

New England Fishery Management Council Meeting Agenda
Monday - Thursday, September 23-26, 2019
Beauport Hotel, 55 Commercial Street, Gloucester, MA 01930
tel: (978) 282-0008 | <https://www.beauporthotel.com>

Sending comments? Written comments must be received at the NEFMC office no later than 8 a.m., Thursday, September 19, 2019 to be considered at this meeting. Please address comments to Council Chairman Dr. John Quinn or Executive Director Tom Nies at: NEFMC, 50 Water St., Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950. Email submissions should be sent to comments@nefmc.org.

Monday, September 23, 2019

- 1:30 p.m. Introductions and Announcements** (Chairman Dr. John Quinn)
- 1:35 Swearing-In of Reappointed Council Members** (Sarah Heil, Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries)
- 1:45 Election of 2019-2020 Officers**
- 2:05 Reports on Recent Activities**
Council Chairman, Council Executive Director, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) Regional Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) General Counsel, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Enforcement, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
- 3:30 Atlantic Herring Committee Report** (Peter Kendall)
Georges Bank Spawning: presentation on draft discussion document, possible Council action on next steps; Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE): update on debrief of MSE process used for acceptable biological catch (ABC) control rule in Amendment 8 to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP)
- 4:45 Alewife/Blueback Herring Endangered Species Act (ESA) Listing Decision** (Jean Higgins, GARFO)
Presentation on NOAA Fisheries "not warranted" decision on proposed river herring ESA listing

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. Commercial Electronic Vessel Trip Reports (eVTRs)** (Staff)
First NEFMC framework meeting for Commercial eVTR Omnibus Action being developed with the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council for all species managed by both Councils
- 9:30 Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Report** (SSC Vice Chair Dr. Lisa Kerr)
Receive SSC's overfishing limit (OFL) and ABC recommendations for: Georges Bank yellowtail and the Northeast skate complex for fishing years 2020-2021; monkfish for 2020-2022, and deep-sea red crab for 2020-2023
- 10:30 Monkfish Committee Report** (Libby Etrie)
Framework Adjustment 12: final action for 2020-2022 fishing year specifications and other measures
- 11:15 Deep-Sea Red Crab Report** (Jessica Joyce, Tidal Bay Consulting)
Final action on 2020-2023 fishing year specifications
- 11:45 Skate Committee Report** (Dr. Matt McKenzie)
Framework Adjustment 8: final action on 2020-2021 fishing year specifications and other measures; Annual Monitoring Report: receive fishing year 2018 report for the Northeast skate complex
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:45 Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management Committee Report (EBFM)** (John Pappalardo)
Georges Bank example Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP): receive draft report, provide Council comment; EBFM Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE): receive steering committee progress report

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel** (Terry Alexander)
Report from June 21 and July 29, 2019 meetings
- 9:00 Groundfish Catch Share Program Review** (Gulf of Maine Research Institute, MRAG Americas Inc.)
Receive overview from GMRI on nine port meetings conducted in July and August to collect public comment on Council's Groundfish Catch Share Program Review; receive update from MRAG Americas Inc. on technical working group's progress on catch share program review
- 9:45 Enforcement Committee Report** (Mark Godfroy)
Receive enforcement recommendations on: Groundfish Codend Compliance Assistance Program (CAP); Groundfish Catch Share Program Review; groundfish sector management compliance improvement; and Groundfish Monitoring Amendment 23
- 10:45 NMFS Draft Policy Directive on EM Video Retention Periods** (Brett Alger, NOAA Fisheries; Council staff)
Receive presentation on National Marine Fisheries Service's Draft Policy Directive on Electronic Monitoring (EM) Video Retention Periods; review and approve draft Council comments on guidance
- 11:15 Transboundary Resources Assessment Committee (TRAC) Report** (Tara Trinko Lake, NEFSC)
Receive TRAC summary of 2018 assessment results for Eastern Georges Bank cod, Eastern Georges Bank haddock, and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder
- 11:45 Transboundary Management Guidance Committee (TMGC) Report** (Terry Stockwell)
Review and approve TMGC recommendations for 2020 total allowable catches for shared U.S./Canada groundfish stocks on Georges Bank
- 12:00 p.m. Groundfish Committee Report Part 1** (Terry Stockwell)
Framework Adjustment 59: receive progress report on action that includes (1) 2020 TACs for U.S./Canada stocks; (2) 2020-2022 specifications for 15 Northeast multispecies stocks, addressing commercial/recreational allocation if raised by MRIP data; and (3) removing allocation to Closed Area I Haddock Special Access Program
- 12:30 Lunch Break**
- 1:45 Open Period for Public Comment**
Opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on issues relevant to Council business but not listed on this agenda (please limit remarks to 3-5 minutes)
- 2:00 Groundfish Committee Report Part 2** (Terry Stockwell)
Monitoring Amendment 23: approve Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for public hearings; select preliminary preferred alternatives

