

**SMALL MESH MULTISPECIES ADVISORY PANEL  
STATEMENT TO COUNCIL**

With regard to the four items scoped for the upcoming small mesh multispecies management action, the Advisory Panel recommends to the Council the following:

1. For Limited Entry qualification criteria:
  - a. That the control date of March 25, 2003 be utilized.
  - b. That, at a minimum, documented landings inception dates of in-or-around 1981 and in-or-around 1993 and/or 1995 should be included.
  - c. That, at a minimum, documented landings terminal dates of both March 25, 2003 and a date in or around 2005 should be included.
2. That a Hard TAC should not be considered for the current management action for Small Mesh Multispecies until scientific information is sufficient to estimate Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and/or Optimum Yield (OY) for this fishery.
3. For juvenile whiting protections:
  - a. That the Panel believes there is no directed juvenile whiting fishery and recommends that restrictions on size not be considered.
  - b. That options removing net strengtheners from the 2.5 inch-mesh directed small mesh multispecies fishery be considered.
4. That options for Dedicated Access Privileges be considered.