

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Groundfish Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Meetings: The Joint Groundfish /Scallop Committee met April 5, 2010. A meeting summary is attached.
- B. GB Yellowtail Flounder Rebuilding Strategy: In November, 2009 the Council voted to consider revising the rebuilding strategy for this stock. The PDT will present a memo identifying possible alternatives. The Council will be asked to identify alternatives that will be considered later this.
- C. Vessel Buyback Regulations: Council staff will provide an overview of M-S Act vessel buyback regulations. This is in response to interest expressed about the possibility of a multispecies buyback program.
- D. Multispecies Management Actions: The Final Rules for Amendment 16, Framework Adjustment 44, and FY 2010 Sector Operations Plans were published April 9, 2010. Implementation is scheduled for May 1, 2010.
- E. Amendment 16/17: In January the Council directed that a Joint Groundfish/Scallop Committee develop a management action to facilitate the transfer of groundfish stocks between the two fisheries. The Committee met in early April to begin that process. The Committee will seek additional guidance from the Council.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Identification of candidate GB yellowtail flounder rebuilding strategies

III. INFORMATION

1. Groundfish Plan Development Team Memorandum dated April 14, 2010
2. Staff presentation on GB yellowtail flounder rebuilding strategies
3. March 30, 2006 *Federal Register* notice of a control date for the Northeast Multispecies Party/Charter fishery
4. Joint Groundfish/Scallop Committee Meeting Summary, April 5, 2010
5. Draft scoping document for a joint groundfish/scallop management action
6. Draft management measures for Scallop Incidental Catch Sectors (SICS)
7. Scallop Incidental Catch Sector (SICS) Issues
8. US/Canada area catch reports
9. M-S Act Vessel Buyback Provisions (staff presentation)
10. Correspondence