

2014 TMGC Guidance to Canada/US Steering Committee

Dartmouth, NS
September 12, 2013

5Zjm Cod

- TAC for Eastern Georges Bank cod for the 2014 fishing year is 700 mt (600 mt in 2013)
- New benchmark model VPA $M=0.8$
- TMGC sought to keep fishing mortality low and promote stock rebuilding.
- F_{ref} (0.18) should be reviewed in light of the adoption of a new assessment model.
- Previous assessments indicated that F was at or above F_{ref} . The new model provides a different perception of stock size and suggests fishing mortality may be below F_{ref} .

5Zjm Cod

- A 2014 TAC of 700 mt corresponds to an expected fishing mortality of 0.06 and is expected to result in biomass increase of close to 10%.
- Applying the annual allocation shares entitles the USA to 22% and Canada to 78%.
- TAC of 700 mt results in a national quota of 154 mt for USA (96 mt in 2013) and 546 mt for Canada (504 mt in 2013).

5Zhjmn Yellowtail Flounder

- TAC for Georges Bank yellowtail flounder for the 2014 fishing year is 400 mt (500 mt in 2013).
- The uncertainties in the assessment make it difficult to reliably estimate the probability of exceeding the F_{ref} .
- Stock conditions are poor.
- TMGC sought to reduce catches from 2013 and to promote stock rebuilding..

5Zhjmn Yellowtail Flounder

- A 2014 quota of 400 mt is a 20-percent reduction from the 2013 quota, and is projected to increase biomass.
- Applying the annual allocation shares entitles the USA to 82% and Canada to 18%.
- TAC of 400 mt results in a national quota of 328 mt for the USA (215 mt in 2013) and 72 mt for Canada (285 mt in 2013).

5Zjm Haddock

- TAC for Eastern Georges Bank haddock for the 2014 fishing year is 27,000 mt (10,400 mt in 2013).
- Represents low risk of exceeding F_{ref} (0.26).
- The lower than neutral risk of exceeding F_{ref} was chosen because of the uncertainty associated with the growth of the large 2010 year class and its expected contribution to the 2014 catch.
- The stock size is expected to remain very high for the next two years.

5Zjm Haddock

- Applying the annual allocation shares entitles the USA to 39% and Canada to 61%.
- TAC of 27,000 mt results in a national quota of 10,530 mt for USA (3,952 mt in 2013) and 16,470 mt for Canada (6,448 mt in 2013).

Other Business

- TMGC will schedule a conference call the first week of October to discuss items remaining on the agenda.
- TMGC members propose an early 2014 intercessional meeting for items requiring more discussion.
- Issues to be discussed include quota trading, alternative approaches to management, review of TORs for TMGC understanding and review of US/CA discard estimates