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In all correspondence,  
please refer to:

NAFO/26-147

03 June 2026

TO: All Contracting Parties;  
Representatives of SC; and  
Representatives of WG-EAFFM

Dear Colleagues,

**Subject:** Provisional Agenda – *NAFO Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM) Meeting, 03–05 August 2026 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*

Further to NAFO/26-126 of 04 May 2026, and pursuant to Rule 4.2 of the *NAFO Rules of Procedure: Commission*, please find enclosed the provisional agenda for the *NAFO Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM) Meeting* taking place 03-05 August 2026 at the NAFO Secretariat (Summit Place, 1601 Lower Water Street, Suite 401) in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

This meeting is being held back-to-back with the *NAFO Joint Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-Based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS) Meeting*.

All relevant meeting documentation will be accessible on the NAFO Meetings SharePoint at <https://nafoportal.sharepoint.com/sites/meetings-wg-eaffm> as it becomes available. The NAFO Meetings SharePoint was updated in December 2025, and new login credentials are required. As each Contracting Party registers its delegates, participants will receive a system-generated email from Microsoft containing their personalized access link and instructions for logging in to the new platform.

As adopted at the 2023 Annual Meeting of NAFO (COM Doc. 23-28), the guidelines for the classification of working documents reads “*The Contracting Party submitting a Working Paper is responsible to designate that Working Paper as “open access” and made available to the general public on the NAFO website prior to the meeting. If the Contracting Party does not make such a designation, then it will not be made available to the general public on the NAFO website prior to the meeting.*”

For those Contracting Party representatives that are unable to attend the meeting in-person, hybrid capabilities will be provided. For logistical purposes, we would appreciate receiving from Contracting Parties the names of delegates planning to participate in the meeting both in-person and/or virtually.

Yours sincerely,

Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir  
Executive Secretary

BB:ll

Enclosed: Provisional Agenda and General Information (03 pgs.)

*NAFO Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM) Meeting*

03-05 August 2026  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

**Provisional Agenda**

1. Opening by the co-Chairs, Mar Sacau Cuadrado (European Union) and Elizabethann Mencher (United States of America)
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Presentation of Scientific Council responses to Commission requests for advice (COM Doc. 25-13) relevant to WG-EAFFM
5. VME and SAI Assessments
  - a. Update on the centralized data repository (COM Request 6.a)
  - b. Update on reassessment of VMEs and impact of bottom fisheries on VMEs for 2027 including potential management options in the reassessment of bottom fisheries (COM Request 6.b)
6. Review of the bottom fishing closure dates
7. Ecosystem Roadmap document (COM Request 5)
8. Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) (COM Request 6.c)
9. Scoping document for potential meeting to explore approaches for integrating information related to climate change throughout Scientific Council operation (COM Request 10)
10. Continued discussions on Greenland shark bycatch
11. Other Business
12. Recommendations
13. Adoption of the Report
14. Adjournment

*NAFO Joint Commission–Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM) Meeting*

03-05 August 2026  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

**General Information**

**Meeting Venue**

The meetings will be held at:

NAFO Secretariat  
Summit Place  
1601 Lower Water Street, Suite 401  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
Canada B3J 3P6

**Hotel Accommodations**

In close vicinity to the NAFO Secretariat:

Courtyard by Marriott Halifax Downtown  
5120 Salter St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1 902-428-1900

The Hollis Halifax - a DoubleTree Suites  
1649 Hollis St, Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1 902-429-7233

Residence Inn by Marriott Halifax Downtown  
1599 Grafton St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1 902-422-0493

The Sutton Place Hotel Halifax  
1700 Grafton St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1-902-932-7548

Muir, Autograph Collection  
1709 Lower Water St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1-902-407-6847

Four Points by Sheraton Halifax  
1496 Hollis St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1 902-423-4444

Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel  
1919 Upper Water St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1 902-421-1700

The Prince George Hotel Halifax  
1725 Market St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1 800-565-1567

Cambridge Suite Hotel Halifax  
1583 Brunswick St., Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1 -902-420-0555

The Barrington Hotel  
1875 Barrington St, Halifax, NS  
Ph: +1-902-429-7410

Hotel reservations are to be made by participants directly with the hotel.

**Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)**

An Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is an entry requirement for visa-exempt foreign nationals travelling to Canada by air. The eTA can be completed online and costs CAD \$7.00. You can find more information about applying for an eTA [here](#).

## **Transportation**

Taxi service provided by:

Casino Taxi  
Ph: 902-425-6666 or 902-429-6666  
[www.casinotaxi.ca](http://www.casinotaxi.ca)

## **Public Transportation**

Halifax Transit is Halifax's public bus and ferry service provider. For current schedules and fares, visit [Halifax Transit](#).

## **Tips on travelling to and from the airport**

- It takes about 30-40 minutes to get from the airport to downtown Halifax
- Take the Metro Regional Express Bus (route #320) for \$4.75 (exact change or HFXGO app).
- Rent a car. The rental car counters are located on the Lower Level of the Airport Parkade.
- Take a taxi or limo right from the airport to downtown Halifax for \$68-\$75
- Uber and Lyft are available in Halifax
- You can find more information on transportation from the Halifax Airport [here](#).

## **Tourism Information**

For additional tourist information, visit <https://discoverhalifaxns.com/>