

# Public Meeting

## Recreational Limited Entry Strawman – Groundfish Party/Charter Vessels

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# Background

- Consideration of a Limited Entry (LE) Program has been discussed by the Recreational Advisory Panel (RAP) for years.
- In spring of 2019, the Council held 8 listening sessions to gauge support for developing a LE program.
- Evaluating a LE program is a 2020 Council priority.
- The Council hired Tidal Bay Consulting to develop a strawman for a LE program through stakeholder engagement.



# Meeting Purpose

1. Announce development of the strawman
2. Solicit feedback on a limited entry template
3. Provide information on additional opportunities for feedback



# Meeting Agenda

- Review party/charter fisheries data 2010-2019
- Review limited entry template
- Review other opportunities for feedback
- Next steps
- Comment period/Polls



# Meeting Logistics

- All attendees are muted upon arrival
  - Mute: microphone icon – red is muted, green is unmuted
- Raise hand if you'd like to speak
  - Hand icon – red is raised, green is down
- Those calling in will not be able to speak or participate in the polls
- If you have questions for the organizers, use the 'Questions' feature
- This public meeting is being recorded
- Contact Jamie, [Jcournane@nefmc.org](mailto:Jcournane@nefmc.org), with any technical difficulties

# Party/Charter Fisheries Data

# P/C landings by state – Fish kept on GF and non-GF trips

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Groundfish</b>	<b>585,055</b>	<b>431,127</b>	<b>372,032</b>	<b>379,231</b>	<b>219,028</b>	<b>217,113</b>	<b>284,322</b>	<b>269,453</b>	<b>296,354</b>	<b>258,705</b>
MA	250,289	172,998	153,877	160,739	86,233	62,449	126,234	107,932	101,948	69,755
ME	60,111	31,784	31,239	38,461	27,225	24,803	30,718	26,546	27,304	28,205
NH	183,345	168,040	164,410	168,350	85,212	88,796	99,621	118,472	148,598	145,052
NJ	12,255	14,049	2,339	2,677	9,822	11,532	6,140	6,809	7,769	8,188
NY	59,301	19,932	12,050	6,520	7,023	16,514	13,449	6,714	8,413	5,043
OTHER	2,110	14,254	112	72	447	1,853	1,311	867	795	1,239
RI	17,644	10,070	8,005	2,412	3,066	11,166	6,849	2,113	1,527	1,223
<b>Non-Groundfish</b>	<b>1,766,237</b>	<b>2,030,042</b>	<b>2,215,307</b>	<b>1,788,746</b>	<b>1,906,441</b>	<b>1,877,429</b>	<b>1,965,444</b>	<b>2,027,110</b>	<b>2,013,382</b>	<b>2,255,022</b>
MA	212,417	198,373	238,709	205,638	232,583	202,353	96,487	119,477	136,618	179,681
ME	11,568	9,174	9,087	10,724	12,651	14,405	15,375	11,438	9,374	11,181
NH	86,450	177,879	171,167	103,990	150,096	116,442	107,424	128,786	55,943	59,851
NJ	545,502	650,710	726,829	474,129	443,127	475,863	440,695	534,985	545,552	606,490
NY	620,431	654,194	728,755	651,897	647,818	721,662	841,437	870,941	807,392	869,661
OTHER	193,371	240,104	241,139	260,145	329,403	253,895	375,130	298,174	376,142	476,487
RI	96,498	99,608	99,621	82,223	90,763	92,809	88,896	63,309	82,361	51,671
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,351,292</b>	<b>2,461,169</b>	<b>2,587,339</b>	<b>2,167,977</b>	<b>2,125,469</b>	<b>2,094,542</b>	<b>2,249,766</b>	<b>2,296,563</b>	<b>2,309,736</b>	<b>2,513,727</b>



