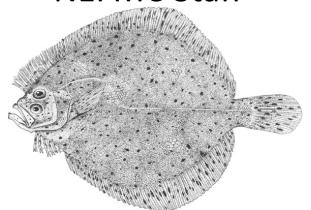
Development of Framework 52 to the Multispecies FMP

Jamie Cournane, PhD
Groundfish Plan Development Team Chair
NEFMC Staff



Groundfish Advisory Panel April 1, 2014



Outline

- Timeline
- Purpose
- Background
- Next Steps



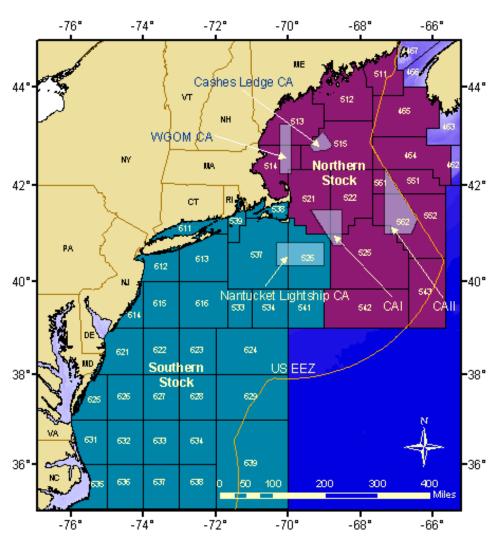
Timeline

	Feb	Council initiates FW52		
	Mar-Apr	or Develop measures		
2014	Apr	Council selects measures to include in FW52		
	Apr-Jun	Develop NEPA analysis		
	Jun	Council takes final action on FW52		



Purpose

To revise AMs for the commercial groundfish fishery for southern and northern windowpane flounder stocks.





Overages in FY 2012

The current AMs were triggered for FY 2014 due to overages of the overall annual catch limits (ACLs) in FY 2012 for both windowpane stocks.

			Total ACL (mt)		% of			
Stock	OFL (mt)	ABC (mt)		Total	Groundfish Fishery	State Waters	Non- Groundfish Fisheries	Catch Limit Caught
Northern windowpane flounder	230	173	163	209	130	2	77	128%
Southern windowpane flounder	515	386	381	521	107	34	380	136%

The Council requested that any revision to the current AMs be applied retroactive to FY 2014, or any overages that occurred prior to FY 2014.

Preliminary FY 2013 Catches

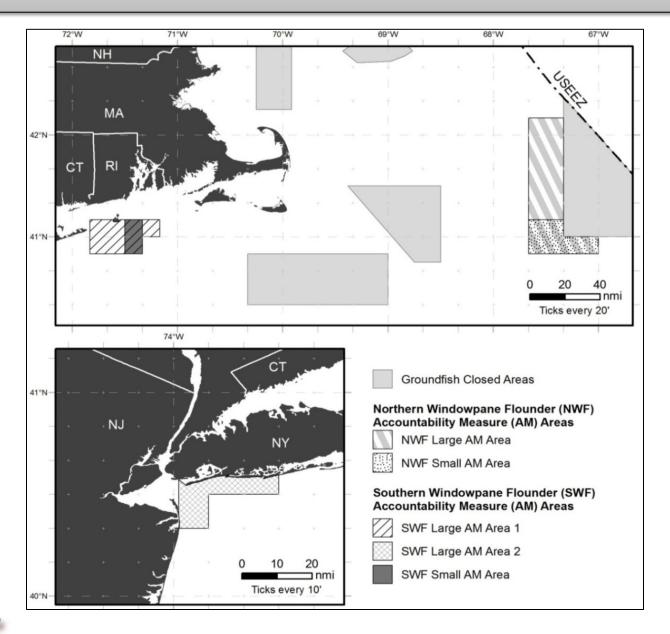
Preliminary FY 2013 windowpane flounder catches, data as reported 3/19/2014

Stock		Total	Groundfish	Scallop	State Waters	Other sub- component
Northern	Catch Limit	144	98	NA	2	44
windowpane	Preliminary FY 2013 Catch	227	227	NA	NA	NA
Southern	Catch Limit	527	102	183	55	186
windowpane	Preliminary FY 2013 Catch	215	106	104	NA	NA

Stock	Year	OFL	ABC	Total ACL	Groundfish	Scallop	State Waters	Other sub- component
Northern windowpane	2013 2014 2015	202	151	144	98	NA	2	44
Southern windowpane	2013 2014 2015	730	548	527	102	183	55	186



