



AUGUST 2014 MEETING AGENDA

August 11-14, 2014

W Washington DC,
515 15th St., NW, Washington, DC 20004
Telephone 202-661-2400

Monday, August 11th

- 2:00 p.m.** **Council Convenes**
- 2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.** **Swearing in of New / Reappointed Council Members and Election of Council Officers**
- 2:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** **Deep Sea Coral Amendment**
- Review alternatives and Fishery Management Action Team recommendations
 - Approve Public Hearing Document
- 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.** **Listening Session - Fishery Data Modernization Plan**
Dan Morris

Tuesday, August 12th

- 9:00 a.m.** **Council Convenes**
- 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.** **Black Sea Bass Wave 1/May 1 Opening Framework - Meeting 2**
- Review and recommend alternatives for submission
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** **SMZ Proposed Rule**
- Review proposed regulations
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.** **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **Research Set-Aside**
- Review program operations and discuss future direction of RSA program
- 3:00 p.m.** **Council Meeting with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Bluefish Board**

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Bluefish Specifications

- Review SSC, Bluefish Monitoring Committee, and Advisory Panel recommendations regarding 2015 harvest levels and associated management measures
- Adopt recommendations for 2015 harvest levels and associated management measures
- ASMFC approval of the 2014 Fishery Management Plan Review and the Terms of Reference for the Bluefish stock assessment

Wednesday, August 13th

9:00 a.m.

Demersal Committee Meeting as a Committee of the Whole with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Board

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Black Sea Bass Specifications

- Review SSC, Monitoring Committee, and Advisory Panel recommendations regarding 2015 harvest levels and associated management measures
- Recommend any changes to 2015 management measures

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Scup Specifications

- Review SSC, Monitoring Committee, and Advisory Panel recommendations regarding 2015 harvest levels and associated management measures
- Recommend any changes to 2015 management measures

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Summer Flounder Specifications

- Review SSC, Bluefish Monitoring Committee, and Advisory Panel recommendations regarding 2015 harvest levels and associated management measures
- Recommend any changes to 2015 management measures

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Comprehensive Summer Flounder Amendment

- Approve Scoping Document

Thursday, August 14th

9:00 a.m.

Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Omnibus Amendment to Simplify Vessel Baselines

Melissa Hooper - GARFO

- Review and approve document for Public Hearings

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Business Session

Organization Reports

- NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office
- NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Liaison Reports

- New England Council
- South Atlantic Council

Executive Director's Report

Chris Moore

Science Report

Rich Seagraves

Committee Reports

Continuing and New Business

June 2014 motions

Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Specifications

Motion to suspend the size limit for surfclams in 2015.

Anderson for the Committee

Motion carries unanimously

Demersal Committee as a Committee of the Whole

Move to request that the service publish a control date for summer flounder for the commercial fleet.

Nolan/Kaelin (17/4/0)

Motion carries

Framework to Black Sea Bass Fishery in Wave 1

Move that the Council initiate a Framework on opening certain black sea bass seasons as discussed at June 2014 Council meeting.

DiLernia/Anderson (20/0)

Motion carries

River Herring and Shad Committee as a Committee of the Whole

Move to specify a River Herring/Shad cap for the mackerel fishery at 236 mt.

Kaelin/Tooley

Move to substitute that for 2015 the River Herring/Shad cap be set at 89 mt, should mackerel landings surpass 10,000 mt the cap would increase to 155 mt (allowing full harvest of proposed 2015 mackerel quota) if the initial cap is not surpassed.

McMurray/King (13/9/0)

Motion Passes

Substitute motion becomes main motion:

Move that for 2015 the River Herring/Shad cap be set at 89 mt, should mackerel landings surpass 10,000 mt the cap would increase to 155 mt (allowing full harvest of proposed 2015 mackerel quota) if the initial cap is not surpassed.

(13/9/0)

Motion passes

I move to amend to remove "if the initial cap is not surpassed."

Tooley/Kaelin (5/15/1)

Motion fails

Move to accept closure provisions as described in briefing book and recommended by monitoring committee.
 Nolan/Kaelin (18/0/0)
 Motion passes

Mackerel, Squid Butterfish Committee as a Committee of the Whole

	Year 1 (2015)	Year 2 (2016)	Year 3 (2017)
ABC	33,278	31,412	30,922
ACT Buffer	3,328	3,141	3,092
ACT Buffer %	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%
ACT	29,950	28,271	27,830
Landings or "Domestic Annual Harvest (DAH)"	22,530	21,042	20,652
Assumed discards in butterfish fishing (11.4%)	2,899	2,707	2,657
Assumed other discards (highest from 3 cap years)	637	637	637
Butterfish Cap (longfin discards)	3,884	3,884	3,884

Move to establish the butterfish specifications (in mt) per the table above described by Laurie Nolan for 2015-2017.
 Nolan/Pate (16/1/0)
 Motion passes

Move to amend by adding that the butterfish annual catch target be increased over a period of 3 years by adding 1/3 of the additional quota available each year over the 3 year specifications period.
 McMurray/Linhard (1/19/0)
 Motion fails

