



New England Fishery Management Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Council Seeks Applicants for All 2023-2025 Advisory Panels; Wide Range of Monkfish, Groundfish, Rec Fishermen Needed

The New England Fishery Management Council is accepting applications from commercial and recreational fishermen, as well as other stakeholders, to serve on its advisory panels (APs) for the next three years. The term runs from January 2023 through December 2025. The [application deadline](#) is August 31, 2022.

The Council currently has nine active advisory panels that cover issues related to groundfish, recreational fishing for groundfish, Atlantic sea scallops, Atlantic herring, monkfish, habitat, skates, whiting, and enforcement.

The Council jointly manages monkfish and spiny dogfish with the Mid-Atlantic Council. The Mid-Atlantic Council has the administrative lead for spiny dogfish and handles the advisory panel solicitation for that fishery, while the New England Council has the administrative lead for monkfish and conducts the Monkfish AP solicitation.

The Council strives to populate its advisory panels with members who: (1) have different areas of expertise; (2) use different gear types; (3) come from the full geographic range of the fishery; and (4) have varied social and economic perspectives.

SPECIAL NEEDS FOR 2023-2025 ADVISORY PANELS

In order to broaden advisory panel membership through the [2023-2025 solicitation](#), the Council especially encourages candidates with the following experience to apply:

- **Habitat Advisory Panel:** (1) candidates familiar with offshore aquaculture operations, and (2) recreational fishermen because this AP has a designated recreational seat;
- **Monkfish Advisory Panel:** (1) fishermen who fish in the Monkfish Northern Fishery Management Area, and (2) fishermen who catch monkfish with trawl or dredge gear or who have an incidental catch of monkfish;

“The Council benefits most from advisory panel recommendations when the panel reflects the full range of participants in a fishery.”

– Council Executive Director Tom Nies

IMPORTANT!

Current advisory panel members who wish to continue serving on a panel must **REAPPLY** to remain on the panel.



Monkfish



Northeast Multispecies



Habitat

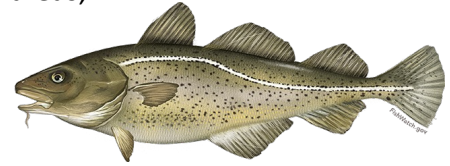


Atlantic Herring



New England Fishery Management Council

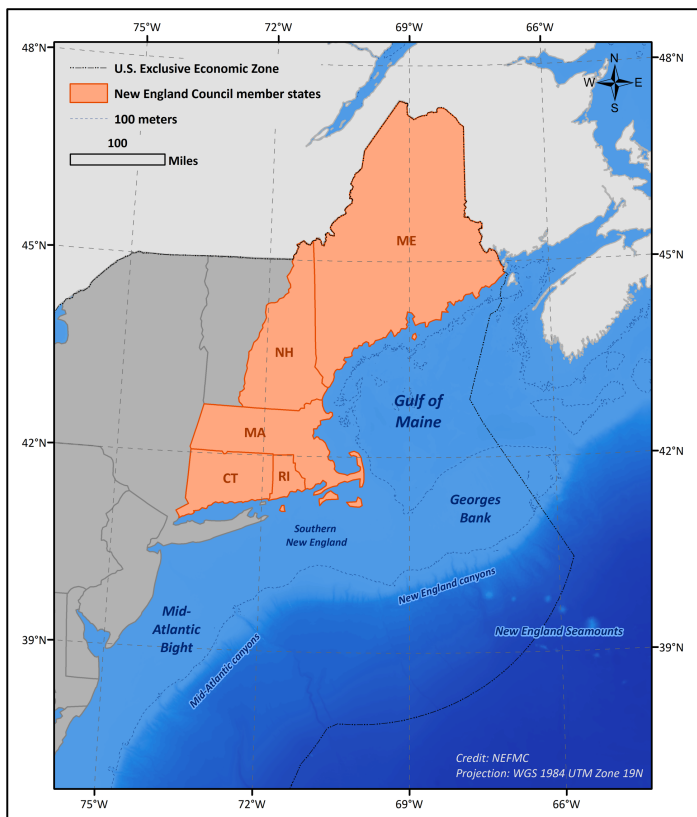
- **Groundfish Advisory Panel:** active fishermen from all gear sectors and areas;
- **Recreational Advisory Panel:** private anglers; and
- **Atlantic Herring Advisory Panel:** recreational fishermen because this AP has a designated recreational seat.



Each panel will be limited to a maximum of 15 members. An individual may serve on more than one panel. Advisors will be reimbursed for travel expenses.

Advisory panel members will be asked to provide information and guidance to specific oversight committees and offer recommendations to the Council during the development of federal fishery management plans, as well as amendments and framework adjustments to those plans. Advisors also may be asked to provide input about special issues or problems.

Council Executive Director Tom Nies said, “We’re looking for applicants who understand their fisheries and are ready to commit to an active role on an AP. While we recognize that being an AP member can be challenging and sometimes time-demanding, the Council benefits from the expertise of its AP members and genuinely appreciates their involvement in the development of our actions.”



QUESTIONS? Contact Janice Plante at (607) 592-4817, jplante@nefmc.org or visit the Council’s [website](http://www.nefmc.org).

HOW TO APPLY BY THE AUGUST 31, 2022 DEADLINE

Application materials are available online and may be downloaded by clicking [Advisory Panel Information](#). Paper copies are available by calling the Council office at (978) 465-0492.

Completed applications should be mailed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950. Forms also may be faxed to (978) 465-3116 or emailed to Joan O’Leary at joleary@nefmc.org.

DECISION-MAKING: Following a review by the respective oversight committees, the Council’s Executive Committee will make final decisions. Please be aware that all nominees are subject to an additional level of review by NOAA’s Office of Law Enforcement and may be declined because of a marine resource violation.

REMINDER: Don’t forget! Current advisory panel members who wish to continue serving on a panel must [REAPPLY](#) to remain on the panel.