

New England Fishery Management Council Meeting Agenda
Tuesday - Thursday, June 28-30, 2022
Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME 04101
tel: (207) 775-2311 | [Holiday Inn By the Bay](#)
[Webinar Registration Option](#)

Sending comments? Written comments must be received at the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) office no later than 8:00 a.m., Thursday, June 23, 2022 to be considered at this meeting. Please address comments to Council Chair Eric Reid or Executive Director Tom Nies at: NEFMC, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950. Email submissions should be sent to comments@nefmc.org. ** Written comments must address items listed on the agenda for this meeting or issues that will be brought up under the open period for public comment.

IMPORTANT: *The Council will hold its June 2022 meeting at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, ME. This will be a hybrid meeting with in-person participation, coupled with a webinar option for individuals who cannot or prefer not to attend in person. The Council continues to follow all public safety measures related to [COVID-19](#) and intends to do so for this meeting. The Council is encouraging all in-person participants to wear masks in the meeting room except when seated. Additional spacing between seats will be provided to allow for social distancing. Please participate remotely if you are experiencing COVID symptoms or do not feel well. Updates will be posted on the [Council's June 2022 meeting webpage](#).*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: *The Council's "Guidelines for Providing Public Comments" can be found [here](#). Anyone interested in speaking during the open period for public comment on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 2:45 p.m. should fill out the sign-up sheet on the table at the entrance to the Council meeting room. To speak remotely, email Janice Plante at jplante@nefmc.org to get on the list.*

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

9:00 a.m. Reports on Recent Activities

Council Chair, Council Executive Director, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) Regional Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) General Counsel, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC), Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Enforcement, ICCAT Advisory Committee, Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel, Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel (NTAP)

11:00 CCC Subcommittee on Area-Based Management (Council Chair Eric Reid)

Progress report on work by the Council Coordination Committee (CCC) Subcommittee on Area-Based Management to assist the CCC in responding to the 30x30 initiative in the draft White House report titled "Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful"

11:30 Northeast Climate Regional Action Plan (Dr. Vince Saba, NEFSC; Dr. Lisa Kerr, SSC Chair; Tom Nies, Council Executive Director)

Overview of Draft Northeast Climate Regional Action Plan to Implement the NOAA Fisheries Climate Science Strategy in 2022-2024; Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) feedback; approve Council comment letter

12:15 p.m. East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning (Staff)

Overview of the June 21-23, 2022 Scenario Creation Workshop and next steps under the East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning initiative; CCC response to NOAA Fisheries work on Council Governance Guidance

12:45 Lunch Break

2:00 Atlantic Herring Committee Report (Cheri Patterson)

Framework 7: update on action to protect adult spawning herring on Georges Bank; 2023-2025 Specifications: initial update; Industry-Funded Monitoring (IFM): potentially approve a change in herring priorities and initiate an action to address IFM in the Atlantic herring fishery

3:30 Ecosystem-Based Fishery Management (EBFM) Committee (John Pappalardo; Tom Balf, Oceanvest)

EBFM Public Information Workshops: (1) preliminary summary of initial outreach to stakeholders; and (2) update on workshop planning; Prototype Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE): update on contractor solicitation to develop and conduct a Prototype MSE for EBFM and the Georges Bank example Fishery Ecosystem Plan (eFEP)

- 4:15** **2022-2026 Council Research Priorities** (Staff; SSC Chair Dr. Lisa Kerr)
Approve updates to 2022-2026 Council Research Priorities; receive SSC feedback on research priorities

