

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

I. STATUS

A. Meetings

The SSC met on November 15 in Providence RI and completed the following tasks.

Groundfish - The SSC developed recommendations for Gulf of Maine haddock OFLs and ABCs for fishing years (FY) 2013-2015 and on information to be considered when developing ABC recommendations for Gulf of Maine winter flounder and Georges Bank winter flounder for FY 2015.

Sea Scallops - The SSC developed recommendations for OFLs and ABCs for FY 2014 and 2015 (default) and reviewed the calculation of incidental and discard scallop mortality. The committee also commented on the draft TORs for the SAW/SARC 59 benchmark scallop assessment scheduled in June 2014.

Skates - The SSC approved updated discard mortality estimates, reviewed the revised estimate of MSY and recommended an ABC for the Northeast Skate Complex for fishing years 2014-2015.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

None (action on SSC recommendations might be taken under other agenda items)

III. INFORMATION

1. December 2, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - Gulf of Maine haddock OFLs and ABCs, and 2015 ABCs for pollock, Gulf of Maine winter flounder and Georges Bank winter flounder (*to be distributed*)
2. December 2, 2013 memo from the SSC to Thomas Nies - Sea scallop OFLs/ABCs, estimates of discard and incidental mortality, and stock assessment terms of reference (*to be distributed*)
3. December 2, 2013 memo from Thomas Nies to the SSC – Skate ABC and discard mortality rates (*to be distributed*)

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 November 15, 2013 SSC meetings