

**NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Scientific and Statistical Committee**

**I. STATUS**

**A. Meetings:**

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) met on December 13, 2011 in Boston, MA and on January 25, 2012 in Providence, RI. The Committee heard reports on the National SSC Workshop and the new assessment process that was presented to the Council in November. It also discussed how to include social science in SSC advice to the Council, SSC tasks in 2012 including, SSC liaisons to PDTs, and the schedule for developing ABC recommendations for groundfish, scallops and herring management actions including how to deal with the results anticipated from the SARC 53 Gulf of Maine cod assessment.

At the January 25, 2012 meeting the SSC:

- Reviewed the SAW/SARC 53 Gulf of Maine cod assessment results as well as other information that might influence the interpretation of the results in order to advise the Council whether the possible influence of this information warrants a closer examination at a future SSC or other meeting;
- Reviewed and commented on the impacts of a range of catch levels for GOM cod provided by the Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT).

**II. COUNCIL ACTION**

None

**III. INFORMATION**

1. Summary of December 13, 2011 SSC meeting - *to be distributed*
2. SSC Report from January 25, 2012 SSC meeting - *to be distributed*
3. Groundfish PDT memo dated January 12, 2012 - projected catch levels for various harvest strategies
4. Framework 47 Draft Economic Analysis
5. SSC TOR memo for January 25, 2012