

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

**I. STATUS**

- A. **Meetings:** The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) has not met since the last Council meeting but scheduled a conference call on November 12, at 12 p.m. to discuss the herring Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC). At the request of the Council, the committee intends to revisit the size of the 40% buffer between the Overfishing Level and Acceptable Biological Catch to consider whether application of recent years' retrospective difference of about 17% is sufficient to account for scientific uncertainty caused by retrospective patterns.

**II. COUNCIL ACTION**

- A. A report on the SSC's recommendations will be presented by SSC Chair Dr. Steve Cadrin to the Council on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.

**III. INFORMATION**

- A. Copies of the materials distributed to the SSC for the above herring discussion are provided in the Council mailing. A report following the call will be made available to the full Council prior to the November meeting.

**Groundfish:**

1. TOR Memo concerning the Council's request to the SSC; dated October 20, 2009
2. Memo titled Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) value for the Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Atlantic herring complex
3. Projected landings and stock biomass under different fishing mortality scenarios for Atlantic Herring – updated document