Thursday, September 26, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. 2020 Council Priorities – Initial Discussion** (Executive Director Tom Nies)
- 9:45 Scallop Committee Report** (Vincent Balzano)
Framework Adjustment 32: (1) receive progress report on action to set 2020 fishery specifications, 2021 defaults, and measures to mitigate impacts on Georges Bank yellowtail flounder, (2) receive overview of 2019 surveys; Amendment 21: progress report on action to address (1) Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Management Area issues, (2) Limited Access General Category (LAGC) possession limit, and (3) IFQ transfers
- 12:00 p.m. Small-Mesh Multispecies (Whiting) Report** (Terry Alexander)
Annual Monitoring Report: receive fishing year 2018 overview; Southern Red Hake: update on rebuilding measures
- 12:45 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:45 Habitat Committee Report** (Doug Grout)

Habitat-Related Work: update on development of additional policies related to non-fishing activities;
Offshore Energy: (1) update on ongoing activities in the Northeast Region; and (2) overview of updated joint
New England/Mid-Atlantic Council offshore wind webpage

- 3:15** **Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Advisory Panel (AP), ICCAT Advisory Committee** (Rick Bellavance)
Receive report from September 4-5, 2019 HMS AP meeting and September 5-6 International Commission for
the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Advisory Committee meeting
- 3:30** **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 on 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 Council actions are available for review prior to a final vote by the Council.

Please check the Council's website, www.nefmc.org, or call (978) 465-0492 for copies.

This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405
Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safmc.net

Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

AGENDA

September 16-20, 2019

Town & Country Inn; 2008 Savannah Hwy.

Charleston, SC 29407

Phone: Reservations: 800-334-6660 or 843-571-1000/Fax: 843-766-9444

Except for advertised (scheduled) public hearings and public comment sessions, the times indicated on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that meetings may start earlier or later than indicated.

Written comments received by close of business the Monday before the meeting (9/9) will be compiled, posted to the website as part of the meeting materials, and included in the administrative record. Please use the online comment form at: <https://safmc.wufoo.com/forms/z1dsx0do1dljzsr/> to ensure your comments are posted immediately to the Council's website and available for Council consideration.

Individuals that wish to submit comments after 9/9 must use the Council's online form at: <https://safmc.wufoo.com/forms/z1dsx0do1dljzsr/> Comments will automatically be posted to the website and available for Council consideration. Comments received prior to noon on Thursday of the Council meeting (9/19) will be a part of the meeting administrative record. **To view comments** <https://safmc.wufoo.com/reports/2019-sept-council-meeting-public-comment-report/>

Monday, September 16, 2019

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8:30 A.M. to 12:00 NOON

Roberts Rules Training (TAB 1)

12:00 NOON to 1:30 P.M.

Lunch

1:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Personnel Committee/Council (CLOSED) (TAB 2)

1. Personnel Items
2. Executive Director Interviews

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8:30 A.M. to 12:00 NOON

Snapper Grouper Committee/Jessica McCawley (TAB 3)

1. Status of Commercial Catches versus Quotas for Species under ACLs – NMFS SERO
2. Status of Amendments under Formal Review – NMFS SERO
 - a. Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 27 (Commercial) – sent to NMFS 1/24/19
 - b. Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 26 (Recreational) – sent to NMFS 4/17/19
 - c. Amendment 42 (Sea Turtle Release Gear and Framework Modifications) – sent to NMFS 4/24/19
 - d. Regulatory Amendment 30 – sent to NMFS 8/__/19
3. SSC Report – Preliminary Results from August 19-21, 2019 SSC MRIP Workshop

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8:30 A.M. to 12:00 NOON Snapper Grouper Committee Contd/Jessica McCawley (TAB 3)

4. Regulatory Amendment 29 (Best practices & Powerheads)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Committee Action: Discussion of outreach and consideration for final approval – Jessica McCawley
5. Abbreviated Framework Amendment 3 (Blueline Tilefish)
 - a. Overview – Roger Pugliese
 - b. Committee Action: Action as needed - Jessica McCawley
6. Wreckfish ITQ Review
 - a. Overview – Brian Chevront
 - b. Committee Action: Review and consider recommending for formal review - Jessica McCawley

