

New England Fishery Management Council  
 Three Meeting Outlook, June through November 2013  
 April 22, 2013 (will be updated as new information becomes available)

June 18-20, 2013 Portland, ME	Sept. 24-26, 2013 Hyannis, MA	Nov. 19-21, 2013 Newport, RI
<b>Groundfish</b> 1. Action combined with Habitat Omnibus Amend. 2; select range of groundfish/habitat area management alternatives for analysis in the amendment EIS 2. Initiate annual specs (FW 51) for the U.S./CA stocks for 2014 and revise rebuilding programs for GOM cod, plaice and possibly white hake 3. Update on Amend. 18, to develop accumulation caps and address fleet diversity 4. NEFSC Social Sciences Branch report on fleet diversity, accumulation limits and vessel profitability in the groundfish fishery.	1. Transboundary Management Guidance Committee Report, including review of 2014 quotas for the three U.S./Canada-managed stocks; Transboundary Resources Assessment Committee (TRAC) report on the status of Georges Bank yellowtail flounder, Eastern Georges Bank cod and Eastern Georges haddock 2. FW 51 update	1. Approve FW 51 (final action)
<b>Habitat</b> 1. Approve packaged habitat/groundfish alternatives, including dedicated habitat research areas (DHRAs), for analysis		1. Approve Habitat Omnibus Amend. 2 Draft EIS and public hearing document; select preferred alternatives
<b>Monkfish</b> 1. Initiate FW 8 specs for 2014-2016; may include days-at-sea changes and other issues 2. Update on Amend. 6 to develop a sector or IFQ program for the fishery	1. Approve FW 8 (final action) 2. Select range of Amend. 6 alternatives for analysis in an EIS	
<b>Sea Scallops</b> 1. Performance report on the limited access general category fishery and discuss/identify next steps	1. Update on FW 25, specs for 2014 and accountability measures for Southern New England windowpane flounder	1. Approve FW 25 (final action)
<b>Herring</b> 1. Initiate FW 3, river herring catch caps	1. Approve FW 3 (final action) 2. NMFS update on the status and implementation of the Amend. 5 industry-funded observer program	
<b>Red Crab</b>	1. Approve specs for fishing years 2014-2016 (final action)	
<b>Enforcement</b> 1. Provide comments on the groundfish/habitat area management options 2. Propose a revised NEFMC Enforcement Policy		1. Present any recommendations on the 2014 NOAA Enforcement Guidelines
<b>Standard Bycatch Reporting Methodology</b> 1. Review SBRM Amendment information  <b>Atlantic Sturgeon</b> 1. Discussion of revised draft Biological Opinion	<b>NEFMC Management Priorities</b> 1. Discuss priorities at Sept. meeting 2. Finalize priorities at Nov. meeting	<b>Other Items to be Scheduled</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Sturgeon Action (pending outcome of Biological Opinion)</i></li> <li>● <i>Whiting - amend. to consider limited access; set specs for 2014-2015</i></li> <li>● <i>Skates - amend. to consider limited access and 2014-2016 specifications</i></li> </ul>

**Terms Used by the NEFMC**

**Amend. and FW = amendment and framework adjustment** An *amendment* is a formal change to a fishery management plan (FMP). The Council prepares amendments and submits them to the Secretary of Commerce for review and approval. The Council may also change FMPs through a “*framework adjustment procedure*” which may be shorter process than development of a full plan amendment.

**Specs Package = Fishery specifications**; these include annual or multi-year catch limits, possession limits, quotas or other restrictions related to catch levels.