

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 3-4, 2008
Providence Biltmore Hotel, 11 Dorrance Street, Providence, RI 02903
Telephone (401) 421-0700 | Fax (401) 455-3040

**** PLEASE NOTE CORRECT START TIME FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 ****

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

- 9:00 a.m. Introductions and Announcements** (Council Chairman John Pappalardo)
- 9:15 Swearing in New/Reappointed Council Members and Election of 2008-2009 Council Officers**
- 10:00 Skate Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3 Discussion** (John Pappalardo)
Approve change in the scope of the amendment to include a rebuilding plan to address the overfished condition of smooth skate and to address overfishing of thorny skate
- 10:45 Approve Council Comments on National Standard 1** (Council staff)
Review Scientific and Statistical Committee and staff comments on National Standard 1 Guidelines proposed by the National Marine Fisheries Service and finalize comments
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:30 National Standard 1 Discussion** - continued
- 2:00 Groundfish Amendment 16 Discussion**
- Review the results of the Groundfish Assessment Review Meeting - GARM III (Paul Rago, NEFSC) Summary presentation of stock status and biological reference points for all groundfish stocks;
 - Discussion of results of the Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee meeting for Eastern Georges Bank cod, haddock and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder;
 - Groundfish Committee Report: (Committee Chairman Rip Cunningham) Development of management options for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan; discussion will include modifications as necessary to rebuild plans, adoption of new rebuilding plans if necessary, and identification of management measures for further development

Thursday, September 4, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. Open Period for Public Comments** (Council Chairman John Pappalardo)
Opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on items relevant to Council business but not otherwise listed on the agenda
- 8:45 Groundfish Amendment 16 Discussion** - continued
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 3:30 Other Business**

*Times listed next to the agenda items are estimates and are subject to change.
This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities.
Council member financial disclosure forms are available for examination at the meeting.*

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects 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 Council action are available for review prior to a final vote by the Council. Please call (978) 465-0492 for copies or check the Council website at www.nefmc.org. Please note that if you are submitting comments for Council consideration at this meeting they must be received at the office at least three business days prior to the start of the meeting.

Notice Date: August 15, 2008