

New England Fishery Management Council  
50 Water Street, Mill 2  
Newburyport, MA 01950  
Tel (978) 465-0492 | Fax (978) 465-3116

**Council Meeting Agenda  
September 18-19, 2007  
Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor  
180 Water Street, Plymouth, MA 03260  
Telephone (508) 747-4900 | Fax (508) 747-8937**

**Please note this Council meeting has been changed to a two-day meeting.**

**Tuesday, September 18, 2007**

**9:00 a.m. Introductions and Announcements**

**9:05 Election of 2007-2008 Council Officers**

**10:15 Presentation on Vessel Monitoring Systems** (NOAA Office of Law Enforcement)  
Report on Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) network outages by vendor and vessel missing position reports by vendor from approximately May 1, 2006 to January, 2007

**11:15 Herring Update** (Dr. David Pierce)  
Report on and discussion of updated herring stock and fishery information

**12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**

**1:30 Habitat Committee Report** (Sally McGee)  
Consider and possibly approve a Great South Channel Habitat Area of Particular Concern for inclusion in Phase 1 of the draft document for Essential Fish Habitat Omnibus Amendment 2

**2:30 Multispecies (Groundfish) Oversight Committee Report** (Rip Cunningham)  
Update on the development of Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP); topics will include sector policy issues, sector history calculations and a review of fishing effort control measures under discussion

**3:45 Transboundary Management Guidance Committee Report** (George Lapointe)  
Approve 2008 Total Allowable Catches for Eastern Georges Bank cod and haddock, and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder

**Wednesday, September 19, 2007**

**8:00 a.m. Reports on Recent Activities**

Council Chairman, Executive Director, NMFS Regional Administrator, NOAA General Counsel, Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, NMFS Enforcement and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

**9:15 45th Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) Report for Sea Scallops and Northern Shrimp** (Dr. Jim Weinberg, NEFSC)  
Presentation of the assessment summary and the comments of the Stock Assessment Review Committee (independent panel of stock assessment experts) concerning the status of sea scallops and Northern shrimp

**10:30 Scallop Committee Report** (David Simpson)  
Review progress to date on Framework 19 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP **(a one-day Council meeting is planned for October 25, 2007 to approve final measures for this framework)**

**12:15 p.m. Open Period Public Comments** (Chairman John Pappalardo)  
Opportunity for brief comments from the public on items relevant to Council business, but not otherwise listed on the meeting agenda

*Agenda continued on reverse side.  
Times listed next to agenda items are estimates and subject to change.*

- 12:30 Lunch Break**
- 1:30 Presentation on Draft Amendment 2 to the Consolidated Highly Migratory Species FMP** (NOAA Fisheries Silver Spring staff)  
Review of the management alternatives available to rebuild sandbar, dusky, and porbeagle sharks; measures under consideration could allow for a limited shark research fishery for sandbar sharks, establish a trip limit for commercial harvest of non-sandbar large coastal sharks, prohibit the landing and possession of porbeagle sharks, require all sharks landed to have fins attached through landing, eliminate trimester seasons and modify species that can be landed by recreational fishermen
- 2:30 Update on the Development of Amendment 3 to the Skate Complex FMP** (Council staff)  
Report on draft management measures and alternatives, PDT progress to analyze the alternatives and the amendment development timeline
- 3:00 Report of the Northeast Data Poor Stocks Working Group: Monkfish** (Dr. Jim Weinberg, NEFSC)  
Presentation of the assessment summary and comments of the Review Panel concerning the status of the monkfish resource
- 3:45 Monkfish Management Issues** (John Pappalardo)  
Discuss possible Council action, including initiating a new framework adjustment to the Monkfish FMP for the 2008 fishing year, in response to the monkfish assessment and to replace the 2007 emergency interim rule now in effect
- 5:15 Other Business**

***This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.  
Council member financial disclosure forms are available for examination at each meeting of the full Council.***

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305 (c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

**Documents pertaining to final actions or framework adjustments are available for public review prior to a final vote by the Council. Please check the Council website at [www.nefmc.org](http://www.nefmc.org) for copies. Please note that if you are submitting comments for Council consideration at this meeting, they must be received at the office at least three working days prior to the start of the meeting. If you are bringing materials to the meeting for distribution, please make 50 copies so that each Council member has the opportunity to review your information.**

notice mailing date: 8.29.07