

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Whiting (Small Mesh Multispecies) Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Amendment 19: The Council plans to approve a draft amendment document in November 2011 and approve a final amendment in January 2012, which will include ACL specifications and accountability measures. This timetable was pushed back one meeting to allow the Oversight Committee time to develop options after the SSC finalizes an ABC recommendation. Alternatives approved by the Council will be described and analyzed for impacts in a draft amendment to be approved in November 2011 for public hearings.
- B. Meetings: The SSC met on Aug 9-10 2011 to review the Whiting PDT analysis of scientific uncertainty and develop recommendations for establishing 2012-2014 red and silver hake ABCs. The SSC recommendations are included in documents under Tab 12

The Whiting Advisory Panel and Skate/Whiting Oversight Committee met on Aug 24-25 and Sep 14 to develop and recommend management alternatives for Draft Amendment 19. Whiting PDT meetings will be scheduled in October to develop the Draft Environmental Assessment.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. The Council should approve alternatives to include and analyze in Draft Amendment 19.

III. INFORMATION

1. Advisory Panel meeting summary, Aug 24, 2011.
2. Skate/Whiting Oversight Committee meeting summary, Aug 25, 2011.
3. Skate/Whiting Oversight Committee meeting summary, Sep 14, 2011 (to be distributed before the Council meeting).
4. Draft Amendment 19 decision document with alternatives recommended by the Skate/Whiting Oversight Committee (to be distributed before the Council meeting)