Move to substitute to MC Butterfish Recommendations:
 -OFL = 41,092, ABC = ACL = 30,922 mt, ACT = 27,830 mt, DAH = 18,161 mt, butterfish discard cap = 4,000 mt; TALFF = 0.
 -Assume butterfish discards in butterfish fishery = 5,032 and miscellaneous discards = 637 mt.
 -Allow up to 3% of ACT to be specified as RSA.
 -When landings are projected to reach 16,750 mt, a 5,000 pound trip limit would be implemented.
 -When landings are projected to reach 18,161 mt, a 600 pound trip limit would be implemented.
 Zeman/Linhard (9/10)
 Motion fails

Move to initiate a Framework to return unused discards to the directed fishery on November 1 in same fashion as butterfish cap.
 Kaelin/
 Withdrawn

MACKEREL:
 ABC = 40,165 mt, Canadian Catch = 15,126 mt, US ABC = ACL = 25,039 mt,
 Recreational Allocation = 1,552 mt, ACT Buffer Recreational = 10% (1,397 mt ACT),
 Commercial Allocation = 23,487 mt, ACT Buffer Commercial = 10% (21,138 mt ACT),
 Commercial discards = 1.26%, DAH = 20,872 mt = DAP; JVP = 0, TALFF = 0,
 95% projected closure threshold with a 20,000 pound post-closure trip limit.
 Move to recommend monitoring committee's mackerel recommendations.
 Kaelin/Nolan (19/0/0)
 Motion passes

LONGFIN:
 1. ABC = 23,400; IOY = DAH = DAP = 22,445 mt to account for discards (historical average).
 2. DAH will be allocated as follows: Trimester 1 - 43% (9,651 mt) Trimester 2 - 17% (3,816 mt), and Trimester 3 - 40% (8,978 mt).
 3. For Trimesters 1 and 2, the directed fishery will be closed when 90% of each Trimester allocation is taken except 95% in last 2 weeks of these Trimesters; vessels will be restricted to a 2,500 pound trip limit for the remainder of the period. Vessels which possess incidental catch permits may land up to 2,500 pounds per trip at all times. Illex vessels would continue to have a 15,000 pound incidental longfin squid trip limit when Illex fishing during Trimester 2 closures (see regulations for details).
 4. When 95% of the total annual quota has been taken (i.e., 95% of 22,445 mt), a 2,500 pound trip limit will be implemented for the rest of the fishing year.
 6. The roll-overs of overages and underages between Trimesters would be maintained as current.
 Move to recommend monitoring committee's longfin recommendations as on the screen.
 Nolan/Hemilright (18/0/0)
 Motion passes

ILLEX
 1. ABC = 24,000; IOY = DAH = DAP = 22,915 mt to account for discards (historical average).
 2. The directed Illex fishery closes at 95% of DAH; a 10,000 pound trip limit is implemented upon closure. Vessels with Illex incidental catch permits may land up to 10,000 pounds per trip at all times.
 Move to recommend monitoring committee's Illex recommendations for 2015-2017 as appears on the screen.

Nolan/Anderson (18/0/0)

Motion passes

I move that in order to align our policy with the Atlantic Herring Plan, the Council modify its recommendation in the slippage framework such that Mechanical, dogfish, and safety issues that led to a slippage would require moving 15 nautical miles before fishing again. If any non-exempted slippages occur the vessel would have to terminate the trip. Notification of slippage events via Vessel Monitoring System would be required to make enforcement feasible.

Anderson/McMurray (13/5/0)

Motion passes

I move that the MSB specifications include a Research Set Aside (RSA) of up to 3% for all MSB species, subject to Council decisions during the review of the RSA program at the August 2014 Council meeting.

Anderson/Kaelin (18/0/0)

Motion passes

Omnibus ABC Framework

Make it consistent with the Council's risk policy for the SSC to specify constant multi-year ABCs if the average of the probabilities of overfishing equal the appropriate goal and in no one year is the probability of overfishing greater than 50%. (Alternative 2)

The biological status determination criteria for each of the relevant species managed under the fishery management plans would be automatically based upon the best scientific information consistent with National Standards 1 and 2. (Alternative 3)

Move that with respect to the ABC framework to approve alternatives 2 and 3 as discussed.

Anderson/Linhard (19/0/0)

Motion passes

Executor Director Report

Move to approve the Spiny Dogfish letter to John Bullard dated June 11, 2014

Moved unanimously.

New Business

I move to request that the New England Council analyze an inshore scallop transit corridor option for inclusion in Framework 26.

O'Reilly/Kaelin (20/0/0)

Motion passes

The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary. Other items may be added, but the Council cannot take action on such items even if the item requires emergency action without additional public notice. Non-emergency matters not contained in this agenda may come before the Council and / or its Committees for discussion, but these matters may not be the subject of formal Council or Committee action during this meeting. Council and Committee actions will be restricted to the issues specifically listed in this agenda. Any issues requiring emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act that arise after publication of the Federal Register Notice for this meeting may be acted upon provided that the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The meeting may be closed to discuss employment or other internal administrative matters.