

# New England Fishery Management Council Current Issues

**Dr. John Quinn**

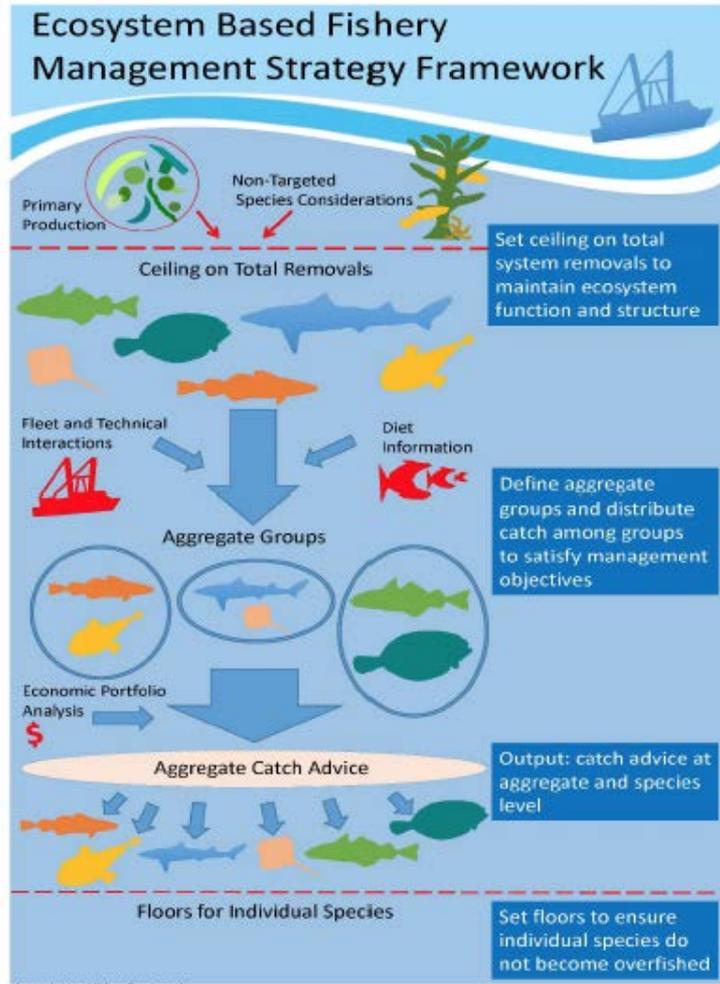
**Council Coordination Committee**

**May 16-18, 2017**



New England  
Fishery Management Council

# Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP)



Amareis Hart | UMass Dartmouth

- Example FEP based on fundamental properties of the ecosystem (energy flow, predator/prey, etc.)
- Realistic enough that it could be implemented
- Not unduly constrained by current legal restrictions or policies
- Operating model for Georges Bank EPU under development

# Herring ABC Control Rule

- Account for role as a key forage species
- Formal Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) approach

**REGISTER NOW!**

**Atlantic Herring Workshop  
December 7-8, Portsmouth, NH**

Help the Council:

- Evaluate tradeoffs in achieving fishery goals and objectives and form Amendment 8 alternatives
- Obtain important input from all stakeholders



Atlantic Herring (*Clupea harengus*) - NOAA Fisheries graphic

Learn more at:

<http://www.nefmc.org/calendar/dec.-7-8-2016-herring-management-strategy-evaluation-mse-workshop>



# User Conflicts



- ACL structure and overlapping fisheries
- Competition for resource access



Herring being salted in Maine plant. – NEFMC photo

- Scallop industry components
- Herring localized depletion
- Federal/state halibut management



– SMAST photo

# Data

- Use of electronic monitoring (EM) in several fisheries
- Groundfish catch monitoring amendment
- Lack of confidence in trawl survey



