



***New England Fishery Management Council***  
***News Release***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 22, 2011**

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**978.465.0492**

**NE Fishery Council to Hold Scoping Hearings  
on Groundfish Accumulation Limits and Fleet Diversity**

Because of concerns related to maintaining the diverse makeup of the groundfish fleet in the Northeast, as well as an interest in preserving active and thriving fishing ports, the New England Fishery Management Council is considering measures that will impose limits on the amount of fish allocations that individuals or groups of individuals may control.

To that end the Council has announced its intent to gather information and ask for suggestions about the range of issues that should be addressed by the Council and possibly included in its Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Management Plan. Several alternatives have already been discussed. These include but are not limited to:

- No action; no additional measures would be adopted;
- Individual accumulation caps or sector accumulation caps applied on a stock-specific or fishery-wide level;
- Usage caps for vessels fishing on a multispecies permit;
- Other measures to promote diversity within the fleet;
- Performance indicators (in addition to or instead of caps); and
- Fleet diversity and accumulation limits for all groundfish vessels or for inshore/offshore vessels separately

More information about the scoping process, the timetable and opportunities for public input is available on the Council's website [www.nefmc.org](http://www.nefmc.org). Click on "Northeast Multispecies" and "Amendment 18 Scoping Hearings."

<b>Ellsworth, Maine</b> <b>Tuesday, January 17, 2012</b> <b>6:00 - 8:00 pm</b>	Ellsworth City Hall 1 City Plaza, Ellsworth, ME 04605 Phone: (207) 667-2563
<b>Portland, Maine</b> <b>Wednesday, January 18, 2012</b> <b>5:00 - 7:00 pm</b>	Holiday Inn by the Bay 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME 04101 Phone: (207) 775-2311
<b>Fairhaven, Massachusetts</b> <b>Friday, January 20, 2012</b> <b>12:00 - 2:00 pm</b>	Seaport Inn 110 Middle Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 Phone: (508) 997-1281
<b>So. Kingstown, Rhode Island</b> <b>Friday, January 20, 2012</b> <b>5:00 - 7:00 pm</b>	Holiday Inn 3009 Tower Hill Road, So. Kingstown, RI 02674 Phone: (401) 789-1051
<b>Riverhead, New York</b> <b>Monday, January 23, 2012</b> <b>7:00 - 9:00 pm</b>	Hotel Indigo East End 1830 West Main St., Route 25, Riverhead, NY 11901 Phone: (631) 369-2200
<b>Manahawkin, New Jersey</b> <b>Tuesday, January 24, 2012</b> <b>12:00 - 2:00 pm</b>	Holiday Inn 151 Route 72 East, Manahawkin, NJ 08050 Phone: (609) 481-6100
<b>Hyannis, Massachusetts</b> <b>Thursday, January 26, 2012</b> <b>1:00 - 3:00 pm</b>	Holiday Inn 1127 Route 132, Hyannis, MA 02601 Phone: (508) 775-1153
<b>Plymouth, Massachusetts</b> <b>Thursday, January 26, 2012</b> <b>5:00 - 7:00 pm</b>	Radisson Hotel 180 Water Street, Plymouth, MA 02360 Phone: (508) 747-4900
<b>Gloucester, Massachusetts</b> <b>Monday, January 30, 2012</b> <b>6:00 - 8:00 pm</b>	MA DMF Annisquam River Station 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930 Phone: (978) 828-0308
<b>Portsmouth, New Hampshire</b> <b>Tuesday, January 31, 2012</b> <b>6:00 - 8:00 pm</b>	Sheraton Harborside 250 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801 Phone: (603) 431-2000

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