Wednesday, June 29, 2022

- 9:00 a.m.** **National Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy** (Dr. Matt Cutler, NEFSC)
Presentation on NOAA Fisheries' Draft Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Strategy to reduce barriers to underserved communities and incorporate EEJ into daily activities; Council comments
- 9:30** **2023 State-Space Modeling Research Track Assessment** (Dr. Tim Miller, NEFSC)
Educational overview and opportunity for Council questions on the 2023 research track assessment to explore the application and use of state-space models across many stocks in the Greater Atlantic Region
- 10:15** **Monkfish Committee Report** (Libby Etrie)
Framework 13: progress report on 2023-2025 fishery specifications and other measures; Monkfish Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program: approve 2023-2024 RSA priorities
- 11:45** **Eastern Georges Bank and Georges Bank Haddock Research Track Assessment** (Dr. Russ Brown, NEFSC)
Presentation on peer review results for Eastern Georges Bank and Georges Bank Haddock Research Track Assessment
- 12:30 p.m.** **Lunch Break**
- 1:45** **Groundfish Committee Report** (Rick Bellavance; Dr. Lisa Kerr, SSC Chair, GMRI)
Framework 65: progress report on action to include (1) 2023-2024 total allowable catches (TACs) for U.S./Canada shared resources on Georges Bank, (2) 2023-2024 specifications for Georges Bank cod and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder, (3) 2023-2025 specifications for 14 additional groundfish stocks, (4) revised rebuilding plans for Gulf of Maine cod and Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic winter flounder, (5) additional measures to promote stock rebuilding, and (6) acceptable biological catch (ABC) control rule revisions; Metrics for Amendment 23 Monitoring System Review: progress report; Atlantic Cod Research Track Assessment: update
- 3:45** **Groundfish Sectors** (Jackie Odell, Northeast Seafood Coalition; Hank Soule and David Leveille, Sector Managers)
Presentation on sector operations, including overview of core responsibilities, functions, goals, challenges, benefits to groundfish management, and opportunities to enhance interactions with the Council

Thursday, June 30, 2022

- 9:00 a.m.** **Atlantic Sturgeon Bycatch Working Group** (Spencer Talmage, GARFO)
Presentation on draft action plan to reduce Atlantic sturgeon bycatch in federal large-mesh gillnet fisheries by 2024; Council comments
- 9:30** **Habitat Committee Report** (Council Chair Eric Reid)
(1) Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC): final action on framework to designate a new HAPC in Southern New England; (2) Northeast Regional Habitat Assessment: products, outreach, and next steps, plus SSC feedback; (3) Aquaculture, Offshore Energy, and Cables: update on regional issues, including an overview of the May 19, 2022 Gulf of Maine Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting and wind energy leasing issues in the federal waters of the Gulf of Maine, as well as information from BOEM about the upcoming Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the New York Bight lease areas
- 12:30 p.m.** **Lunch Break**
- 1:30** **Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan** (Marisa Trego, GARFO)

Presentation on the May 2022 Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (TRT) meeting and update on Phase 2 amendments to the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan for U.S. East Coast gillnet fisheries, as well as Atlantic mixed species trap/pot and Mid-Atlantic lobster and Jonah crab trap/pot fisheries

2:15 Ropeless Fishing (Henry Milliken, NEFSC)

Progress report on the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's collaborative research on ropeless fishing to help reduce the risk of right whale entanglements with fishing gear

2:45 Open Period for Public Comment

Opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on issues relevant to Council business but not listed on this agenda (please limit remarks to 3-5 minutes)

3:00 Scallop Committee Report (Melanie Griffin)

Scallop Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program: approve 2023-2024 RSA priorities; Specifications: initiate action for 2023 fishery specifications, 2024 default specifications, and other measures; Scallop Survey Working Group: update; Limited Access Leasing: update on scoping process; Nantucket Lightship scallop issues: update

4:30 Other Business

Discuss NOAA scoping process to consider designating a national marine sanctuary in the Hudson Canyon area, as well as factors that will contribute to the determination; approve Council comments; address other business as needed

Times listed next to the agenda items are estimates and are subject to change.

This meeting is being held in person and by webinar. Council member financial disclosure forms are available for examination on the Council website.

Although other non-emergency issues not contained on this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject 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 actions are available for review prior to a final vote by the Council.

Please check the Council's website, www.nefmc.org, or call (978) 465-0492 for copies.

This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 USC 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405
Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safmc.net

Melvin Bell, Chair | Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

Agenda

Key West Marriott Beachside
3841 N. Roosevelt Boulevard
Key West, FL 33040

June 13-17, 2022

Except for advertised (scheduled) public hearings and public comment sessions, the times indicated on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that meetings may start earlier or later than indicated.

Hybrid Public Comment Session:

The public comment session for the meeting (June 15, 2022, at 4 PM), will allow for both in-person and remote (via webinar) verbal public comment. Individuals intending to provide verbal public comment remotely are asked to sign-up at the following link: <https://safmc.wufoo.com/forms/q1wp9e9j13t3u64/>. Members of the public intending to provide verbal public comment in-person will be asked to sign-in at the meeting.

Written Comments:

To submit written comment on items on this agenda, visit the online public comment form:

<https://safmc.wufoo.com/forms/q1gabmj1vfime3/>

Written comments will be accepted from May 27 to June 17, 2022. These comments are accessible to the public, part of the Administrative Record of the meeting, and immediately available for Council consideration.

