



New England Fishery Management Council

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 2, 2010
TO: Science and Statistical Committee (SSC)
FROM: Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT)
SUBJECT: **GB Yellowtail Flounder OFL/ABC**

1. In August 2010, the SSC reviewed the 2010 TRAC assessment for GB yellowtail flounder and developed ABC recommendations for four alternative rebuilding strategies for this stock. The SSC based these recommendations on the median catch projected at the appropriate rebuilding fishing mortality. While noting concerns about recruitment assumptions in the assessment and the projections, the SSC report drew the following conclusion:

“Although there are uncertainties in the stock assessment and stock projections, the SSC concludes that these are insufficient to modify catch advice based on rebuilding scenarios.”

2. At the September 2010 Council meeting, the Council added an additional rebuilding strategy for consideration: rebuild by 2019 with a 60 percent probability of success. Based on the SSC’s previous conclusions with respect to GB yellowtail flounder ABC advice, the PDT provides recommended OFLs and ABCs for this rebuilding strategy below. These reflect the median catch at the rebuilding fishing mortality. All five rebuilding scenarios are shown for comparison.

Table 1 – Frebuild for four GB YTF rebuilding options

	F=0	50%	60%	75%	60%
Year	2014	2016	2016	2016	2019
2010	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.142
2011	0	0.138	0.101	0.039	0.182
2012	0	0.138	0.101	0.039	0.182
2013	0	0.138	0.101	0.039	0.182
2014	0	0.138	0.101	0.039	0.182
2015	0.191	0.138	0.101	0.039	0.182
2016	0.191	0.138	0.101	0.039	0.182
2017	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.182
2018	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.182
2019	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.182
2020	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.191	0.191

Table 2 – Projected SSB for four GB YTF rebuilding strategies

	F=0	50%	60%	75%	60%
year	2014	2016	2016	2016	2019
2010	15.031	15.031	15.031	15.031	15.031
2011	16.817	15.985	16.203	16.575	15.723
2012	22.079	19.114	19.865	21.194	18.263
2013	29.043	23.925	25.169	27.46	22.629
2014	38.008	30.461	32.25	35.592	28.531
2015	45.368	37.399	40.005	44.943	34.691
2016	47.658	43.189	46.746	53.655	39.475
2017	48.269	46.211	49.827	56.944	42.679
2018	48.44	47.334	49.93	55.235	44.933
2019	48.495	47.744	49.612	53.375	46.457
2020	48.455	48.069	49.382	51.916	47.437

Table 3 – Median catch/ABC for four GB YTF rebuilding strategies ('000 mt)

	F=0	50%	60%	75%	60%
year	2014	2016	2016	2016	2019
2010	1.956	1.956	1.956	1.956	1.956
2011	0	1.998	1.486	0.59	2.584
2012	0	2.222	1.699	0.706	2.784
2013	0	2.658	2.065	0.884	3.272
2014	0	3.431	2.683	1.163	4.193
2015	7.447	4.355	3.433	1.512	5.265
2016	7.973	5.167	4.135	1.857	6.160
2017	8.096	7.72	8.38	9.705	6.729
2018	8.124	7.911	8.401	9.378	7.111
2019	8.119	7.991	8.338	9.038	7.384
2020	8.13	8.052	8.295	8.768	7.924

Table 4 – OFL for four GB YTF rebuilding strategies ('000 mt)

	F=0	50%	60%	75%	60%
year	2014	2016	2016	2016	2019
2010	1.956	1.956	1.956	1.956	1.956
2011	3.495	3.495	3.495	3.495	3.495
2012	4.335	3.901	4.011	4.208	3.728
2013	5.541	4.674	4.885	5.274	4.410
2014	7.367	6.027	6.347	6.941	5.623