

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

February 6-7, 2024
Arlington, VA

MOTIONS

February 6, 2024

Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog (SCOQ) Species Separation Requirements Amendment

Committee Motion:

Move that the Committee recommend the Council delay the draft going out to public comment until the FMAT can review [industry revised] alternative 4 as presented by industry.

Motion on behalf of the committee

Move to substitute to take the draft SCOQ Species Separation Requirements Public Hearing Document out for public comment with the addition of the industry drafted alternative.

Hughes/Gwin

Motion to substitute carries by consent

Main motion as substituted:

Move to take the draft SCOQ Species Separation Requirements Public Hearing Document out for public comment with the addition of the industry drafted alternative.

Motion carries by consent

February 7, 2024

Sturgeon Framework

I move to include a sub-alternative to Alternative 5 Gear-Only Sturgeon Package, to be reviewed by the FMAT, AP, and Monkfish/Spiny Dogfish Committee, to exempt vessels using less than 5 ¼ inch gillnet mesh from the overnight soak prohibition.

Grist/Gwin

Motion carries (18/0/0)

I move to endorse the packages of alternatives for additional analysis and input from the Advisory Panels prior to the joint Committee making recommendations for April 2024 final action.

Grist/Feller

I move to postpone endorsement motion until discussion on additional sub-alternative.

Nowalsky/Hughes

Motion to postpone carries by consent

I move to add a sub-alternative to allow use of low-profile gear in the Southern-New England polygon in Alternative #5.

Farnham/Gwin

I move to amend to add a sentence: This sub-alternative will be reviewed by FMAT/PDT, AP, and Joint Spiny Dogfish/Monkfish Committee.

Nowalsky/Farnham

Motion to amend carries by consent

Main motion as amended:

I move to add a sub-alternative to allow use of low-profile gear in the Southern-New England polygon in Alternative #5. This sub-alternative will be reviewed by FMAT/PDT, AP, and Joint Spiny Dogfish/Monkfish Committee.

I move to amend to change “allow” to “require.”

Farnham/Duval

Motion to amend carries by consent

Main motion as amended:

I move to add a sub-alternative to require use of low-profile gear in the Southern-New England polygon in Alternative #5. This sub-alternative will be reviewed by FMAT/PDT, AP, and Joint Spiny Dogfish/Monkfish Committee.

Motion fails (4/12/0)

Main motion (previously postponed):

I move to endorse the packages of alternatives for additional analysis and input from the Advisory Panels prior to the joint Committee making recommendations for April 2024 final action.

Motion carries by consent.

Industry Based Survey White Paper

Move to recommend to task the Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel (NTAP) and the NTAP Bigelow Contingency Plan working group to develop an outline detailing a plan to conduct a multi-vessel industry-based survey pilot program to test the viability of the program presented in the "Draft Proposed Plan for a Novel Industry-Based Multispecies Bottom Trawl Survey on the Northeast U.S. Continental Shelf" white paper with a particular focus on refining section 2 "Survey Design Elements", considering NEAMAP protocols and current industry platform capabilities.

A progress report on the draft plan should be presented in time for further discussion at the April 2024 meetings of the NEFMC and MAFMC, and the spring 2024 meeting of ASMFC.

Hughes/Ruhle

Motion carries by consent