Monday, September 26, 2022

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair nominations:
Mr. Reid

The Council agreed by acclamation.

Vice Chair nominations:
Mr. Bellavance

The Council agreed by acclamation.

Executive Committee nominations:
Mr. Pappalardo
Ms. Ware
Ms. Griffin

The Council agreed by consensus.

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

SCALLOP COMMITTEE REPORT

Limited Access Leasing

1. Mr. Alexander moved and Ms. Ware seconded:
   that the Council initiate an action that facilitates, for the Limited Access Scallop fishery, temporary leasing of access area trips and DAS in the case of adequately documented vessel loss, breakdowns or other vessel-related catastrophic events. This action would consider limits on the frequency of same vessel leasing requests and fishing power adjustments.

   Roll call vote:
   Yes: Mr. Alexander, Mr. Salerno, Ms. Ware, Mr. Olszewski, Ms. Zobel and Ms. Griffin
   No: Mr. Aarrestad, Ms. Etrie, Mr. Whelan, Mr. Bellavance, Ms. Brawn, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Pappalardo, Mr. Pierdinock, Mr. Pentony, Mr. Tracy and Mr. Smith
   Abstain:

   The motion failed on a roll call vote (6/11/0).
2. Ms. Brawn moved and ## seconded:
that the Council initiate the development of a voluntary DAS and access area trip leasing amendment in the Limited Access scallop fishery that is fair and equitable to all stakeholders and reasonably calculated to promote fishery conservation.

The motion *failed* due to lack of a second.

3. Mr. Pentony moved and Ms. Brawn seconded:
that the Council initiate an amendment to consider the development of a voluntary DAS Leasing and access area trip transfer program in the Limited Access scallop fishery where transfers are limited to:
   a. internal transfers within the same ownership structure (company), and/or
   b. two allocations on a vessel, and/or
   c. to address catastrophic vessel loss and/or breakdowns.

The amendment will include provisions to minimize impacts to other fisheries including the Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) scallop fishery.

Roll call vote:
Yes: Ms. Brawn
No: Mr. Whelan, Mr. Tracy, Mr. Smith, Ms. Griffin, Mr. Pierdinock, Mr. Pappalardo, Mr. Olszewski, Ms. Ware, Mr. Salerno, Ms. Zobel, Mr. Hansen, Ms. Etrie, Mr. Bellavance, Mr. Alexander and Mr. Aarrestad.
Abstain: Mr. Pentony

The motion *failed* on a roll call vote (1/15/1).

**Wednesday, September 28, 2022**

**TRANSBORDINARY MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMMITTEE (TMGC)**

**TMGC - US/CA TACs**

1. Ms. Etrie moved and Mr. Bellavance seconded:
that the Council approve the TMGC’s recommendations of US/CA TACs for 2023 for Eastern Georges Bank cod of 520 mt and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder of 200 mt.

   The Council agreed by consensus.

**GROUNDFISH COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Framework Adjustment 65 / Specifications and Management Measures**

2. Mr. Bellavance moved and Mr. Salerno seconded:
that the Council remove revised rebuilding strategy for Southern New England/Mid Atlantic winter flounder from consideration in Framework Adjustment 65.

The Council agreed by consensus.

3. Mr. Bellavance moved and Ms. Etrie seconded:
that the Council remove additional measures to promote stock rebuilding of Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic winter flounder from consideration in Framework Adjustment 65.

The Council agreed by consensus.

Other Business- Georges Bank cod

4. Mr. Bellavance moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council send a letter to Mid-Atlantic states communicating concern with recent levels of recreational catch of Georges Bank cod and request consideration of complementary rule making regarding slot limit, possession limit and seasonal restrictions.

The Council agreed by consensus.

ATLANTIC HERRING COMMITTEE REPORT AND SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE (SSC) REPORT PART 2

2023-2025 Specifications

5. Ms. Patterson moved on behalf of the Committee:

The Council agreed by consensus.

6. Ms. Patterson moved and Mr. Bellavance seconded:
that the Council submit the 2023-2025 Atlantic herring specifications document to NOAA Fisheries, as amended today.

The Council agreed by consensus with one abstention (Mr. Pentony).

Framework Adjustment 7

7. Ms. Patterson moved on behalf of the Committee:
that the Council reconsider priorities for 2022 for Atlantic herring and that work discontinue (stop) on Atlantic Herring Framework Adjustment 7 to protect spawning herring on Georges Bank.
Roll call vote:
Yes: Mr. Bellavance, Ms. Brawn, Ms. Etrie, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Olszewski, Ms. Griffin and Mr. Tracy
No: Mr. Aarrestad, Mr. Alexander, Ms. Patterson, Mr. Salerno, Ms. Ware, Mr. Pappalardo, Mr. Pierdinock, Mr. Smith and Mr. Whelan
Abstain: Mr. Pentony

The motion **failed** on a roll call vote (7/9/1).

**HABITAT COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Aquaculture**

8. Mr. Reid moved on behalf of the Committee:
   to initiate an Atlantic salmon aquaculture framework, focused on possession of farmed salmon, raised according to NASCO standards. Other issues to explore include enforcement and reporting. The Council will continue to consult and coordinate on individual aquaculture projects in addition to developing this framework.

   The Council agreed by consensus.

**Dedicated Habitat Research Areas (DHRA)**

9. Mr. Reid moved and Ms. Etrie seconded:
   that the Council recommend that the Regional Administrator retain the Stellwagen DHRA but remove the Georges Bank DHRA designation using the authority granted by the Council in Omnibus EFH Amendment 2.

9a. Mr. Smith moved to divide the motion and Mr. Pierdinock seconded:

   The Council agreed by consensus to divide the motion.

9b. That the Council recommend that the Regional Administrator retain the Stellwagen DHRA designation for another three years after which time a review process will be initiated using the authority granted by the Council in Omnibus EFH Amendment 2.

   The Council agreed by consensus with one abstention (Mr. Pentony).

9c. That the Council remove the Georges Bank DHRA designation using the authority granted by the Council in Omnibus EFH Amendment 2.

9d. Ms. Brawn moved to substitute and Ms. Griffin seconded:
   to remand this back to the Habitat Committee for further review.

   The Council agreed by consensus to the substitute motion.
Main motion:
That the Council remand back to the Habitat Committee for further review whether to remove the Georges Bank DHRA.

The Council agreed by consensus.

**Great South Channel Habitat Management Area**

10. Mr. Salerno moved and Ms. Patterson seconded:
    to forward the Habitat Committee’s recommendations and PDT analysis regarding Exempted Fishing Permit-based projects that might be considered within the Great South Channel Habitat Management Area to the Regional Administrator. Specifically, that such projects should be thoughtfully designed, and that any compensation fishing should be implemented strategically.

The Council agreed by consensus with one abstention (Mr. Pentony).

**Thursday, September 29, 2022**

**MONKFISH COMMITTEE REPORT**

Framework 13

1. Ms. Etrie moved and Mr. Pappalardo seconded:
   that the Council move to considered but rejected Alternative 3 (Increase DAS overage adjustment in north and south) and Alternatives 4 and 5 (increase incidental and limited access possession limits by 25%).

   The Council agreed by consensus.

**SKATE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee consensus statement

2. The Committee concurs with and commends the PDT on the comprehensive approach developed, and implemented with the assistance of NOAA Fisheries, for assembling the data used for setting reference points, in-season quota monitoring and year-end catch accounting.

   The Council agreed by consensus.