

New England Fishery Management Council
Groundfish Advisory Panel
Draft Motions

May 22, 2012

Sector Management Program

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel Recommends the Committee ask the Council to send a detailed letter to NOAA HQ regarding sector monitoring costs in 2013, highlighting the reductions in ACLs that the industry will be facing. (Ms. Raymond/Mr. Libby).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (11-0-0).

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee develop an option for a groundfish a set-aside for the purpose of at-sea monitoring of sectors. The mechanism would work the way the scallop set aside works now for scallop monitoring. (Mr. Balzano/Ms. Raymond)

Motion as friendly amended: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee develop an option for a groundfish set-aside for the purpose of at-sea monitoring of sectors. The mechanism would work the way the scallop set aside works now for scallop monitoring. Monitoring costs charged to the industry will not exceed three percent of the ex-vessel value of the landed ACE allocated stocks. Industry cost recovery will be phased in equally over a five year period (Mr. Balzano/Mr. Smith).

Motion to split: To split the motion into two parts (Mr. Dority/Mr. Smith).

Part 1: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee develop an option for a groundfish set-aside for the purpose of at-sea monitoring of sectors. The mechanism would work the way the scallop set aside works now for scallop monitoring.

Part 2: Monitoring costs charged to the industry will not exceed three percent of the ex-vessel value of the landed ACE allocated stocks. Industry cost recovery will be phased in equally over a five year period (Mr. Balzano/Mr. Smith).

The motion to split **failed** on a show of hands (3-6-2).

The motion as friendly amended **carried** on a show of hands (10-0-1).

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that if the Council recommends full retention of allocated groundfish stocks that one hundred percent dockside monitoring is necessary (with specific attention to recording of undersized fish) to have full catch accountability (Ms. Raymond/Mr. Bouchard).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (10-1-1).

Motion: Full retention should be considered as an option on a sector by sector basis assuming that enforcement concerns could be addressed. (Mr. Dority/Mr. Smith).

The motion **failed** on a show of hands (6-6-0).

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee clarify the purpose of electronic monitoring either through a change to Amendment 16 language or by sending a letter to NMFS that clarifies that electronic monitoring is to be used to verify whether or not discards occurred and what species were discarded. (Ms. Raymond/Mr. Russo).

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

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Sector Framework revisit minimum fish size requirements, with a specific focus on reducing yellowtail flounder from 13 to 12 inches (Ms. Odell/Mr. Bouchard).

Motion as perfected: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Sector Framework revisit minimum fish size requirements, with a specific focus on reducing discards (Ms. Odell/Mr. Bouchard).

The motion as perfected **carried** on a show of hands (11-0-1).

ACE carryover

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel wants to express a sense of urgency to the Council for the resolution of the issue of additional carry over from 2012 to 2013 (Ms. Raymond/Ms. Odell).

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

Accountability Measures

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends retaining the current zero possession Accountability Measure for Atlantic halibut (Ms. Raymond/Mr. Russo).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (11-0-1).

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends a one fish possession limit for Atlantic wolffish and as an Accountability Measure, ban possession (Ms. Raymond/Mr. Russo).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (11-0-1).

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Committee direct the PDT to develop an across the board Accountability Measure that in all cases, unless the sub-ACL is exceeded by fifty percent or more, if the total ACL is not exceeded then AMs will not be triggered (Ms. Raymond/Ms. Litsinger).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (8-0-3).

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee and Council issue a letter to the state directors specifically outlining the problems associated with the absence of accountability standards within state fisheries (see Magnusson-Stevens Act section 306(3)(B)) (Mr. Brown/Mr. Canastra).

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

Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the Groundfish Committee recommend that the Council request NMFS implement an emergency action, or use the regional administrator's authority provided in FW47, whichever can be done most quickly, to adjust the Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder sub-ACL to the scallop fleet, consistent with the updated projection of catch of Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder (PDT memo dated Oct 3, 2011), and consistent with the intent of FW 44. This would result in a total allocation of Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder for 2012 to the scallop fleet of 61 mt of Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder and return of 246 mt to the groundfish fleet. (Ms. Raymond/Mr. Libby).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (11-0-1).

The AMs for the scallop fishery exceeding their sub-ACL were thought to be severe.

Motion: Furthermore, the Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends, as part of the Emergency Action, scallop FW 23 Accountability Measure indemnity for 2013 (Ms. Odell/Mr. Soule).

The motion was **withdrawn** without objection.

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel requests the Committee recommend to the Council, if they continue to allocate groundfish sub-ACLs to the scallop fleet based on projected catch, that they clarify what percentage of the projected catch is to be allocated (Ms. Raymond/Mr. Brown).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (11-0-0).

Other Business

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel recommends that the groundfish committee discuss the merits of mixed trawl fisheries (large and small mesh) taking place on the same trips on observed trips to improve the efficiency of the fleet (Mr. Brown/Mr. Canastra).

The motion **carried** on a show of hands (11-0-0).

Motion: The Groundfish Advisory Panel requests the committee request the Council send a letter to the agency asking that there be sufficient staff time to incorporate lessons learned from the June GMRI workshop on cod stock structure and the SSC cod stock structure work plans into the upcoming cod benchmark assessment (Mr. Dority/Ms. Litsinger).

The motion **failed** on a show of hands (2-8-1).