

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT Council
Multispecies (Skate) Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Scoping: Scoping hearings were held on May 22-24, 2007 in Gloucester, Narragansett, and Buzzards Bay. The deadline for written comments was May 30, 2007.
- B. Meetings: The PDT met on May 30th to estimate the rebuilding potential for winter skate and estimate the catch reduction needed to initiate rebuilding. The Advisors and PDT met jointly on May 30th to develop measures and alternatives, recommended for analysis and inclusion in Amendment 3. The Skate (Multispecies) Oversight Committee met on June 1, 2007 to approve and recommend a framework of alternatives to be analyzed and included in Amendment 3.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Approve framework of management alternatives to control skate fishing mortality, initiate rebuilding of winter and thorny skates, and prevent smooth and little skates from becoming overfished.

III. INFORMATION

- A. Draft Amendment 3 decision document
- B. Summary of oral comments at scoping hearings
- C. Written scoping comments
- D. Summary of PDT, Advisory Panel, and Oversight Committee meetings
- E. Memo from the PDT to the Oversight Committee on winter skate rebuilding, catch reductions needed to initiate rebuilding, and sources of mortality
- F. Memo from the Joint Advisory Panel and PDT on recommended measures and alternatives for Amendment 3