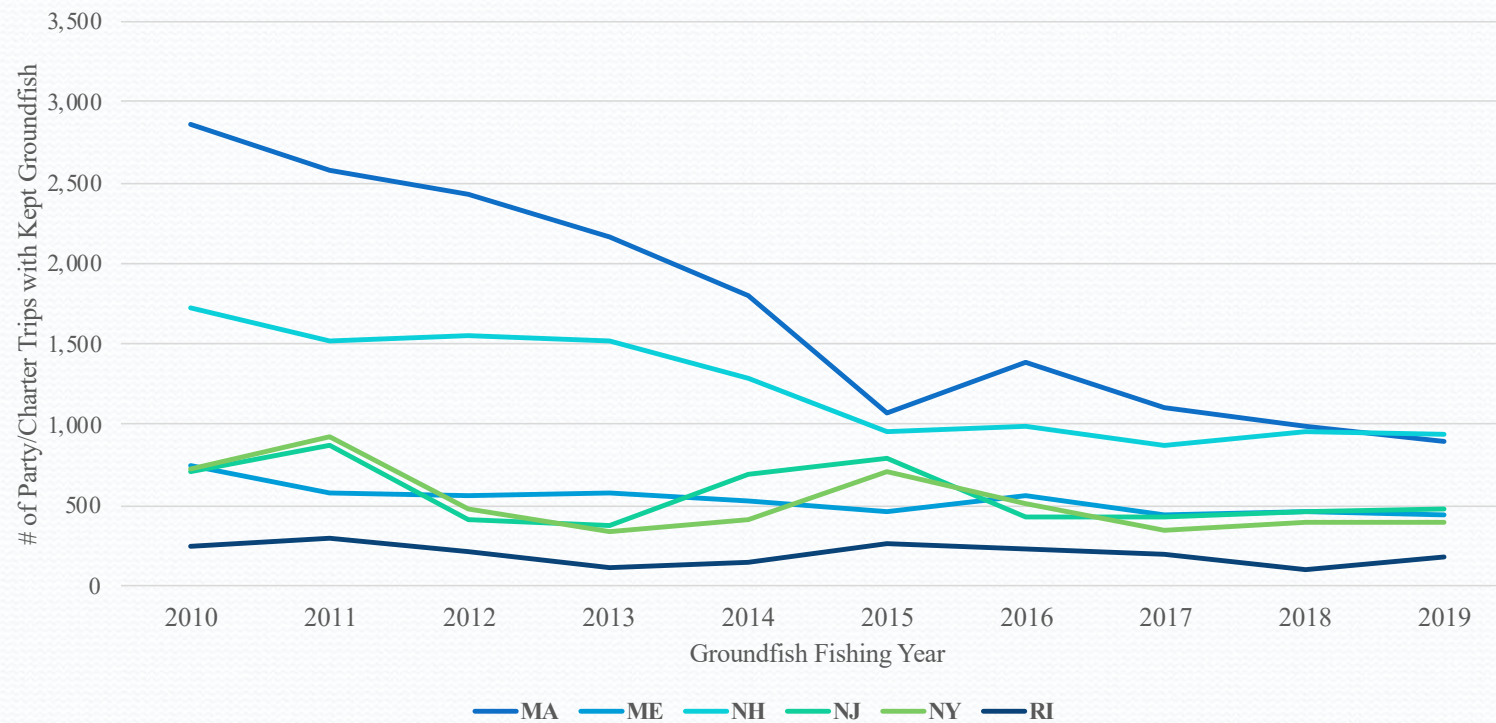
# Active P/C GF permits by state

Year	CT	MA	MD	ME	NH	NJ	NY	OTHER	RI	VA	Grand Total	
2000		10	78	3	16	13	108	100	36	29	17	410
2001		15	90	5	14	21	113	89	26	32	18	423
2002		14	107	3	17	23	97	94	27	32	19	433
2003		14	111	5	18	27	101	95	23	29	17	440
2004		12	107	4	17	24	100	95	23	30	15	427
2005		14	105	8	16	17	95	90	50	30	15	440
2006		16	98	14	22	20	119	82	52	46	18	487
2007		17	92	12	22	22	117	91	56	48	17	494
2008		17	95	20	22	21	115	93	52	47	19	501
2009		17	93	13	23	22	112	104	49	48	16	497
2010		17	102	14	23	21	124	101	43	48	18	511
2011		16	95	12	23	20	107	92	36	40	13	454
2012		15	88	13	22	19	105	97	35	39	11	444
2013		14	79	10	24	23	97	93	38	39	9	426
2014		11	69	10	23	24	93	93	33	35	9	400
2015		11	59	12	24	20	94	90	28	30	11	379
2016		11	51	10	19	16	78	84	25	31	12	337
2017		13	53	12	17	14	73	83	24	29	13	331
2018		13	57	5	20	16	90	82	29	32	12	356
2019		16	64	7	17	13	84	81	30	35	11	358





# P/C groundfish trips by state



# Current management measures

Species		Possession Limit	Minimum Fish Size <sup>2</sup> (inches)	Open Season
Atlantic cod	Inside GOM RMA <sup>1</sup>	1 fish per person per day	21	September 15-30, April 1-14 (Private) September 8 - October 7, April 1 -14 (Charter/Party)
	Outside GOM RMA <sup>1</sup>	10 fish per person per day	21	All Year
Haddock	Inside GOM RMA <sup>1</sup>	15 fish per person per day	17	May 1 – February 28/29 and April 1 – April 30
	Outside GOM RMA <sup>1</sup>	Unlimited	18	All Year
Atlantic halibut		1 fish per vessel per trip	41	All Year
Pollock		Unlimited	19	All Year
Witch flounder (gray sole)		Unlimited	14	All Year
Yellowtail flounder		Unlimited	13	All Year
American plaice (dab)		Unlimited	14	All Year
Winter flounder (blackback)		Unlimited	12	All Year
Redfish (ocean perch)		Unlimited	9	All Year
Offshore hake, red hake, white hake, and silver hake (whiting)		Unlimited	None	All Year
Atlantic Wolffish, windowpane flounder, ocean pout		NO RETENTION	N/A	CLOSED

1. Gulf of Maine (GOM) Regulated Mesh Area (RMA): See figure and coordinates below.  
2. Minimum size is measured as total length.