View submitted written comments at: <https://safmc.wufoo.com/reports/2022-june-meeting-comment-report/>

Written comments submitted by mail/fax received by close of business the Monday before the meeting (June 6, 2022) will be compiled, posted to the website as part of the meeting materials, and included in the administrative record.

From June 7 to 5 PM on June 17, written comments must be submitted electronically through the online public comment form at the link above.

Monday, June 13, 2022

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION I /Mel Bell 8:30 am – 10:30 am (CLOSED)

Adopt agenda

Approve minutes

1. Advisory Panel (AP), Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), and Socio-Economic Panel (SEP) Appointments
2. Selection of 2021 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

Monday, June 13, 2022

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION I /Bell 10:30 am – 12:00 noon

Call to order and introductions

Adopt agenda

Approve minutes

1. Reports (NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, US Coast Guard, Council liaisons, state agencies)
2. SEP report
 - a. SEP report summary and input – Scott Crosson, SEP Chair
 - b. Review of data-gathering tool to inform sector allocations
3. Commercial Electronic Logbook Amendment
 - a. Review options paper

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

COUNCIL SESSION I/Bell 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

4. Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rule Amendment
5. Progress Towards Meeting SAFMC Research Recommendations – Clay Porch, SEFSC

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 8:30 am – 12:00 noon

1. Regulatory Amendment 35 (Release Mortality Reduction and Red Snapper Catch Levels)
 - a. AP input – Bob Lorenz, AP Chair
 - b. SSC input – Jeff Buckel, SSC Chair
 - c. Overview of options and analyses to date

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

2. Gag (Amendment 53)
 - a. AP input – Bob Lorenz
 - b. Overview and analyses to date
3. Golden Tilefish and Blueline Tilefish (Amendment 52)
 - a. AP input – Bob Lorenz
 - b. Overview and analyses to date
 - c. Consider approval for public hearings

5:00 to 6:00 pm

Question and Answer Session

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 8:30 am – 12:00 noon

4. Snowy Grouper (Amendment 51)
 - a. AP input – Bob Lorenz
 - b. Overview and analyses to date

- c. Consider approval for public hearings

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 1:30 pm – 3:45 pm

- 5. Greater Amberjack (Amendment 49)
 - a. AP input – Bob Lorenz
 - b. Overview and analyses to date
- 6. AP input on items not on agenda – Bob Lorenz
- 7. South Atlantic Reef Observer Coverage Expansion – Scott Leach, OP Branch Chief
- 8. Exempted Fishing Permit Brief – NMFS SERO

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

PUBLIC COMMENTS

4:00 pm

Public comment will be accepted from individuals attending the meeting (in-person and remotely) regarding any of the items on the Council agenda. The Council Chair, based on the number of individuals wishing to comment, will determine the amount of time provided to each commenter. Those intending to provide verbal public comment via webinar can sign-up here: <https://safmc.wufoo.com/forms/q1wp9e9j13t3u64/>

Public Hearing:

- (1) Greater Amberjack (SG Amendment 49)

Approval for public hearings:

- (1) Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rule Amendment
- (2) Snowy Grouper (SG Amendment 51)
- (3) Golden Tilefish and Blueline Tilefish (SG Amendment 52)

Thursday, June 16, 2022

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Dolphin Wahoo Committee/Marhefka 8:30 am – 12:00 noon

- 1. AP Report – Chris Burrows, AP Chair
- 2. Regulatory Amendment 3
 - a. Overview of options
- 2. Development of empirical Management Procedures (MPs) for Dolphin – TBD, SEFSC

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

Citizen Science Committee/Marhefka 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

1. Program evaluation interview findings & next steps – Rick Bonney
2. FISHstory highlights
3. Snowy grouper project update
4. General Program update

Thursday, June 16, 2022

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION II/Bell 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

1. Legal brief (if needed)
2. Council Coordination Committee Report
3. Council staff report
4. Large Whale Take Reduction Team Report – Charlie Phillips
5. SSC input on items not on agenda – Jeff Buckel
6. NMFS Southeast Regional Office Report – Rick DeVictor
7. NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center Report – Clay Porch

Friday, June 17, 2022

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION II/Bell 8:30 am – 12:00 noon

8. Committee & Full Council Session Reports
9. FMP Workplan Review and Upcoming Meetings
10. Other business

Adjourn