

# Liaison Report from the December 5<sup>th</sup> thru 8th, 2022 NEFMC Meeting in Newport, RI – Hybrid

## **Habitat Committee Report:**

the Council request NMFS maintain the Georges Bank Dedicated Habitat Research Area and associated mobile bottom tending gear restrictions for an additional three years.

## **Monkfish Committee Report:**

No report as we addressed Monkfish yesterday at this meeting

## **Scallop Committee Report:**

The Council completed work on FW 36 and submitted to NMFS for rule making. In FW 36 the Council selected alternatives that would allow for:

- Two trips to Area II (24,000 pounds), 12,000 pound trip limit.
- 24 Days at Sea (F=0.51)

The action also contains LAGC IFQ components such as DAS and AA trips based on 5% of the overall scallop ABC and the updated OFL.

The Council selected Northern Gulf of Main Alternatives that would set the 2023 NGOM TAL at 434,311 pounds.

## **Spiny Dogfish Committee Report:**

The council moved that the management uncertainty buffer be set to 0% and with the other specification used by the Monitoring Committee to result in a 12-million-pound commercial quota.

## **Groundfish Committee Report:**

The Council took Management Measures to address:

- Rebuilding plan for Gulf of Maine Cod
- Revised Specifications for fishing years 2023 through 2025 with exception of white hake, Gulf of Maine haddock, and Georges Bank cod.
- Remove the management uncertainty buffer for sectors if the ASM target coverage rate is set at 90% or greater for fishing year 2023 for Gulf of Maine haddock and White hake.
- Set the FY2023-2025 ABCs for GOM haddock
- set the FY2023 ABC for white hake
- Set the Georges Bank cod ABC
- Revised Specifications for Recreational Catch Target for Georges Bank Cod

## **NEFMC Priorities:**

A couple of priorities in particular may be of interest and that is the Council:

- chose to not include the EBFM priority “Begin development of a fully public stakeholder engaged MSE”.
- chose to revisit Amendment 8 inshore midwater trawl closure.
- chose not to pursue the Herring Spawning Framework in 2023
- The Scallop and Habitat Committees will develop an action for access to Northern Edge HMA, including development of access area program for modified area” as a 2023 work priority.