



New England Fishery Management Council

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

Meeting Notice GROUNDFISH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, March 29, 2012
Time: 8:30 a.m. (Please note early starting time)
Location: Providence Biltmore
11 Dorrance Street, Providence, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 421-0700; Fax: (401) 455-3050

Agenda:

The Groundfish Oversight Committee will meet to discuss several issues related to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan that will include:

- Continue development of an action to modify measures that apply to sectors. This discussion is expected to focus primarily on monitoring issues, including goals and objectives and possible funding mechanisms. They may also discuss full retention of allocated groundfish species and other sector framework issues.
- Discussion of an action to establish acceptable biological catches (ABCs) and annual catch limits (ACLs) for fishing years 2013 and 2014. As part of this discussion, the Committee will receive a preliminary report on recently updated assessments and may discuss further the Council's response to the recent Gulf of Maine cod assessment. Setting ABCs/ACLs for FY 2013-2014 may also require modification of recreational fishing measures and the Committee may begin this discussion.
- Receive an update on Plan Development Team work related to possible modifications to groundfish closed areas.
- Receive a report on the recent Endangered Species Act listing of Atlantic Sturgeon and will discuss ways to reduce sturgeon takes.
- Discussion of the rockhopper/roller gear restriction in the western Gulf of Maine and develop a response to a request for clarification from the National Marine Fisheries Service.
- Other business.

Note: If you are submitting written comments for consideration at this meeting, we must receive them by noon on Tuesday, March 27, 2012.

*This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.
This schedule is subject to change. If you have questions, please call the Council office for
final confirmation of meeting times, dates and locations.*

Directions:

Heading South on Interstate 95: Take Exit 22A, towards DOWNTOWN/PROVIDENCE, RI. At the end of the exit ramp continue straight at the light onto Memorial Boulevard. At the next light, turn right onto Exchange Street. Take the next available right onto Exchange Terrace. Take the first left onto Dorrance Street, which passes directly in front of the hotel.

Heading North on Interstate 95: Make first right on Francis Street. Bear left of Dorrance Street, which passes directly in front of the hotel.

Parking: At Biltmore Garage behind hotel, \$20/max per day

TA #: 12-66

cc: Council Members, Groundfish Interested Parties, Advisors, PDT members

Notice date: 3/8/12