

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Herring Committee

I. STATUS

A. Management Actions:

- Framework 43 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP, which establishes a cap and monitoring program for haddock bycatch in the Atlantic herring fishery, was submitted to NMFS on February 23, 2006. Implementation of the Framework 43 measures is expected in the near future.
- Amendment 1 to the Atlantic Herring FMP, including a Final EIS, was submitted to NMFS in its entirety on May 3, 2006. Implementation of the Amendment 1 management measures is expected prior to the start of the 2007 fishing year (January 1, 2007).

B. Meetings:

- The Herring TRAC Stock Assessment meeting was held in Woods Hole, Massachusetts from May 2-5, 2006.
- The Herring PDT met jointly with the ASMFC Herring Technical Committee on June 8, 2006 to review the TRAC Assessment results and discuss the development of herring fishery specifications for the 2007-2009 fishing years.
- The Herring Committee is scheduled to meet jointly with the Herring Advisory Panel on July 6, 2006 in Portland, Maine to discuss the fishery specifications and develop options for analysis.
- The Council is scheduled to approve herring fishery specifications, including research set-asides, for the 2007-2009 fishing years at its September 26-28, 2006 meeting. There will likely be an additional NEFMC Committee/ASMFC Section and Herring Advisory Panel meeting prior to the September Council meeting to complete work on the specifications.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. No specific Council action is required at this time. At this meeting, the Council will receive a report on the 2006 TRAC Assessment, discuss the development of fishery specifications, and may provide related guidance to the Herring Committee.

III. INFORMATION

- A. Atlantic Herring TRAC Status Report
- B. Herring TRAC Assessment Presentation Slides (to be distributed at Council meeting)
- C. June 8 Herring PDT Report (to be distributed at Council meeting)