



BILLING CODE: 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XG233

Groundfish Operational Assessment Peer Review Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS and the Operational Assessment Oversight Panel will convene the Groundfish Operational Assessment Peer Review Meeting for the purpose of reviewing stock assessments of haddock, cod, yellowtail flounder, windowpane flounder, American plaice, pollock, and white hake. The Operational Assessment Peer Review is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. waters of the northwest Atlantic.

Assessments are prepared by Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) working groups and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts called the Operational Assessment Oversight Panel (AOP). The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

DATES: The public portion of the Groundfish Operational Assessment Peer Review Meeting will be held from September 9, 2019 – September 13, 2019. The meeting will commence on September 13, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Please see

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for the daily meeting agenda.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Stephen H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Jim Weinberg, 508-495-2352; email: james.weinberg@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information, please visit the NEFSC website at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov>. For additional information about the AOP meeting and the stock assessment peer review, please visit the NMFS/NEFSC SAW webpage at <https://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/assessments/2019-assessments/>.

Daily Meeting Agenda – Groundfish Operational Assessment Peer Review Meeting (Subject to Change; All times are approximate and may be changed at the discretion of the Peer Review Chair).

Monday, September 9, 2019

Time	Activity	Lead
1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Welcome and Introductions	Jim Weinberg/Pat Sullivan, Chair
1:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Common Topics	Russ Brown
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Georges Bank Haddock	Liz Brooks
	Gulf of Maine Haddock	Charles Perretti
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Discussion/Review/Summary	Review Panel
	Public Comment	Public
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Time	Activity	Lead
8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Brief Overview and logistics	Jim Weinberg/Pat Sullivan, Chair

Time	Activity	Lead
8:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Gulf of Maine Cod	Charles Perretti
10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Break Discussion/Review/Summary Public Comment	Review Panel Public
11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Lunch	
12:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine Yellowtail Flounder Southern New England/Mid- Atlantic Yellowtail Flounder	Larry Alade Larry Alade
3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Break Discussion/Review/Summary Public Comment	Review Panel Public
4:15 p.m.	Adjourn	

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Time	Activity	Lead
8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Brief Overview and logistics	Jim Weinberg/ Pat Sullivan, Chair
8:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Northern Windowpane Flounder Gulf of Maine Winter Flounder	Toni Chute Lisa Hendrickson
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Discussion/Review/Summary Public Comment	Review Panel Public
12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Lunch	
1:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	American Plaice Pollock	Larry Alade Brian Linton

Time	Activity	Lead
4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Break Discussion/Review/Summary Public Comment	Review Panel Public
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn	

Thursday, September 12, 2019

Time	Activity	Lead
8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Brief Overview and logistics	Jim Weinberg/Pat Sullivan, Chair
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	White Hake	Kathy Sosebee
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Discussion/Review/Summary Public Comment Break	Review Panel Public
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Meeting Wrap Up and Discussion of Key Topics	Review Panel
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Report Writing	Review Panel
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

Friday, September 12, 2019

Time	Activity	Lead
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Report Writing	Review Panel
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Report Writing	Review Panel
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn	

The meeting is open to the public; however, during the ‘Report Writing/Species Summaries’ session on Thursday, September 12th, and Friday, September 13th, the public should not engage in discussion with the peer review Panel.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Special requests should be directed to James Weinberg at the NEFSC, 508-495-2352, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 30, 2019.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2019-19166 Filed: 8/30/2019 4:15 pm; Publication Date: 9/5/2019]