# Template – Basic Program Elements

# Goals

What goals should a limited entry program consider?

1	2	3	4	5	5
<b>Optimize catch while remaining under the ACLs</b>	<b>Ensure public access to groundfish</b>	<b>Achieve regulatory stability for the P/C fishery</b>	<b>Prevent over-capitalization of vessels</b>	<b>Achieve financial stability</b>	<b>Others?</b>



# Objectives

What objectives should a limited entry program consider?

1	2	3	4	6
Biological	Management and Economics	Business	Owner-operator focus (Social)	Angler-focus (Social)



# Vessel Types

What types of vessels should be included in a limited entry program?

1	2	3	4	5
All Party/ Charter vessels	Charter boats only (max = 6 passengers)	Party boats only (min = 7 passengers)	No vessels	Other



# Groundfish stocks/areas

- What groundfish stocks should be included in a limited entry program?
- Where should limited entry vessels be permitted to fish? – SNE, GB, GOM
- Would limited entry vessels be permitted to fish in special access areas?



# Template – Permits/Vessels



# How is the privilege held

- Who or what would the limited entry permit be assigned to?
  - vessel, vessel owner/business owner
- Should there be an owner/operator clause?
- Should a vessel be allowed to fish under a commercial limited access permit while holding a recreational limited entry permit?
  - Northeast multispecies



# Permits

- Should there be different categories of permits?
  - Incidental, part-time, full-time, or based on passenger capacity
- Should permits be transferable?
  - If yes, should they be separate from other limited access permits held by a vessel?
- If transferable, should there be any limits?
  - Same vessel passenger capacity, family, employees, geographic area, etc.



# Permits

- How should permit value be determined?
  - Public auction, private sale, other.
- What should occur if a permit is surrendered to NOAA?
  - Permit bank, waitlist, public sale/auction
- Should latent effort be monitored and considered?



# Vessel upgrade restrictions

- Should vessel upgrade restrictions be considered?
- If so, what restrictions should apply?
  - Passenger capacity
  - Vessel length
  - Engine horsepower
  - Gross tonnage
  - Other



# Template - Eligibility

# Eligibility – Control Date

- Should a control date be used?
- What control date should apply?
  - Existing (March 19, 2018) or refresh date?
- What criteria should accompany the control date?
  - None, minimum eligibility or should different conditions apply before/after the date?
- Should there be any exceptions to the control date?



# Eligibility – History

- What other criteria should eligibility be based on?
  - Catch history – pounds landed over qualifying years
  - Effort – number of trips over qualifying years
  - Catch history + effort
  - Passengers – number of passengers over qualifying years
  - Other?
- How would changes in management be considered in the qualifying years for catch history and/or effort?



# Eligibility – Other Criteria

- Who or what should fishing history be based on?
  - Permit (vessel), permit holder (owner), other.
- Should history from a commercial limited access groundfish permit contribute towards eligibility?





# Eligibility – Certifications

- Should a USCG Certificate of Inspection (COI) be considered in determining eligibility?
- Should USCG captain's licensing requirements be considered in determining eligibility?
- Should any other training criteria be considered?



# Template – New Entrants

# New Entrants

- How should new entrants be allowed into the fishery?
  - Waitlist, apprenticeship program, permit bank, other.
- How should cost/affordability be considered for new entrants?
  - Min/max cost criteria, free market, subsidize permits
- Should eligibility criteria recognize active industry participants (e.g., hired captains and crew)?



# New Entrants

- Should the total number of permits available be correlated with stock assessments and annual catch limits (ACLs)?



# Management and Reporting

# Management Measures

- How should management measures be applied to vessels in a limited entry program?
  - Apply to all vessels, separate measures for party and charter vessels, other.
- Should there be separate allocations by mode?
  - For-hire vessels would have an overall % of the recreational sub-ACL, and private vessels would have an overall %



# Management Measures

- What management measures should be considered?

1	2	3	4	5	6
Bag limits	Size/slot limits	Gear Restrictions	Fishing Seasons	Areas	Other



# Reporting and Monitoring

- What reporting requirements should apply?
  - Existing VTR requirements, additional requirements, other
- Should performance of the limited entry program be monitored and evaluated?
  - If so, how often and what agency would coordinate?
- Should a sunset clause be established?
  - If so, how many years?





# Additional Feedback Opportunities

- Online feedback tool
  - Comment period open through 5 PM October 19th
  - [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rec\\_Limited\\_Entry](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rec_Limited_Entry)
- Host a meeting for your community/association
  - By webinar
  - Contact [Jessica@tidalbayconsulting.com](mailto:Jessica@tidalbayconsulting.com) to schedule



# Next Steps

- Public comments/feedback will be summarized in a report
- Draft strawman will be developed
- Present to RAP/Groundfish Committee in late 2020
- Present to Council – January 2021
  - Council will decide whether or not to initiate a regulatory action.



# Questions and Comments