

**Council Meeting Agenda**  
**July 13-15, 2004**  
**Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring Street**  
**Portland, ME 04101**  
**Telephone (207) 775-2311 | Fax (207) 772-4017**

**Tuesday, July 13, 2004**

**9:00 a.m. Introductions and Announcements** (Chairman David Borden)

**9:05 Improvements to the Council Process** (Chairman David Borden)

Follow-up discussion to previous March meeting agenda item concerning possible improvements to the Council process and alternative approaches to management problems

**11:00 Herring Committee Report** (Lew Flagg)

- Final selection of herring fishery specifications for the 2005 fishing year (January 1 - December 31, 2005), including area-specific total allowable catches (TACs) for 2005; prior to approval there will be a review of updated stock and fishery information related to the 2003 fishing year and review of the Herring Plan Development Team, committee and advisory panel recommendations concerning the specifications
- Discussion of data issues and reconsideration of the limited access qualification criteria proposed in Amendment 1 to the Herring Fishery Management Plan; the element under reconsideration concerns the requirement for vessels to document historical landings from one or more specific management areas

**12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**

**1:30 Herring Committee Report** - continued for the remainder of the day

**Wednesday, July 14, 2004**

**8:30 a.m. Groundfish Oversight Committee Report** (Frank Blount)

Review of issues identified for inclusion in Framework Adjustment 40B to the Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Fishery Management Plan

**10:30 Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Report** (Dr. Pat Sullivan)

Report and discussion of SSC recommendations on how the Council should use stock assessment advice in light of changing assessments and retrospective patterns in fishing mortality and biomass estimates

**12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**

**1:30 Open Period for Public Comments** (Chairman David Borden)

Opportunity for brief comments from the public on items relevant to Council business, but not otherwise listed on the meeting agenda

**2:00 Update on the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan Review** (Dr.

Craig MacDonald, Superintendent, SBNMS)

Report on the sanctuary's management plan review process and activities

- agenda continued on reverse side -

*Times listed next to the agenda items are estimates and are subject to change.*

**3:00 NEFSC Trawl Survey Update** (Dr. Russell Brown, Branch Chief, Ecosystems Survey Branch)  
Presentation on new developments related to the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's resource surveys

**Thursday, July 15, 2004**

**8:30 a.m. Habitat/MPA Committee Report** (Sally McGee)  
Review of scoping comments received during the formal public scoping period for the Essential Fish Habitat Omnibus Amendment 2 (Omnibus EFH Amendment); the Council will consider approving goals and objectives for the amendment as recommended by the Habitat/MPA Committee

**10:00 Reports on Recent Activities**  
Council Chairman, Executive Director, NMFS Regional Administrator, NOAA General Counsel, Northeast Fisheries Science Center liaison, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaison, and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Fisheries Division of Law Enforcement and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

**11:00 Stock Assessment Public Review Workshop** (Dr. Terry Smith, NEFSC)  
Presentation of the advisory report from the 39<sup>th</sup> Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop; the status of sea scallops and black sea bass and a briefing on the new SAW stock assessment model

**12:30 p.m. Other Business**

*This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.  
Council member financial disclosure forms are available for examination at each meeting of the full Council.*

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject 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 final actions or framework adjustments are available for public review prior to a final vote by the Council. Please check the Council website at [www.nefmc.org](http://www.nefmc.org) or call (978) 465-0492 for copies. Please note that if you are submitting comments for Council consideration at this meeting, they must be received at the office at least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.**

notice mailing date: June 23, 2004