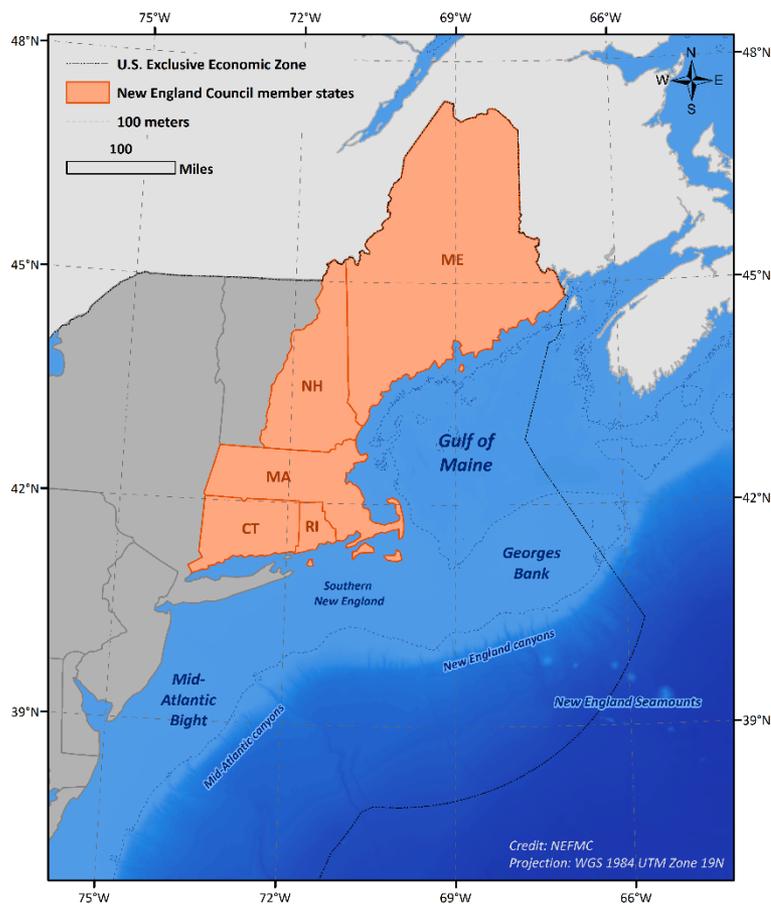
Electronic monitoring camera mounted on a commercial fishing vessel.  
– Photo courtesy of NMFS



– Portland Fish Exchange photos above, right



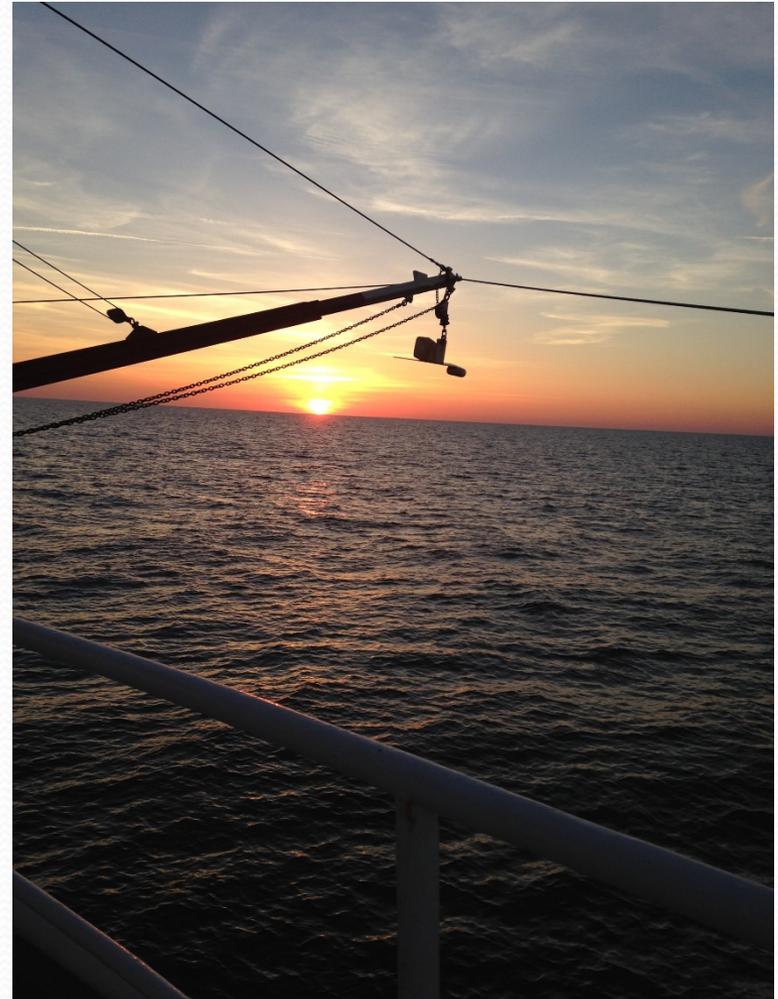
# Program Review of Council Operations



- How do we improve the process?
- Similar to reviews of RFMOs
- External review panel
- Expect completion early 2018

# On the horizon...

- Coping with climate change
- Assessment throughput
- Data confidentiality restrictions
- Federal/state interactions



– SMAST photo

# Questions?



– University of New England photo



– VIMS photo