



New England Fishery Management Council

News Release

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New England Fishery Council Elects 2003-2004 Officers

Newburyport, MA The New England Fishery Management Council, meeting in Fairhaven, MA on September 16-18, elected veteran member David Borden as its new Chairman. As the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Assistant Director for Natural Resources, Mr. Borden has served as the principal fisheries representative from his state since 1985 and previously served as Council Chairman from 1986 through 1988.

During his years of service, Mr. Borden has been very active in the management of highly migratory species and chaired the Council's Groundfish and Scallop Committees. As Chairman of the Herring Committee, he was instrumental in the development of the Herring Fishery Management Plan. He also has been a long-standing member of the Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization Committee.

More recently, Mr. Borden served as Chairman of the Council's Whiting Committee during development of a management program for small mesh multispecies (whiting, red hake and offshore hake). As Chairman of the Council's U.S./Canada Steering Committee, he led efforts to coordinate the management of transboundary stocks (cod, haddock and yellowtail flounder) with the Council's Canadian counterparts. The Council has since voted to include the Resource Sharing Agreement as a major element in Draft Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan.

The twenty-two member Council elected past Chairman Tom Hill of Gloucester, MA as Vice Chair. A marine surveyor, Mr. Hill has been a Council member for over 10 years and served as Chairman for the last four years. Eric Smith, Assistant Director of the Fisheries Division of Connecticut's Department of Environmental Protection, was elected to the Council's Executive Committee. Although he did not run for the position this year, Mr. Smith served as Council's Vice Chair for a record 11 years.

Other members elected to the Executive Committee were Mr. Frank Blount, president of a Narragansett, RI deep-sea fishing and whale-watch expedition business and Mr. Anthony Fernandes of Kittery, ME, a commercial fisherman. The Executive Committee members, in concert with the Chair and Vice Chair, approve appointments to advisory panels and oversee Council budget management and other administrative matters.

The Fairhaven meeting was the first regularly scheduled meeting for newly appointed Council members. Secretary of Commerce Donald L. Evans named Ms. Sally McGee of Mystic, CT and the organization Environmental Defense to her first three-year term. Other newly appointed members include seafood dealer and fisherman Mr. Dana Rice of Birch Harbor, ME, Portland, ME fisherman Mr. Jim Odlin, and New Bedford fisherman Mr. Rodney Avila.

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