

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Marriott Hotel, Newport, RI
November 20, 2013
MOTIONS

REPORTS

1. Mr. Quinn moved and Mr. T. Alexander seconded:
to approve the revised policy for comments during the public comment agenda item, limiting comments to 3-5 minutes, requiring either a sign-up or advance notice to staff of intent to comment, and limiting comments to items not on the agenda.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (15/1/0).

SKATES

2. Mr. Kendall moved and Mr. Bullard seconded:
to initiate a framework to set specifications for FY 2014-2015 and remove the unclassified wing skate VTR code.

The motion **carried** unanimously on a show of hands (16/0/0).

HERRING

3. Postponed motion from September meeting:
to request an emergency action to prohibit the use of midwater trawl gear in New England federal waters by vessels with a herring A or B permit unless and until that component of the fishery is covered with 100% at-sea monitoring and comprehensive dumping regulations, similar to existing Closed Area 1 dumping regulations, are implemented fishery-wide.
- 3a. Mr. T. Alexander moved to substitute and Ms. Ramsden seconded:
to task the Herring Committee to have a 1 day meeting with the appropriate personnel from NEFSC, NOAA GC, NOAA Regional Administrator and MAFMC to address all the disapproved elements of Amendment 5 prior to the Council meeting in December or January.

Yes – T. Alexander, Balzano, Blount, Bullard, Gibson, Goethel, Grout, Kendall, Pierce, Ramsden,

No – M. Alexander, Dempsey, McKenzie, Preble

Abstention(s) –

Recusal(s) – Tooley

The motion to substitute **carried** on a roll call vote (10/4/0/1).

3b. Mr. Dempsey moved to amend and Mr. McKenzie seconded:
to task the Herring Committee to have a 1 day meeting with the appropriate personnel from NEFSC, NOAA GC, NOAA Regional Administrator and MAFMC to address all the disapproved elements of Amendment 5 prior to the Council meeting in December or January and that the Council simultaneously request an Emergency Action to immediately require 100% observer coverage for all vessels with a herring A or B permit using mid-water trawl gear in New England federal waters and to extend comprehensive dumping regulations (similar to existing Closed Area 1 dumping regulations) fishery-wide.

Yes – Preble, McKenzie, Kendall, Grout, Dempsey, M. Alexander

No – Ramsden, Pierce, Goethel, Gibson, Bullard, Blount, Balzano, T. Alexander

Abstention(s)–

Recusal(s) – Tooley

The motion to amend **failed** on a roll call vote (6/8/0/1).

3c. The substitute motion was voted:
to task the Herring Committee to have a 1 day meeting with the appropriate personnel from NEFSC, NOAA GC, NOAA Regional Administrator and MAFMC to address all the disapproved elements of Amendment 5 prior to the Council meeting in December or January.

The substitute motion **carried** on a show of hands (14/0/0/1).

4. Mr. Blount moved and Ms. Goethel seconded:
that the Council initiate a framework that requires an observer on board vessels that use mid-water gear as well as addressing the slippage provisions and dealer weighing requirements that were disapproved in Amendment 5.

The motion **failed** on a show of hands (7/7/0/1).

Recusal statement: I have recused myself on today's herring motions because I am employed by companies that operate herring vessels that exceed 10% of total herring landings which constitutes a conflict of interest under the guidelines. - Mary Beth Tooley

GROUND FISH

5. Mr. Blount moved on behalf of the committee:
to recommend that the Council immediately initiate a framework to review the catch of groundfish in non-groundfish fisheries and establish or revise sub-ACLs and AMs where appropriate.

5a. Ms. Tooley moved to amend and Mr. T. Alexander seconded:
to recommend that the Council prioritize the review of the catch of groundfish in non-groundfish fisheries and establish or revise sub-ACLs and AMs where appropriate.

The motion to amend **carried** on a show of hands (14/1/0).

The main motion, as amended, **carried** on a show of hands (14/1/0).

PRIORITIES

6. Dr. Pierce moved and Ms. Tooley seconded:
that the Council accept the Executive Committee's recommendations for sea herring 2014 and multi-year priorities.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (13/0/0).

7. Mr. T. Alexander moved and Mr. Balzano seconded:
to initiate a framework to address the issues in Amendment 5 that were disapproved.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (13/0/0).

Input on scallop assessment TORs

8. Ms. Tooley moved on behalf of the committee:
that the Council support the Advisory Panel motion #10 and recommend to the Council that they recommend the issue of discard and incidental mortality used in the scallop assessment and its implications on catch advice and landings be highlighted as a high priority for SARC 59 including the list of issues described in Advisory Panel motion #10.

[AP motion #10 – The Advisory Panel is still very concerned about the current estimate of discards and incidental mortality used in the scallop assessment. The Advisory Panel requests the committee recommend that this issue be elevated as a high priority for SARC 59. Recognizing that science is outdated on this subject, the Advisory Panel respectively requests the assessment consider other issues when reviewing the assumptions (i.e. use of larger rings, twine top, cookies in apron, turtle dredge, fewer DAS, elimination of meat count, etc.)]

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (13/0/0).

OTHER BUSINESS

9. Ms. Goethel moved and Mr. Grout seconded:
request that the Council draft a letter to the Regional Administrator requesting the agency investigate the lack of satellite availability and performance of the VMS vendors. Also, to ask what actions the agency will take to ensure that all of the vendors are in compliance with the agencies requirements.

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (12/0/1).