August 2020 Council motions
Webinar

**MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2020**

**Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish**
Move to adopt 2021-2022 mackerel specifications as described in Table 1 of the MSB Monitoring Committee Summary.
Nolan/Heins (19/0/0) Motion carries Committee of the Whole
Motion carries Council by consent.

Move to adopt 2021-2023 longfin squid specifications as described in Table 2 of the MSB Monitoring Committee Summary.
Nolan/Heins (20/0/0) Motion carries Committee of the Whole
Motion carries Council by consent.

Move to adopt 2021-2022 butterfish specifications as described in Table 3 (Option A) of the MSB Monitoring Committee Summary.
Nolan/DiLernia (20/0/0) Motion carries Committee of the Whole
Motion carries Council by consent.

**River Herring/Shad**
Move to maintain the current 129 MT RH/S Cap for 2021-2022.
deFur/Elliott (19/0/0) Motion carries Committee of the Whole.
Motion carries Council by consent.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020**

**Bluefish**
Move that the bluefish 2021 ABC=ACL=16.28 M lbs. Using MRIP discards from 2019 (5.17 M lbs.) and including no transfer to the commercial fishery, the RHL=8.34 M lbs. With commercial discards set to 0, the commercial quota=2.77 M lbs.
Board: Meserve/Fote (12/0/0/1)
Council: Clark/DiLernia (20/0/0)
Motion carries

**Summer Flounder**
Move that, based on the SSC and MC recommendations, the summer flounder 2021 recreational ACL=ACT=12.48 mil lb. and the commercial ACL=ACT=14.63 mil lb. The RHL=8.32 mil lb. and the commercial quota = 12.49 mil lb.
Board: Hasbrouck/Clark (Motion carries by consent)
Council: DiLernia/Cimino (Motion carries by consent)
Motion carries
Scup
Move that, based on the SSC, staff, and MC recommendations, the scup 2021 recreational ACL=ACT=7.66 mil lbs. and the commercial ACL=ACT=27.15 mil lbs. The RHL=6.07 mil lbs. and the commercial quota=20.50 mil lbs.
Board: Hasbrouck/Davis (Motion carries by consent with one abstention)
Council: Davidson/Wilke (Motion carries by consent)
Motion carries

Black Sea Bass
Move that, based on the SSC, staff, and MC recommendations, the black sea bass 2021 recreational ACL=ACT=7.93 mil lb. and the commercial ACL=ACT=9.52 mil lb. The RHL=6.34 mil lb. and the commercial quota=6.09 mil lb.
Board: Batsavage/Clark (10/1/0/0)
Council: Batsavage/Clark (17/3/0)
Motion carries

Move to update the values for initial expected February recreational harvest by state based on the Monitoring Committee recommendation presented today.
Board: Meserve/Miller (10/1/0/0)
Council: Davidson/deFur (14/4/0)
Motion carries

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2020

Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Commercial/Recreational Allocation Amendment
Move to remove recreational for-hire sector separation from further development in the summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass commercial/recreational allocation amendment. Further development of for-hire sector separations should be considered under comprehensive recreational reform initiatives.
Council: Cimino/DiLernia (18/2/0)
Board: Cimino/Clark (9/1/0/1)
Motion carries

Move to postpone indefinitely further development of this amendment.
Council: Townsend/Gwin (4/15/0)
Board: Reid/Davis
Motion fails for lack of Council majority

Move to task the FMAT to analyze an option for increasing the commercial allocation by 5% in all six categories for comm./rec. allocation.
Council: Farnham/Hughes (1/19/0)
Board: Reid/Hasbrouck
Motion fails for lack of Council majority
Move to remove option 3b-2 from the range of alternatives.  
Board: Meserve/Penton (Motion carries by consent)  
Council: Bolen/DiLernia (20/0/0)  
Motion carries

Move to amend to add "and limit the alternative set to the scup fishery."  
Board: McNamee/Maniscalco (5/4/1/1)  
Council: Batsavage/DiLernia (8/12/0)  
Motion fails for lack of Council majority

Move to approve the range of alternatives for inclusion in a public hearing document, as modified today, with the exception of the trigger approach as recommended by the FMAT.  
Board: Davis/Clark (10/0/0/1)  
Council: Clark/deFur (Motion carries by consent)  
Motion carries

**Surfclam and Ocean Quahog**

Move that the Atlantic surfclam 2021-2026 specifications be set as given below in the table. These are consistent with the SSC recommendations for OFL/ABC, and staff recommendations for ACL, ACT=29,363 mt, and commercial quota=26,218 mt.  
DeFur/Hughes  
Motion carries by consent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>OFL</th>
<th>ABC</th>
<th>ACL</th>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>Commercial Quota</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>51,361 mt</td>
<td>47,919 mt</td>
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<td>29,363 mt</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>48,202 mt</td>
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<td>45,959 mt</td>
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<td>44,629 mt</td>
<td>40,946 mt</td>
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<td>26,218 mt</td>
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<tr>
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<td>40,345 mt</td>
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<td>26,218 mt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026</td>
<td>43,886 mt</td>
<td>40,264 mt</td>
<td>40,264 mt</td>
<td>29,363 mt</td>
<td>26,218 mt</td>
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</table>

Move that the ocean quahog 2021-2026 specifications be set as given here. These are consistent with the SSC recommendations for OFL/ABC, and staff recommendations for ACL, ACT, and commercial quota.  
Hughes/Gwin  
Motion carries by consent
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>OFL</th>
<th>ABC</th>
<th>ACL</th>
<th>ACT*</th>
<th>Commercial Quota*</th>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>44,960 mt</td>
<td>44,031 mt</td>
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<td>45,001 mt</td>
<td>44,072 mt</td>
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<td>24,689 mt</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2026</td>
<td>44,875 mt</td>
<td>43,948 mt</td>
<td>43,948 mt</td>
<td>25,924 mt</td>
<td>24,689 mt</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* For combined Maine and non-Maine quahog fishery.

Move to request the Regional Administrator suspend the minimum size requirements for surfclam in 2021.
Hughes/deFur
Motion carries with 1 abstention by NMFS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020

Executive Director’s Report
Move to send a letter to GARFO and NEFSC advising that observer coverage be resumed at the time normal operations at the regional office and science center are also resumed.
DiLernia/Hughes

Move to substitute to send a letter to GARFO and NEFSC recommending, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, extending the waiver granted to vessels with Greater Atlantic Region fishing permits to carry human observers or at-sea monitors through December 31, 2020. Council staff should work with GARFO and NEFSC to begin analysis of the science and management impacts of this waiver extension.
Nowalsky/deFur (17/0/3)
Motion carries

Substitute motion becomes main motion:
Move to send a letter to GARFO and NEFSC recommending, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, extending the waiver granted to vessels with Greater Atlantic Region fishing permits to carry human observers or at-sea monitors through December 31, 2020. Council staff should work with GARFO and NEFSC to begin analysis of the science and management impacts of this waiver extension.
(17/1/2)
Motion carries
Move to support sending a letter to NEFMC asking them to prioritize in 2021 an amendment to address leasing in the full-time limited access sea scallop fishery.
Hughes/Bolen (16/1/3)
Motion carries