

**NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Groundfish Oversight Committee**

**I. STATUS**

- A. Meetings: The Groundfish Oversight Committee met on August 14 and September 17, 2013. The Committee met on September 5, 2013 in a joint meeting with the Habitat Oversight Committee (see Habitat tab for summaries). The Groundfish Advisory Panel met on September 16, 2013. Meeting summaries for the September 16 and 17 meetings will be distributed at a future date. The Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT) held conference calls on June 17, 2013, July 10, 2013, and September 6, 2013. The PDT also met in person on July 30, 2013 and August 26, 2013.
- B. Amendment 18 - Accumulation Limits/Fleet Diversity: The PDT worked on several analytic tasks assigned by the Committee for this amendment and reported on this work at the August 14 and September 17 meetings. With recommendations from the Groundfish Advisory Panel and the PDT analysis in hand, the Committee made recommendations for the Council on whether and how to include potential measures in A18. The Council will consider these potential measures.
- C. Framework Adjustment 51: At the June 2013 Council meeting, the Council initiated FW51. Over the summer, the PDT has been working on providing advice to the Committee on which measures to include in FW51. Items with regulatory requirements include: 1) revise the GOM cod rebuilding plan, 2) revise the American plaice rebuilding plan, 3) specifications for white hake, and 4) US/CA TACs. Additional measures/issues that the OSC is considering include: haddock spillover, small-mesh fishery AMs for Georges Bank yellowtail flounder, RA authority for US/CA in-season quota adjustments, full retention, carryover, and changes to halibut and wolffish AMs. A summary of PDT work to develop these measures is contained in a discussion document. In addition, the Whiting AP met jointly with the MAFMC Squid AP to develop recommendations for AMs. The Council will decide which measures to include in Framework 51.
- D. Closed Area Technical Team (CATT)/Omnibus EFH Amendment 2: See Habitat Status Report.
- E. Transboundary Management Guidance Committee (TMGC): The TMGC met in Halifax, Nova Scotia on September 10-11, 2013. The Council will receive a report on the Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee (TRAC) assessments of EGB cod, EGB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder. U.S. TMGC members will report the recommended quotas for FY 2014 that the Council will consider approving.
- F. Electronic Monitoring Working Group: The Council passed a motion at the April 2013 Council Meeting to convene an Electronic Monitoring Working Group (EMWG). The Working Group held conference calls on August 23, 2013 and September 13, 2013. The EMWG will provide an update on progress under Reports.

## **II. COUNCIL ACTION**

- A. Consider Groundfish Committee recommendations on measures to include in Amendment 18.
- B. Consider Groundfish Committee recommendations on measures to include in Framework 51.

## **III. INFORMATION**

- 1. GAP meeting summary, June 10, 2013
- 2. GF Committee meeting summary, June 12, 2013
- 3. PDT memo to the GF Committee re Amendment 18, August 8, 2013
- 4. GF Committee meeting summary, August 14, 2013
- 5. PDT memo to GF Committee re Amendment 18, September 10, 2013
- 6. PDT memo to GF Committee re FW51, September 12, 2013
- 7. Joint NEFMC Whiting/MAFMC Squid AP report, September 9, 2013
- 8. Electronic Monitoring Working Group (EMWG) memo to Mr. Stockwell dated September 13, 2013
- 9. TRAC status reports
  - a. Eastern Georges Bank Cod, June 2013
  - b. Eastern Georges Bank Haddock, June 2013
  - c. Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder, June 2013
- 10. Groundfish Catch Reports
- 11. Correspondence