



New England Fishery Management Council

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

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 14, 2012
TO: Groundfish Oversight Committee
FROM: Terry Stockwell
SUBJECT: **Meeting Materials, September 19, 2012 Committee Meeting**

1. Please review the enclosed materials for next week's meeting in New Bedford, MA. The meeting package includes:

- Agenda
- August 2, 2012 Committee meeting summary
- September 11, 2012 PDT meeting summary (with enclosures)
- Draft FW 48 management measures
- TMGC Guidance Document for 2013
- Correspondence

2. At our last Committee meeting, we passed a motion that proposed to increase access to groundfish closed areas in order to mitigate expected low catch quotas in FY 2013. This motion would require an amendment and an EIS to implement, and as a result could not be implemented in time to benefit fishermen in FY 2013. The PDT report includes an alternative approach. Committee members should be prepared to discuss these approaches and recommend how to proceed.

3. We will receive a briefing on the TMGC recommendations for FY 2013.

4. The Scallop Committee will meet the day before our meeting. We may have issues from that meeting to discuss, including estimates of yellowtail flounder incidental catches by the scallop fishery in 2013. The PDT will not have had a chance to review that information, however

5. Please contact me with your questions.



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Groundfish Oversight Committee

Agenda

September 19, 2012

New Bedford, MA

- 9:00 a.m. Introductions, approval of agenda
- 9:10 a.m. Modifications to year round closed area access
- 10:30 a.m. TMGC overview and FY 2013 ABCs
(Note: The Scallop Oversight Committee meets September 18, 2012 to discuss management options for Scallop FY 2013 and 2014. The Committee will receive a report on these issues during this agenda item.)
- 11:30 a.m. FW 48 measure issues
 GB yellowtail flounder area
 Prohibition on GB yellowtail flounder possession
- Noon Lunch
- 1:15 p.m. FW 48 measure issues (continued)
- 1:45 p.m. Sector monitoring issues
- 4:00 p.m. Other business
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn