

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)

I. STATUS

A. Meetings

- 1) August 20-21. Boston, MA. The SSC:
 - a. Reviewed the 2013 the analyses from the Monkfish PDT and updated the OFLs for the northern to 17,805 mt and to 23,204 for the southern stock. It also recommended that the ABCs for both stocks remain at the status quo levels: 7,592 mt for the northern stock and 12,316 mt for the southern stock. (Information item #1).
 - b. Reviewed the 2013 white hake assessment and work of the Groundfish PDT and provided an OFL and an ABC for each year for FY 2014-2016 (Information item #2).
 - c. Reviewed the 2013 Georges Bank yellowtail flounder TRAC assessment results and information presented by the Groundfish PDT and recommended and an ABC for FY 2014 and 2015 (Information item #3).
 - d. Reviewed the 2012 assessments of American plaice and GOM cod and commented on the on the technical basis for the range of alternatives developed by the PDT (Information item #4).
 - e. Reviewed the work of the Groundfish PDT on the haddock spillover issue and provided comments to Council on the PDT's conclusion. (Information item #5).
 - f. Reviewed red crab landings, discard and discard data and analyses provided by the Red Crab Plan Development Team (PDT) and recommended that the ABC for fishing years 2014-2016 remain at the status quo level, equivalent to 1,775 mt of landings of male red crabs (Information item #6).
- 2) September 16, Providence RI. The SSC:
 - a. Reviewed the analyses from the Scallop PDT and provided an OFL and an ABC for FY 2014 and 2015 default (Information item #7).
 - b. Reviewed the analyses from the Skate PDT and recommended discard mortality estimates to be used in developing specifications for FY 2014 – 2016 (Information item #8).

II. COUNCIL ACTION

None (The Council may take action resulting from SSC recommendations under other agenda items for Monkfish, Groundfish, Red Crab, Scallops and Skates)

III. INFORMATION

Background documents considered by the SSC are available from the Council's website at <http://nefmc.org/tech/index.html> under the materials for the Aug. 20-21 and Sept. 16, 2013 SSC meetings.

1. September 3, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - Review of monkfish biological reference points and interim ABC control rule and develop updated recommendations to Council
2. September 3, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - Overfishing levels (OFLs) and ABC recommendations for white hake
3. September 3, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - Overfishing levels (OFLs) and ABC recommendations for Georges Bank yellowtail flounder
4. September 3, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - American plaice and Gulf of Maine Cod rebuilding strategies
5. September 3, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - Spillover of haddock between the Georges Bank and Gulf of Maine stocks
6. September 3, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - Review of red crab interim ABC control rule and development of 2014-2016 ABC recommendations
7. *To be distributed when available* - Memo from SSC to Thomas Nies - Scallop ABC recommendations for FY 2014 and 2015(default)
8. *To be distributed when available* - Memo from SSC to Thomas Nies - Recommendations on skate discard mortality estimates to be included in the model for calculating ABC for the Northeast Skate Complex