Northeast Multispecies Annual Catch Limits FY 2010 – FY 2012

New England Fishery Management Council

September 23, 2009

Overview

- Explain Plan Development Team (PDT) evaluation of management uncertainty
- Illustrate process followed
- Highlight specific issues:
  - GOM cod
  - Yellowtail flounder and scallop fishery
- Council concurrence on PDT's approach
- Documents: PDT memos (items #3 and #7)

Schedule

- Council approval of PDT approach (today)
- Preparation of specifications package and Environmental Assessment (October)
- Approve specifications package and ACLs (November)
- Implement ACLs on May 1, 2010

Management Uncertainty

- Enforceability
- Monitoring adequacy
- Precision of measures
- Latent effort
- Other fishery catch

PDT ACL Approach

- Determine a default percentage reduction from the ABC
- Examine stock and fishery components to decide if a deviation from the default is warranted

What should be the default?

- Based on consequences of exceeding ABC?
  - *Assumed overage needed*
- Based on risk to stock if ABC exceeded?
  - *Risk assessment, not evaluation of uncertainty*
- Based on observed catch proportion?
  - *Relies on untested assumptions*
- *PDT recommendation: 5%*

Deviations

- GB YTF: hard TAC, in-season measures/AMs, enhanced monitoring=less uncertainty
- SNE/MA YTF: repeated overages, bycatch in other fisheries = more uncertainty
- SNE/MA WFL, ocean pout, windowpane flounder, wolffish: no retention=more uncertainty
- GOM cod and haddock, rec: less predictable measures, less effective reporting=more uncertainty

Calculations

- Distribute ABC to components:
  - U.S.
  - State waters
  - Recreational/commercial ACLs
  - Other sub-components
- Adjust sub-components for management uncertainty

Stock	Year	ABC	Canadian Share/Allowance	US ABC	State Waters	Other Sub-Components	Scallops	Groundfish	Comm Groundfish	Rec Groundfish	Sector PSC
GB Cod	2010	4,812	1,725	3,087	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.949389974
	2011	5,616	0	5,616	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.949389974
	2012	6,214	0	6,214	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.949389974
GOM Cod	2010	8,530	0	8,530	0.10	0.05		na	0.663	0.337	0.926205087
	2011	9,012	0	9,012	0.10	0.05		na	0.663	0.337	0.926205087
	2012	9,018	0	9,018	0.10	0.05		na	0.663	0.337	0.926205087
GB Haddock	2010	62,515	17,612	44,903	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.972129238
	2011	46,784	0	46,784	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.972129238
	2012	39,846	0	39,846	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.972129238
GOM Haddock	2010	1,265		1,265	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.67	0.275	0.952531093
	2011	1,206		1,206	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.67	0.275	0.952531093
	2012	1,013		1,013	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.67	0.275	0.952531093
GB Yellowtail Flounder	2010	1,500	540	960	0.00	0.05		0.95	0.95		0.93516549
	2011	1,689	608	1,081	0.00	0.05		0.95	0.95		0.93516549
	2012	1,916	690	1,226	0.00	0.05		0.95	0.95		0.93516549
SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	2010	493		493	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.726460172
	2011	687		687	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.726460172
	2012	1,003		1,003	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.726460172
CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder	2010	863		863	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.932830303
	2011	1,041		1,041	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.932830303
	2012	1,159		1,159	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.932830303
Plaice	2010	3,156		3,156	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.935528195
	2011	3,444		3,444	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.935528195
	2012	3,632		3,632	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.935528195
Witch Flounder	2010	944		944	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.950533446
	2011	1,369		1,369	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.950533446
	2012	1,639		1,639	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.950533446
GB Winter Flounder	2010	2,052		2,052	0.00	0.05		0.95	0.95		0.970333537
	2011	2,224		2,224	0.00	0.05		0.95	0.95		0.970333537
	2012	2,543		2,543	0.00	0.05		0.95	0.95		0.970333537
GOM Winter Flounder	2010	238		238	0.25	0.05		0.70	0.70		0.835133988
	2011	238		238	0.25	0.05		0.70	0.70		0.835133988
	2012	238		238	0.25	0.05		0.70	0.70		0.835133988
SNE/MA Winter Flounder	2010	644		644	0.08	0.05		0.87	0.87		
	2011	897		897	0.08	0.05		0.87	0.87		
	2012	1,198		1,198	0.08	0.05		0.87	0.87		
Redfish	2010	7,586		7,586	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.965879893
	2011	8,356		8,356	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.965879893
	2012	9,224		9,224	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.965879893
White Hake	2010	2,832		2,832	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.952587679
	2011	3,295		3,295	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.952587679
	2012	3,638		3,638	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		0.952587679
Pollock	2010	3,813	520	3,293	0.06	0.06		0.88	0.88		0.956936325
	2011	3,813	520	3,293	0.06	0.06		0.88	0.88		0.956936325
	2012	3,813	520	3,293	0.06	0.06		0.88	0.88		0.956936325
N. Windowpane Flounder	2010	169		169	0.01	0.29		0.70	0.70		
	2011	169		169	0.01	0.29		0.70	0.70		
	2012	169		169	0.01	0.29		0.70	0.70		
S.Windowpane Flounder	2010	237		237	0.01	0.29		0.70	0.70		
	2011	237		237	0.01	0.29		0.70	0.70		
	2012	237		237	0.01	0.29		0.70	0.70		
Ocean Pout	2010	271		271	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		
	2011	271		271	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		
	2012	271		271	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		
Atlantic Halibut	2010	71		71	0.50	0.05		0.45	0.45		
	2011	78		78	0.50	0.05		0.45	0.45		
	2012	85		85	0.50	0.05		0.45	0.45		
Atlantic Wolffish	2010	83		83	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		
	2011	83		83	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		
	2012	83		83	0.01	0.04		0.95	0.95		
	2010					0.05		0.95	0.95		
	2011					0.05		0.95	0.95		
	2012					0.05		0.95	0.95		

