

New England Fishery Management Council  
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**Council Meeting Agenda | September 14-16, 2004**  
**Holiday Inn Express, 110 Middle Street**  
**Fairhaven, MA 02719**  
**Telephone (508) 997-1281 | Fax (508) 996-5727**

**Tuesday, September 14, 2004**

**9:00 a.m. Introductions and Announcements** (Thomas Hill)

**9:05 Election of 2004-2005 Council Officers**

**11:00 Habitat/MPA Committee Report** (Sally McGee)

Consideration and approval of Essential Fish Habitat measures for inclusion in Amendment 2 to the Monkfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP); consideration and approval of a Request for Candidate Proposals for Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (EFH Omnibus Amendment 2); consideration and approval of a public comment letter to the Army Corps of Engineers on the Cape Wind Farm Project (pending release of the DEIS)

**12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**

**1:00 Open Period for Public Comments**

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

**1:30 Scallop Committee Report**

Council discussion on whether to initiate a special framework adjustment for the 2005 fishing year, or address new management issues in the scheduled framework adjustment for 2006; the Plan Development Team will provide its advice based on the recently completed scallop stock assessment; the following issues may be discussed and possibly included in the framework:

- actions to address overfishing
- sea turtle bycatch mitigation measures
- actions to cap or reduce general category scallop landings and/or improve reporting measures to change the 2005 open area days-at-sea allocations as a result of the allocation of Georges Bank area access trips in Framework Adjustment 16/39

**Wednesday, September 15, 2004**

**8:30 a.m. 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 and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

**10:30 Monkfish Committee Report** (Dr. David Pierce)

Approval of final measures for inclusion in Amendment 2 to the Monkfish FMP following a review and discussion of Monkfish Advisory Panel and Monkfish Oversight Committee recommendations and public comments submitted to the Council; (note – final measures for this joint FMP must also be approved by the Mid-Atlantic Council prior to submission of final documents)

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

**1:30 Monkfish Amendment 2 discussion** – continued until the end of the day

**Important... Please Note**

The Red Crab Committee and its Advisory Panel will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening to review the 2004 Red Crab SAFE Report and discuss the specifications under consideration for the 2005 fishing year. The committee also will review measures for inclusion in Framework Adjustment 1 to the Red Crab FMP and may identify preferred alternatives for both documents.

**Thursday, September 16, 2004**

**8:30 a.m. Research Steering Committee**

Approval of a criteria/standards for determining whether research projects have undergone a sufficient technical review before information is used for management purposes; review of committee positions and recommendations concerning days-at-sea use, the disposition of catch and vessel compensation when boats are engaged in cooperative research

**10:30 Red Crab Committee Report**

Selection of specifications for the 2005 fishing year and for Framework 1 to the Red Crab FMP; the Council is considering a modification to the annual review and specification process currently in place in the FMP

**12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**

**1:00 Groundfish Committee Report (Frank Blount)**

Update on the development of Framework Adjustment 40B to the Northeast Multispecies FMP, including a review of proposed management measures and grouping of measures into alternatives; briefing on recent reports of juvenile haddock incidental catches in the herring mid-water trawl fishery

**3:00 Transboundary Management Guidance Committee Report (George Lapointe)**

Review and approval of recommendations for fishing year 2005 Total Allowable Catches for yellowtail flounder, cod, and haddock caught in the U.S./Canada area and discussion of TMGC recommendations on other management measures.

**5:00 Other Business**

*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](http://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 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Notice Date: 8/24/04