



FEBRUARY 2020 MEETING AGENDA

February 11-13, 2020

The Sanderling Resort
1461 Duck Road
Duck, NC 27949
Telephone 855-412-7866

Tuesday, February 11th

- 2:00 p.m. Council Convenes**
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 2020 Implementation Plan**
- Review and approve 2020 Implementation Plan
 - Discuss 2020 Council Meeting Topics
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Review and Approve New SSC Membership**
- 5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Kitty Hawk Wind Project**
Craig Poff - Avangrid Renewables
- 5:30 p.m. Council Adjourns**

Wednesday, February 12th

- 9:00 a.m. Council Convenes**
- 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. NEFSC Survey and Data Collection Programs**
- Fish and redesigned clam surveys
 - Ecosystem data programs
 - Gear testing and gear innovation work (including an overview of the role of Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel)
 - Social and economic data collections
 - Cooperative research
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. GARFO/NEFSC Joint Strategic Plan**
Mike Pentony - GARFO
- Presentation on final NEFSC/GARFO Regional Strategic Plan for 2020-2023 and Annual Implementation Plan
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Update on *Illex* Working Group**

2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Review and Approve Public Hearing Document for Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Goals and Objectives and *Illex* Permit Amendment

- Review Fishery Management Action Team input
- Review Advisory Panel input
- Review Committee recommendations
- Select any preferred alternatives

5:00 p.m.

Council Adjourns

Thursday, February 13th

9:00 a.m.

Council Convenes

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Business Session

Committee Reports

- Scientific and Statistical Committee Report

Executive Director's Report

Chris Moore

Organization Reports

- NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Office
- NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- NOAA Office of General Counsel
- NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
- US Coast Guard

Liaison Reports

- New England Council
- South Atlantic Council

Continuing and New Business

**MAFMC December 2019 Council Meeting
Annapolis, MD**

2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Move to approve MAFMC 2020-2024 Strategic Plan with revisions approved today.

Elliott/deFur

Motion carries by consent

Five-Year Research Priorities

On behalf of the Research Steering Committee, move that the Council approve the Five-year (2020-2024) Research Priorities document as modified by the Committee and reviewed by the Council today.

Motion carries by consent

Risk Policy Framework

Move to approve Alternatives 8 and 9 and a review of the revised risk policy be completed in not more than 10 years.

Nowalsky/DiLernia

Move to amend Alternative 2 for Alternative 8.

Heins/Bolen (11/9/0)

Motion to amend carries

Main motion:

Move to approve Alternatives 2 and 9 and a review of the revised risk policy be completed in not more than 10 years.

(18/1/1)

Motion carries

Move to reconsider the approved motion for Alternative 2 for the risk policy framework.

Nowalsky/Hemilright (18/1/0)

Motion to reconsider carries

Move to postpone discussion of Alternative 2 of the risk policy framework until the New Business agenda.

Nowalsky/DiLernia

Motion carries by consent

Note: please see additional motions on the risk policy framework under the Continuing and New Business agenda item

Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Excessive Shares Amendment

Goals and Objectives

Move that the Council adopt the goals and objectives as drafted by the FMAT and as you see here.

deFur on behalf of the Committee

Motion carries by consent

Goal 1: Ensure the biological sustainability of the surfclam and ocean quahog stocks to maintain sustainable fisheries.

Goal 2: Maintain a simple and efficient management regime.

Objective 2.1: Promote compatible regulations between state and federal entities.

Objective 2.2: Promote coordination with the New England Fishery Management Council.

Objective 2.3: Promote a regulatory framework that minimizes government and industry costs associated with administering and complying with regulatory requirements.

Goal 3: Manage for stability in the fisheries.

Objective 3.1: Provide a regulatory framework that supports long-term stability for surfclam and ocean quahog fisheries and fishing communities.

Goal 4: Provide a management regime that is flexible and adaptive to changes in the fisheries and the ecosystem.

Objective 4.1: Advocate for the fisheries in ocean planning and ocean use discussions.

Objective 4.2: Maintain the ability to respond to short and long-term changes in the environment.

Goal 5: Support science, monitoring, and data collection that enhance effective management of the resources.

Objective 5.1: Continue to promote opportunities for government and industry collaboration on research.

Excessive Shares Alternatives

Move that the Council select sub-alternative 4.4 as the preferred excessive shares cap alternative: Two-part cap – Quota share ownership would be capped and a second cap, an annual allocation cap based on the possession of cage tags (Surfclams: 35/65%, Ocean quahogs: 40/70%), with the selection of the family affiliate level and the cumulative 100% model for tracking of ownership.

deFur on behalf of the Committee

Motion carries by consent

Excessive Shares Review Alternatives

Move that the Council select Alternative 2 as the preferred excessive shares review alternative: Require the periodic review of the excessive share measures at least every 10 years or as needed.

deFur on behalf of the Committee

Motion carries by consent

Multi-year Management Measures Alternatives

Move that the Council select Alternative 2 as the preferred multi-year management measure alternatives: Specifications will be set for maximum number of years consistent with the Northeast Regional Coordinating Council approved stock assessment schedule.

deFur on behalf of the Committee

Motion carries by consent

Framework Adjustment Process Alternatives

Move that the Council select Alternative 2 as the preferred framework adjustment process alternative: Add excessive shares cap levels to the list of measures to be adjusted via framework.

deFur/Davidson

Motion to substitute:

Move that the Council select Alternative 1, No changes to the list of management measures that can be addressed via the framework adjustment process.

Hughes/Nolan (17/3/0)

Motion to substitute carries

Main motion:

Move that the Council select Alternative 1, No changes to the list of management measures that can be addressed via the framework adjustment process.

