



New England Fishery Management Council

News Release

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Patricia M. Fiorelli
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New England Fishery Council Elects 2007-2008 Officers

NEWBURYPORT, MA At its fall meeting in Plymouth, MA this week the New England Fishery Management Council re-elected both its Chairman and Vice Chairman to serve in those positions through September 2008. By acclamation the Council named current Chairman John Pappalardo and Vice Chairman Rip Cunningham to leadership positions as it tackles groundfish stock rebuilding, modifications to essential fish habitat designations and maintains the successes achieved in scallop and herring fisheries management.

Mr. Pappalardo is a fisherman and policy analyst for the Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association. He was appointed to the Council in 2002 and is currently serving a second three-year term on the Council. He is also manager of the Cape Cod Hook Sector, one of two groups in New England that have elected to fish in an innovative program that calls for a fixed annual limit on cod catches. Rules developed by sector members are intended to promote greater economic efficiency while simultaneously allowing fish stocks to rebuild.

Vice Chairman Rip Cunningham is a former editor and publisher of *Saltwater Sportsman* magazine and a long-time freelance conservation writer. He has served as Groundfish Committee Chairman for the last two years and is an active sport fisherman. He was appointed to the Council in 2004.

The Council's 18 voting members also elected three Executive Committee members, in addition to the Chair and Vice Chair positions. The Executive Committee oversees the Council budget, appoints advisory panel members and addresses other administrative matters relating to Council operations.

The new Executive Committee members are Ms. Sally McGee, of Mystic, CT who has worked for Environmental Defense for the last five years and served on the Executive Committee last year; Narragansett, RI fisherman and writer David Preble who was appointed to the Council in 2006; and veteran Council member Frank Blount, also of Narragansett and owner and president of the Frances Fleet, a RI-based deep-sea charter fishing and whale watching operation.

The New England Fishery Management Council, one of eight regional councils established by federal legislation in 1976, is charged with conserving and managing fishery resources from three to 200 miles off the coasts of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

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