



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XG098]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public hybrid meeting of its Scallop Joint Committee and Advisory Panel to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 9 a.m.

Webinar registration URL information:

<https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/5jK8fLFlTWGhb1tBAjL51g>.

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be held at Fairfield Inn & Suites / Waypoint Event Center, 185 MacArthur Dr., New Bedford, MA 02740; Phone (774) 634-2000

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda:

The Scallop Committee and Advisory Panel will meet to discuss 2027 & 2028 (Default) Specifications and provide input on the range of potential access area and

days-at-sea allocations for the 2027 and 2028 fishing years. This action will set specifications including Acceptable Biological Catch/Annual Catch Limits, days-at-sea, access area allocations, total allowable landings for the Northern Gulf of Maine management area, targets for General Category incidental catch, General Category access area trips, and set-asides for the observer and research programs for fishing year 2027 and default specifications for fishing year 2028. They will also discuss the draft 2027 Priorities and provide feedback for Council consideration at the December 2026 Council meeting. Other business will be discussed, if necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on the 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. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 9, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