12:00 NOON to 1:30 P.M. Lunch

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. Snapper Grouper Committee Contd/Jessica McCawley (TAB 3)

7. Regulatory Amendment 33 (Red snapper seasons)
 - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Committee Action: Review public comment, select preferred alternatives, and provide guidance as needed – Jessica McCawley
8. Regulatory Amendment 34 (NC & SC SMZs)
 - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Committee Action: Review and consider recommending for public hearings – Jessica McCawley
9. Guidance on agenda items for SG AP
 - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Committee Action: Provide guidance on items to bring before the Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel - Jessica McCawley
10. Vision Blueprint/FMP Objectives – Guidance on 2021-2026 Vision Blueprint (scheduled for adoption in December 2020).
11. White paper on authorized gear and lionfish
 - a. Overview – Rick DeVictor
 - b. Committee Action: Action as needed - Jessica McCawley

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8:00 A.M. – 8:30 A.M. Protected Resources Committee/Spud Woodward (TAB 4)

1. Council/NMFS Memo Of Understanding (MOU)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary – Spud Woodward
2. Update on Biological Opinions (BiOps) for Dolphin Wahoo and HMS fisheries
 - a. Overview – PR Staff TBD
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary – Spud Woodward
3. Updates on Other Protected Resources Issues
 - a. Overview – PR Staff TBD
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary – Spud Woodward

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8:30 A.M. to 12:00 NOON Dolphin Wahoo Committee/Anna Beckwith (TAB 5)

1. Status of Commercial Catches versus Quotas – NMFS SERO
2. Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel Report – Ray Rosher
3. Dolphin Wahoo FMP Goals and Objectives
 - a. Overview – John Hadley
 - b. Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff – Anna Beckwith
4. Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)
 - a. Overview – John Hadley
 - b. Committee Action: Review, provide guidance to staff, and consider approval for scoping – Anna Beckwith

12:00 NOON to 1:30 P.M. Lunch

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1:30 P.M. to 3:45 P.M. Dolphin Wahoo Committee Contd/Anna Beckwith (TAB 5)

4. Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures) - continued
5. Amendment 12 (Bullet and Frigate Mackerel)
 - a. Overview – John Hadley
 - b. Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff – Anna Beckwith

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3:45 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Executive Finance Committee/Jessica McCawley (TAB 6)

1. Ranking of Amendments for work schedule:
 - a. Overview – Dr. Brian Chevront
 - b. Committee Discussion and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 PUBLIC COMMENTS

4:00 P.M. Public comment will be accepted regarding any of the items on the Council agenda. The Council Chair, based on the number of individuals wishing to comment, will determine the amount of time provided to each commenter.

Approval for Formal Review:

1. Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 29 (Best Practices and Powerheads)
2. Wreckfish ITQ Review

Approval for Scoping:

1. Coral 10/Shrimp 11/G Crab 10 (Access Areas/Transit Provisions/GC VMS)
2. Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)

Approval for Public Hearings:

1. CMP Framework Amendment 8 (King mackerel trip limits, season two)
2. Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 34 (NC & SC SMZs)

Other Items of Interest:

1. Red snapper

Thursday, September 19, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8:30 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Committee/Steve Poland (TAB 7)

1. Council Actions on Habitat and Ecosystems
 - a. Overview – Roger Pugliese
 - b. Review Spring Habitat Ecosystem Advisory Panel Report – Dr. Wilson Laney
 - c. Committee Action: Action as needed – Steve Poland

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon Joint Habitat Ecosystem, Shrimp, and Golden Crab Committee/Steve Poland, Chris Conklin & Mel Bell (TAB 8)

1. Coral Amendment 10/Shrimp Amendment 11/Golden Crab Amendment 10 – Access areas/Transit provisions/GC VMS
 - a. Overview – Dr. Brian Cheuvront
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss, review, and consider approval for scoping – Steve Poland

12:00 NOON to 1:30 P.M. Lunch

Thursday, September 19, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. Mackerel Cobia Committee/Doug Haymans (TAB 9)

