new terrain as offshore energy issues became more prominent in our region. We thank you for this and for the many other times we leaned on you for insight and guidance.”



Doug Grout, left, with Dr. David Pierce. – NEMFC photo