



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: Wednesday, September 19, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Fairfield Inn & Suites
185 MacArthur Drive
New Bedford, MA 02740
Phone: (774) 634-2000; Fax: (774) 634-2001

Agenda:

The Groundfish Oversight Committee will continue development of Framework Adjustment 48 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan that will include:

- Continued development of options to improve sector monitoring, including both at-sea and dockside monitoring. They may discuss appropriate monitoring coverage levels and full retention of allocated groundfish species.
- The Committee will develop measures that may help mitigate expected low catch levels in fishing year 2013. These measures could include modifications to groundfish closed areas (including habitat areas) and further review of a motion passed at the last committee meeting that would provide increased access to most groundfish closed areas, and may consider modifications to that motion that will be forwarded to the Council.
- Consideration of other modifications to the sector program, such as creating areas for fishing on Georges Bank (GB) that are not subject to the GB yellowtail flounder ACE limits.
- Consider options for addressing catches of groundfish stocks (primarily SNE/MAB windowpane flounder) by other fisheries (such as the fluke, scup and squid fisheries), and may either develop options for additional sub-ACLs or may propose changes to accountability measures to control those catches.
- The Committee may also discuss other issues that may be incorporated into the framework. Options identified by the Committee will be included in a future management action (Framework Adjustment 48) that will be considered by the Council in the fall of 2012.
- An expected receipt of a preliminary report on catch advice developed for Eastern Georges Bank cod and haddock, and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder that will be developed by the Transboundary Management Guidance Committee. The Committee may provide comments for consideration by the Council when it considers these FY 2013 quotas.
- Possible discussion of scallop/groundfish management issues, such as yellowtail flounder allocations and the timing of scallop vessel access to groundfish closed areas.
- Other business if necessary.

Note: If you are submitting written comments for consideration at this meeting, we must receive them by noon on Monday, September 17, 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 on reverse--

Directions:

From South – I-95 North to I-195 East. Take Exit 15 to merge on to MA 18 South. Turn left at Union Street. Turn right on MacArthur Drive.

From North – I-95 South to I-93 South toward Boston. Take Exit 4 (on left) to Route 24 South toward Brockton. Take Exit 12 to Route 140 South towards New Bedford. Take Exit 2A to I-195 East toward Cape Cod. Take Exit 15 to Rout 18 South. Turn left at Union Street. Turn right on to MacArthur Drive.

TA #: 12-141

cc: Council Members, Groundfish and Scallop Interested Parties, Advisors, PDT members and SSAP

Notice date: 8/29/12