	Rec	Comm
Shares,	0.337	0.663
ABC, Based on Totals	2,875	5,655
State waters (all commercial)		566
Other sub (all commercial)		283
Adjusted ABC		4,807
ACL	2,587	4,566.7
Total ABC	2,875	5,655

Results

- **Preliminary** results in table 3 of item 3
  - May change based on Council input today
  - US/CA stocks depend on TAC decisions
  - YTF/scallop issue (next topic)

Scallop Fishery and Yellowtail Flounder

- Scallop incidental catches are important element of yellowtail flounder catch.
  - GB (05-07): 186/251/121 mt
  - SNE/MA (05-07): 68/ 71/102 mt
- A16 treats as “other sub-component” until scallop amendment adopts AMs (2011)
- Existing regulations unchanged by A16 – cap at 10% within CAI, CAII, NLCA access areas

What are the bounds?

- Minimum: 10% in a year when either the NLCA, CAI, or CAII access areas are open; zero in other years
- Maximum: how much do we estimate the scallop fishery “needs” to harvest the projected scallop catch?

Determining Maximum

- Calculate recent discard ratios in access and open areas, by yellowtail flounder stock area
- Adjust discard ratios based on projected changes in scallop exploitable biomass and yellowtail flounder SSB
- Multiply adjusted discard ratios by projected scallop catch

Results

- Results similar to recent discard estimates
- See September 17 memo:
  - CC/GOM: ~5% or less of ABC
  - GB YTF: 11.4% - 28.8% of ABC
  - SNE/MA YTF: 14% - 41% of ABC
- Estimates differ among scallop management scenarios for FW 21

(***See Tables 1 and 3***)

Questions for Council

- Does the Council anticipate allocating less than the “needed” yellowtail flounder?
- What information will help the Council make its allocation decision?
  - Groundfish/scallop revenues under different scenarios
  - Effect on fishing opportunities
  - Other?
- How will management uncertainty be applied to the scallop sub-ACL?

Questions?