



New England Fishery Management Council

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C. M. "Rip" Cunningham, Jr., *Chairman* | Paul J. Howard, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 13, 2012
TO: Groundfish Oversight Committee
FROM: Terry Stockwell
SUBJECT: **Committee Meeting Materials; December 19, 2012**

1. Please review the attached materials prior to our meeting at the Sheraton Colonial Hotel, Wakefield, MA. These materials will also be used at the Council meeting the following day. The package includes:

- Agenda
- Draft Framework Adjustment 48
- FW 48 decision document (to be provided)
- SSC Committee Report dated December 13, 2012 on Georges Bank Yellowtail flounder OFL
- Presentation on a proposed redfish fishery sector exemption
- FR: Proposed Rule to implement a targeted redfish fishery for sector vessels
- Groundfish Oversight Committee Meeting summary from November 5, 2012
- Correspondence

2. The main objective of this meeting will be to develop Committee recommendations for preferred alternatives for FW 48. Because the Committee has not yet discussed the analyses of the impacts of modifying sector vessel access to year-round closed areas, Council staff will provide an overview of those analyses before we address each FW 48 measure.

3. Once we have completed work on FW 48, we will receive a presentation on a proposed sector exemption to facilitate a small-mesh redfish fishery. The Committee may want to recommend the Council comment on the proposed exemption.

4. Please contact me with your questions.