AM Areas





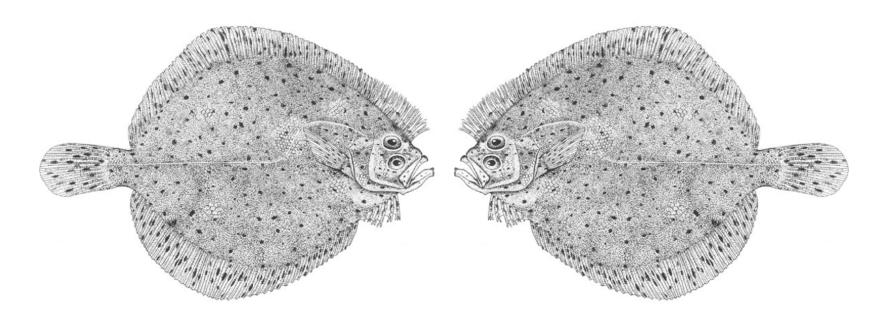
Status of the Stocks

Northern Windowpane Flounder

- Overfished
- Overfishing is occurring

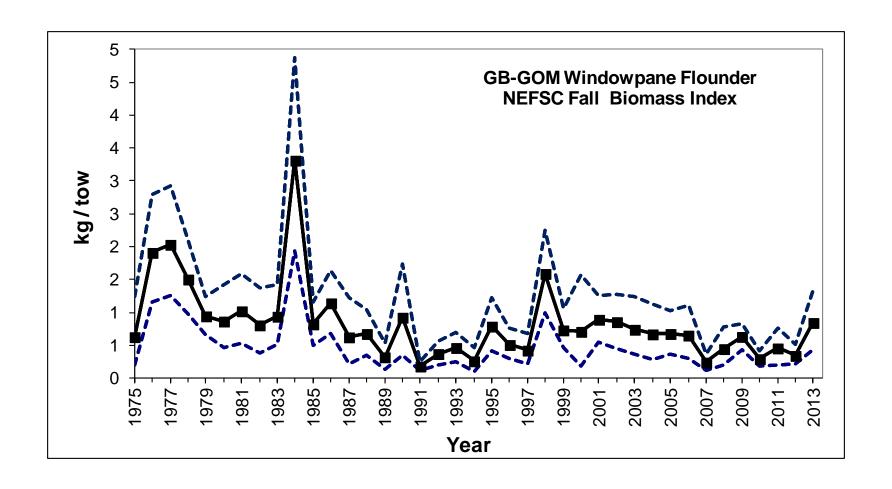
Southern Windowpane Flounder

- Not overfished
- Overfishing is not occurring



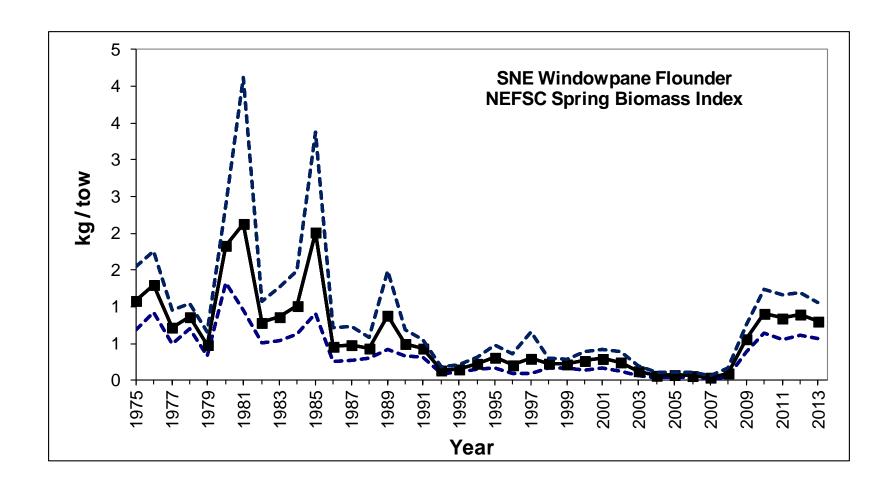


Fall Survey Biomass- N. Windowpane





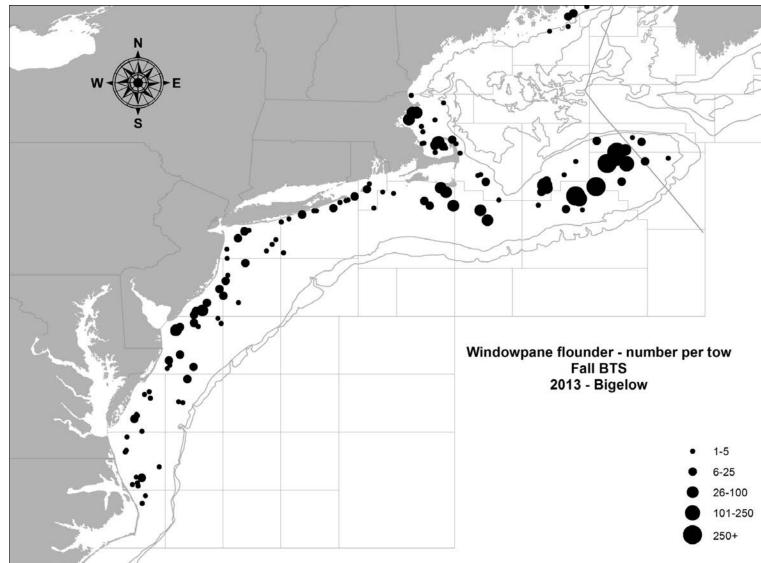
Fall Survey Biomass- S. Windowpane





Fall Survey Catches – 2013

(presence only)



Summary of PDT meeting; 3/31/2014

Discards:

- The PDT reviewed the discard methodology and did not have any major concerns.
- The PDT would like to continue to examine FY 2013 trips with high discards.

Surveys:

- The updated biomass indices suggest stock increases.
- These are not a replacement for the stock assessment.

Alternatives:

- The PDT discussed revising the AM triggers by taking into account stock status, using survey information, and utilizing catch performance.
- The PDT will further develop these alternatives for the GF OSC meeting on 4/4/14.



Next Steps

- Questions for today's GAP discussion:
 - Does the GAP have any feedback on the current AMs?
 - Does the GAP have any guidance for the GF OSC on the development of alternatives?
- Next OSC meeting on 4/4:
 - Review updated PDT memo
 - Review information provided by GAP
 - Further develop alternatives
- Council meeting 4/22- 4/24:
 - Review updated PDT memo and GF OSC motions
 - Select alternatives for NEPA analysis