1. Status of Commercial Catches versus ACLs – Rick DeVictor, NMFS SERO
2. Status of Amendments under Formal Review – Rick DeVictor, NMFS SERO
 - a. CMP Framework 6 (King mackerel trip limits, season one) – sent to NMFS 11/9/2018
 - b. King mackerel emergency action – letter sent June 21, 2019
3. CMP Framework Amendment 8 (King mackerel commercial trip limits in the Atlantic southern zone during season two)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Committee Action: Review analysis, select preferred alternative, consider approval for public hearings – Doug Haymans
4. Spanish Mackerel White Paper
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary – Doug Haymans
5. Port Meetings for King and Spanish Mackerel Fisheries
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary – Doug Haymans
6. Gulf Council Framework Action to modify federal for-hire trip limits
 - a. Overview – Ryan Rindone, GMFMC Staff
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary – Doug Haymans
7. Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Agenda Items
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Committee Action: Provide guidance on items to bring forward to the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel

Thursday, September 19, 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. Executive Finance Committee Contd/Jessica McCawley (TAB 6)

2. November 5-7, 2019 CCC Meeting
 - a. Overview – Gregg Waugh
 - b. Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley – **ACTION**
3. Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization
 - a. Overview – Gregg Waugh
 - b. Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley – **ACTION**
4. Status of CY 2019 Budget
 - a. Overview – Gregg Waugh/Kelly Klasnick
 - b. Committee Action: Review and take action as necessary – Jessica McCawley – **ACTION**
5. Council Follow-up and Priorities & Tiering – Priorities for 2020
 - a. Overview – Dr. Brian Chevront
 - b. Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley – **ACTION**

Friday, September 20, 2019 COUNCIL SESSION (TAB 10)

8:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

[Legal Briefing on Litigation - Monica Smit-Brunello (**CLOSED SESSION**) if needed]

- 8:30 - 8:45 Call to Order and Introductions/Jessica McCawley, Chair
Adoption of Agenda/Jessica McCawley
Approval of Minutes/Jessica McCawley
Presentations/Jessica McCawley
- Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
 - Council Staff

8:45 – 9:00 Council Staff Reports – **ACTION**

1. Executive Director’s Report (**TAB 10, Attachment 1**) – Gregg Waugh
2. MyFishCount Update (**TAB 10, Attachment 2**)
 - a. Final Report Years 1 & 2 – Dr. Chip Collier
 - b. Outreach – BeBe Harrison
3. Citizen Science Update (**TAB 10, Attachment 3**) – Julia Byrd

9:00 – 9:30 NMFS SERO Presentations – **ACTION**

1. Status of Commercial Catches versus ACLs for species not already addressed (**TAB 10, Attachment 4**)
2. Southeast Geographic Strategic Plan (**TAB 10, Attachment 5**)
3. Data-related Reports (For-Hire Amendment status and SBRM)

9:30 – 9:45 NMFS SEFSC Presentation – **ACTION**

1. Status of Commercial Electronic Logbook Program (**TAB 10, Attachment 6**)
2. Status of MRIP Conversions (**TAB 10, Attachment 7**)

Friday, September 20, 2019 COUNCIL SESSION (TAB 10)

8:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

- 9:45 – 9:50 Review Exempted Fishing Permits as Necessary – **ACTION**
- 9:50 – 10:15 Snapper Grouper Committee Report/Jessica McCawley (TAB 3)
• Consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate
– **ACTION**
- 10:15 – 10:30 BREAK
- 10:30 - 11:00 Mackerel Cobia Committee Report/Doug Haymans (TAB 9)
• Consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate
– **ACTION**
- 11:00 - 11:05 Protected Resources Committee Report/Spud Woodward (TAB 4)
• Consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate
– **ACTION**
- 11:05 - 11:30 Dolphin Wahoo/Anna Beckwith (TAB 5)
• Consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate
– **ACTION**
- 11:30 - 11:45 Habitat Protection & Ecosystem-Based Management Committee Report/Steve Poland (TAB 7)
• Consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate
– **ACTION**
- 11:45 - 12:00 Joint Habitat, Shrimp, Golden Crab/Steve Poland (TAB 8)
• Consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate
– **ACTION**
- 12:00 - 12:15 Executive Finance Committee Report/Jessica McCawley (TAB 6)
• Consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate
– **ACTION**
- 12:15 - 12:20 Personnel Committee/Council Report/Jessica McCawley (TAB 2)
- 12:20 – 12:40 Agency and Liaison Reports (**TAB 10, Attachment 8**) – **ACTION**
- 12:40 – 12:55 Other Business – **ACTION**
- 12:55 – 1:00 Upcoming Meetings (**TAB 10, Attachment 9**) – **ACTION**
- 1:00 P.M. ADJOURN