

Council Meeting Agenda | September 22-24, 2009
Radisson Hotel, Plymouth Harbor, 180 Water Street, Plymouth, MA
Telephone (508) 747-4900 | Fax (508) 747-8937

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

- 9:00 a.m. Introductions and Announcements** (Council Chairman John Pappalardo)
- 9:05 Swearing in of New/Reappointed Council Members and Election of 2009-2010 Council Officers**
- 9:45 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/VMS, and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
- 11:30 Review of Experimental Fishery Permit (EFP) Applications** (Chris Kellogg, NEFMC staff)
- 11:45 Open Period for Public Comments** (John Pappalardo)
Opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on items relevant to Council business but not otherwise listed on the agenda
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:00 Research Steering Committee Report** (David Goethel)
Review of final reports evaluated by the committee and other items of business discussed at the most recent RSC meeting
- 1:45 Monkfish Committee Report** (Terry Stockwell)
Consider a recommendation to defer measures that had previously been approved for consideration in Amendment 5 to the Monkfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP); these include several changes to the monkfish incidental catch limits and alternative catch-share management programs (sectors and individually transferrable quotas); other components are expected to remain in the draft document
- 2:45 Whiting Committee Report** (David Goethel)
Review of recommendations for draft alternatives to be developed and analyzed in Amendment 17 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

- 8:30 a.m. Northeast Fisheries Science Center Presentations** (NEFSC Staff)
NEFSC summaries of the Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee (TRAC) meeting results; the review will include a report on herring and the three groundfish stocks addressed through the U.S./Canada Resource Sharing Agreement (Eastern Georges Bank cod, Eastern Georges Bank haddock and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder)
- 10:00 SSC Report** (Dr. Patrick Sullivan)
Report on final acceptable biological catch (ABC) and ABC control rule recommendations for multispecies groundfish stocks, sea scallops, herring and red crab; review a recommendation for a corrected 2010-2011 skate complex ABC value to be included in Amendment 3 to the Skate FMP (the recalculation will include the 2008 spring survey values for little skate)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break**
- 1:00 Groundfish Committee Report** (Rip Cunningham)
- Review and approve the Transboundary Management Guidance Committee's catch recommendations for 2010 for Eastern Georges Bank cod and haddock and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder; the Council also may provide advice on measures for the U.S./Canada area for the 2010 fishing year;
 - Develop groundfish annual catch limits (ACLs) for fishing years 2010-2012 (including the yellowtail flounder sub-components for the scallop fishery); final action on the ACLs is planned for November;
 - Discuss a NMFS regional office letter dated August 24, 2009 concerning Amendment 16 measures for common pool vessels (in particular, those for Gulf of Maine cod and pollock) and possible initiation of a framework adjustment as a response to the issues outlined in the letter

Thursday, September 24, 2009

- 8:30 a.m.** **Briefing on Draft Amendment 3 to the Consolidated Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fishery Management Plan**
NMFS presentation on the most recent amendment to the Consolidated HMS FMP which focuses on small coastal sharks, shortfin mako, and smooth dogfish issues; agency staff will present the management measures analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the proposed rule for Amendment 3 to the FMP and will seek Council comments
- 9:30** **Scallop Survey Advisory Panel** (Jim Fair)
Report on the most recent panel meeting
- 10:00** **Scallop Committee Report** (Sally McGee)
Review and approve the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Scallop Amendment 15 for purposes of soliciting input at public hearings; measures will: include annual catch limit requirements; address excess capacity in the limited access scallop fishery through permit stacking and leasing alternatives; and modify some measures for the limited access general category fishery; an update on Framework Adjustment 21 also will be provided
- 12:00 p.m.** **Lunch Break**
- 1:00** **Scallop Committee Report** – continued
- 3:00** **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: September 1, 2009**