



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

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M E M O R A N D U M

Date: December 14, 2022
To: Chris Moore
From: Jason Didden, staff
Subject: Monkfish Actions

Given the results of the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) meeting, there are two actions recommended by MAFMC staff regarding monkfish at this time:

1. Staff recommends adopting the NEFMC motion regarding gillnet mesh size:

Ms. Etrie moved on behalf of the Committee:

for Action 3 (Gillnet Mesh), Alternative 2 (increasing mesh size) should be revised to have the implementation of this measure delayed until FY 2026 (i.e., not FY 2025 as stated in the Framework). The Council recommends that Alternative 2, Option B (12" minimum) be the preferred alternative. (The NEFMC agreed by consensus.)

2. Staff recommends that the MAFMC pass a motion to “support the NEFMC remand request and delay final monkfish action.”

The NEFMC is working on scheduling relevant follow-up meetings, and MAFMC staff will participate in those meetings.