



New England Fishery Management Council

**Statement from Samuel Rauch, NOAA Fisheries, and C.M. “Rip” Cunningham Jr., New England Fishery Management Council, about 2013 Groundfish Fishing Year**

**Issued during New England Fishery Management Groundfish Committee Meeting on Thursday, August 2, 2012**

“As we have been discussing over the past several months, the groundfish fishery in New England will face many challenges in 2013. We are committed to this fishery, to this industry, and to the people in this community; preserving the groundfish industry is of the utmost importance to us and we’ll put forward our unwavering support. Today, we are continuing to engage in a conversation with our regional partners well in advance of the start of the 2013 fishing year. While there is unlikely to be any solution to fully mitigate the challenges in 2013, we plan to continue to work closely with the industry to explore every possible option.”