

New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950
Tel (978) 465-0492 | Fax (978) 465-3116

REVISED Council Meeting Agenda
April 7-9, 2009
Hilton Hotel, 20 Coogan Boulevard, Mystic, CT 06355
Tel 860/572-0731 | Fax 860/572-0328

PLEASE NOTE: An additional item has been added to the Herring Committee Report and is underlined.

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

- 9:30 a.m. Introductions and Announcements** (Council Chairman John Pappalardo)
- 9:35 Reports on Recent Activities**
Council Chairman, Executive Director, NMFS Regional Administrator, NOAA General Counsel, Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, NMFS Enforcement/VMS and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
- 11:45 Review of Experimental Fishery Permit (EFP) Applications** (Council staff)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:00 Groundfish – Mixed Stock Exception Discussion** (Rip Cunningham)
Review of and possible action on the NMFS analyses of the “mixed stock exception”, as provided for in the National Standard 1 Guidelines, and its applicability to Framework Adjustment 42 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP)
- 2:30 Interspecies Committee Report** (John Pappalardo)
Review of committee discussions about integrating fishery management plans, options for managing the yellowtail flounder incidental catch in the scallop fishery, a process for changing specifications in multiple fisheries, and measures to prevent increased effort in non-scallop fisheries (e.g. summer flounder, squid, groundfish and monkfish) by scallop vessels that could lease their scallop allocations to other vessels under provisions being considered in Amendment 15 to the Sea Scallop FMP
- 3:30 Scientific and Statistical Committee Report** (Dr. Steve Cadrin)
Review of committee comments on proposed methods for analyzing the social and economic impacts of Scallop Amendment 15, proposed methods for determining monkfish acceptable biological catch and annual catch limits, and the Habitat Plan Development Team’s analyses of gear effects, vulnerability assessment and adverse impacts evaluations

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

- 8:30 a.m. Skate Committee Report** (Terry Stockwell)
Approval of final measures for inclusion in Amendment 3 to the Northeast Skate Complex Fishery Management Plan; the action, the last before the Council submits the amendment to the National Marine Fisheries Service, includes skate annual catch limits, proposed updates to biological reference points, and management measures to prevent overfishing and rebuild thorny skate; the Council also will approve the draft regulatory text associated with the amendment and consider setting a control date for the skate bait fishery
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:30 Monkfish Committee Report** (Terry Stockwell)
Update on the development of Amendment 5 to the Monkfish FMP, including a summary of scoping comments as well as committee actions concerning the development of annual catch limits, accountability measures and other management reference points
- 2:30 Herring Committee Report** (Frank Blount)
Update/review of progress on Amendment 4 to the Herring FMP; discussions will address the development of annual catch limits and accountability measures; other items may include Amendment 4 timing, development of a catch monitoring program, measures to address river herring bycatch and criteria for midwater trawl vessel access to groundfish closed areas; in response to a Council request, the NMFS Regional Administrator will discuss regulated multispecies bycatch by herring vessels in Closed Area I

Agenda continued on reverse side

Wednesday, April 8, 2009 - continued

4:00 **Research Steering Committee Report** (David Goethel)
Summary of committee's recommendations concerning strategic planning for cooperative research in the Northeast

Thursday, April 9, 2009

8:30 a.m. **Scallop Committee Report** (Sally McGee)

- Discussion of and possible action on measures that may be included in Amendment 15 to the Scallop Fishery Management Plan; these will include accountability measures for scallop and yellowtail flounder incidental catch under the Scallop FMP and whether general category IFQ permits and/or quota can be split from other permits on a vessel
- Possible approval to initiate Framework 21 to the Scallop FMP, an action that would set management measures for fishing year 2010

11:30 **Open Period for Public Comments** (Council Chairman John Pappalardo)
Opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on items relevant to Council business but not otherwise listed on the agenda

11:45 **Other Business** (John Pappalardo)

*Times listed next to the agenda items are estimates and are subject to change.
This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.
Council member financial disclosure forms are available for examination at the meeting.*

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305 (c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Documents pertaining to Council action are available for review prior to a final vote by the Council. Please call (978) 465-0492 for copies or check the Council website at www.nefmc.org. Please note that if you are submitting comments for Council consideration at this meeting they must be received at the office at least three business days prior to the start of the meeting.

Notice Re-issue Date: March 20, 2009