



Paul J. Diodati
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 626.1520
Fax (617) 626.1509



Deval Patrick
Governor
Ian Bowles
Secretary
Mary B.
Griffin
Commissioner

March 21, 2008
MarineFisheries Advisory

PUBLIC MEETINGS ON GROUND FISH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
April 1st, 2nd & 3rd

The Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) will hold three public meetings the week of April 1st to gather comment on a public information document detailing proposed use of groundfish assistance funds. The 2008 Congressional Appropriations Conference Report set aside \$13,395,000 to the Division of Marine Fisheries to alleviate economic impacts associated with Framework 42 regulations on the Massachusetts groundfish fishery.

The Division of Marine Fisheries (*MarineFisheries*) is working with a state Drafting Group and an Industry Subcommittee to develop a final grant proposal for these funds. Preliminary recommendations for funding will be presented during the public meetings. A final grant proposal will be submitted to NOAA Fisheries by April 15th.

Public meetings are schedule for:

Tuesday, April 1, 2008 (5:30PM)
Whaler Banquet and Conference Center
500 Hathaway Road, New Bedford

Wednesday, April 2, 2008 (5:30PM)
Radisson Hotel – Plymouth Harbor
180 Water St., Plymouth

Thursday, April 3, 2008 (5:30PM)
Annisquam River Marine Fisheries Station
30 Emerson Ave., Gloucester

For further information please visit the “Groundfish Assistance Program” spotlight on our website at: http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf/spotlight/groundfish_assistance.htm#spot