

**Research Steering Committee**  
**Meeting Overview**  
**For**  
**GF OSC**

**Rachel Neild, NEFMC Staff**

**GF Committee Meeting April 3, 2014**

# Outline

- Background
- Scope
- Research Questions
- Input from GAP and GF OS

# Background

- Available Funds in Council Budget
- Council Chair is requesting the RSC to identify possible Research Questions
- Priority interest in Collaborative Research Project(s) focusing on Groundfish because there is currently no RSA funding for GF

# Scope of Intended Research

1. Focus on relevant GF questions
2. Collaborative with industry
3. Priority for on-the-water component
4. Provide meaningful information that would be used in scientific or management process
5. Would not require long-term funding
6. Cannot augment federal funding or ongoing, federally funded projects

# Research Questions

1. What is the recreational haddock discard mortality rate?
2. To examine the timing and distribution of cod spawning in GOM and GB/SNE stocks.
3. To refine biological stock structure for GOM Cod and GB/SNE cod.
4. What are the gear engineering solutions that could reduce bycatch of GB YTF?
5. Identify GB YTF hot spots and develop an avoidance system.
6. What are the gear engineering solutions that could reduce bycatch of SNE WPF?
7. Identify SNE WPF hot spots and develop an avoidance system.
8. Examine species-specific net herding/effective swept area characteristics of the NOAA survey trawl net?

# Summary

- Overall - RSC is looking for any further input/suggestions from GAP
- Other dates to provide input:
  - April 16 – RSC meeting
  - April 22 – 24 – Council meeting (April 23)