



New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116
C. M. "Rip" Cunningham, Jr., *Chairman* | Paul J. Howard, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 27, 2012
TO: Terry Stockwell
FROM: Groundfish Oversight Committee
SUBJECT: **Meeting Materials, August 2, 2012 Committee Meeting**

1. Please review the attached materials prior to our meeting in Portsmouth, NH. This package includes:

- Agenda
- Groundfish PDT report dated July 27, 2012, with attachments. Please note that due to size, some of the enclosures are provided as individual documents
- Draft FW 48 management measures dated July 27, 2012
- Letter dated May 25, 2012 from Dan Morris on ACE carry-over
- Letter from Dan Morris dated July 25, 2012 on an NEFMC request that NMFS allow carry-over of up to 50 percent of GOM cod
- 2012 Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee Status Reports (TSRs) for Eastern GB cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder
- Groundfish Committee meeting summary, May 30, 2012 meeting
- Joint Groundfish Scallop Committee meeting summary, June 18, 2012
- Correspondence

2. At this meeting we will focus on further development of measures for Framework Adjustment 48. The PDT will update the Committee on analyses supporting full retention or changes in minimum size, explorations of the distribution of observer coverage, and setting standards for at-sea monitoring. Questions Committee members may wish to explore include:

- Should an alternative be considered that reduces minimum size, as an alternative to current minimum size and full retention

- Can the funding mechanisms under consideration be adopted in a framework action, and if not, how should they be modified

3. The Committee will consider additional sub-ACLs for SNE/MA windowpane flounder. The PDT report recommends that rather than adopt new sub-ACLs, the Committee might consider applying AMs to all vessels that use specific gears. Committee members should be ready to discuss and comment on this suggestion.

4. The Council has received two letters from NMFS addressing issues related to carry-over of unused ACE from one fishing year to the next. These letters suggest that revisions are needed to the carry-over measure. The PDT has developed a straw man to facilitate discussion of the carry-over provisions. Committee members should review this proposal and be ready to suggest changes so that a measure can be prepared.

5. The Committee will consider whether the administration of groundfish sub-ACLs should be modified so that recreational AMs are only triggered if the overall sub-ACL is exceeded for a stock. This was postponed from a previous Committee meeting.

6. Staff will provide an overview of recent TRAC assessments. This will provide the opportunity for the Committee and the public to provide input to the U.S. TMGC members prior to the TMGC meeting scheduled for early September.

7. Please contact me with your questions.



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**Groundfish Oversight Committee
Meeting Agenda
August 2, 2012
Sheraton Hotel, Portsmouth, NH**

- 9:00 .am. Introductions/approval of agenda
- 9:15 a.m. Sector monitoring issues
 Discard length frequencies – Fiona Hogan
 Standards for ASM/CV – Tom Nies
 Funding mechanisms - Staff
- 11:00 a.m. Sector carry-over
- Noon Lunch
- 1:15 p.m. Carry-over (continued as necessary)
- 2:00 p.m. Discussion of additional sub-ACLs for SNE/MA windowpane flounder for
 fisheries managed by the MAFMC and ASMFC
- 2:45 p.m. Recreational AM administration
- 3:15 p.m. Review of measure text (as needed)
- 3:30 p.m. Overview of 2012 TRAC results for EGB cod, EGB haddock, and GB yellowtail
 flounder
- 4:00 p.m. Other business
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