18/2/0

Motion carries

Move to approve the Excessive Shares Amendment and submit to NMFS for rulemaking.

deFur/Hughes

Motion carries by consent with 1 abstention

EAFM Summer Flounder Conceptual Model

Move to select question 1 (recreational data) to move forward with a management strategy evaluation.

Nowalsky/Lenox

Motion to substitute for question 3 (recreational discards).

Nolan/Hemilright (14/5/1)

Motion to substitute carries

Main motion:

Move to select question 3 (recreational discards) to move forward with a management strategy evaluation.

(17/1/2)

Motion carries

Bluefish 2020 Recreational Measures with Board

Move to adopt 2020 coastwide recreational bluefish management measures with a 3-fish bag limit for the shore and private mode and a 5-fish bag limit for the for-hire mode.

Board: Davis/Maniscalco (7/3/2)

Council: Heins/Davidson (9/8/2)

Motion carries

Move to amend:

5-fish bag limit for the for-hire uninspected boat (6 or less passengers), a 10-fish bag limit for the inspected for-hire boat (7+ passengers), and 16" minimum size (TL) limit for all for-hire vessels.

Council: DiLernia/deFur (4/14/1)

Board: Hasbrouck/Clark

Motion fails

Move to amend:

3-fish for private/rental and shore, 5-fish for uninspected (6 or less passengers) for-hire vessels, and a 7-fish limits for inspected (7+ passengers) for-hire vessels.

Council: DiLernia/Nowalsky

Board: Hasbrouck/Hart (5/5)

Motion fails

Bluefish Allocation Amendment

Move that we approve the bluefish supplemental scoping document for public comment.

Council: Davidson/Gwin

Motion carries by consent

Summer flounder 2020 recreational measures with Board

Move to adopt conservation equivalency for 2020 summer flounder recreational management, with non-preferred coastwide measures including a 19-inch minimum size, 4 fish possession limit, and open season from May 15-September 15. In addition, the precautionary default measures would include a 20-inch minimum size, 2 fish possession limit, and open season from July 1-August 31.

Board: Clark/Borden - motion carries by consent

Council: Cimino/Batsavage - motion carries by consent with one abstention

Scup 2020 Recreational Measures with Board

Move to adopt a 40 fish bag limit, 9-inch minimum size, and open season for Jan 1 to December 31 in federal waters in 2020.

Council: Nolan/DiLernia

Board: Borden/Kane

Move to substitute:

Recommend status quo in state and federal waters for the scup recreational fishery in 2020.

Board: McNamee/Davis (9/0/2)

Council: Heins/Hughes (14/3/1)

Motion carries

Main motion:

Move to recommend status quo in state and federal waters for the scup recreational fishery in 2020.

Board: roll call: (8/0/1/2)

Council: (18/0/1)

Motion carries

Black Sea Bass 2020 Recreational Measures

Move to maintain status quo state and federal waters recreational measures for black sea bass in 2020, including a federal waters minimum size limit of 12.5 inches, a 15 fish federal waters possession limit, and open federal waters seasons of Feb 1-28 and May 15-Dec 31.

Board: Davis/McNamee - Motion carries without objection and with 1 abstention

Council: Cimino/Heins (19/0/1)

Motion carries

Summer Founder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass

Move to approve the scoping/public information document for the summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass commercial/recreational allocation amendment as modified today.

Council: DiLernia/deFur - Motion carries by consent

Board: Clark/Allen - Motion carries by consent

Black Sea Bass Commercial Issues

October meeting motion postponed to December meeting: I move to activate the black sea bass commercial amendment in a joint action with ASMFC.

Nolan/Hughes (18/1/1)

Motion carries

eVTR

Move to recommend alternative 1e to require that commercial VTRs be submitted electronically with a weekly deadline following the completion of a fishing trip.

Hemilright/Elliott

Move to amend:

Recommend alternative 1c, commercial eVTR with a 48-hour submission deadline following the completion of a fishing trip.

Nowalsky/Pentony (15/4/1)

Motion carries

Main motion:

Move to recommend alternative 1c, commercial eVTR with a 48-hour submission deadline following the completion of a fishing trip.

(18/2/0)

Motion carries

Move to submit the framework document with the preferred alternative to NMFS.

Elliott/deFur

Motion carries by consent, 1 abstention

Continuing and New Business

Risk Policy Framework

Move to substitute:

Adopt a hybrid of Alternative 2 and Alternative 8 as follows - P* equal to 0 when the B/Bmsy ratio is less than or equal to 0.1, with linear ramping to a maximum P* of 0.45 when the B/Bmsy ratio is less than or equal to 1.0, and a linear ramping to a maximum of 0.49 when the B/Bmsy ratio is equal to or greater than 1.5.

Nolan/Nowalsky (13/6/1)

Motion carries

Main motion:

Move to adopt a hybrid of Alternative 2 and Alternative 8 as follows - P* equal to 0 when the B/Bmsy ratio is less than or equal to 0.1, with linear ramping to a maximum P* of 0.45 when the B/Bmsy ratio is less than or equal to 1.0, and a linear ramping to a maximum of 0.49 when the B/Bmsy ratio is equal to or greater than 1.5.

(13/6/1)

Motion carries

Move to postpone this motion until the February 2020 meeting.

Davidson/deFur (6/11/2)

Motion fails

Move to submit the risk policy framework to the service.

Nowalsky/DiLernia

Motion carries by consent

2020 Implementation Plan

Move to approve 2020 Actions and Deliverables.

Elliott/deFur

Motion carries by consent

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.