



New England Fishery Management Council

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John Pappalardo, *Chairman* | Paul J. Howard, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 1, 2010
TO: Science and Statistical Committee
FROM: Paul Howard, Director
SUBJECT: **SSC Meeting Terms of Reference: November 2, 2010; Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder**

1. In August 2010 the SSC provided GB yellowtail flounder ABCs for four alternative rebuilding strategies. At the September 2010 Council meeting, the Council added another GB yellowtail flounder rebuilding option to Framework 45. The SSC is directed to review the 2010 assessment of Georges Bank yellowtail flounder from the 2010 Transboundary Resources Assessment Committee (TRAC) and recommend 2011 and 2012¹ ABCs for the fishing mortality that is consistent with the following additional rebuilding strategy under Council consideration:

a. Rebuild by 2019 with a 60 percent probability of success.

2. Information provided for consideration includes:

1. Dr. Steve Cadrin memo dated September 20, 2010: ABC recommendations for Pollock, Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder, Southern Windowpane Flounder, Northern Windowpane Flounder, Ocean Pout, and Gulf of Maine Winter Flounder
2. Groundfish PDT memo dated November 2, 2010
3. Groundfish PDT document for G B yellowtail flounder (undated attachment from the Groundfish PDT memo dated August 6, 2010)
4. Assessment of GB Yellowtail Flounder for 2010. TRAC Ref. Doc. 2010/06. Available at: http://www2.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/trac/documents/TRD_2010_06_E.pdf

¹ At present, GB yellowtail flounder is assessed annually by the TRAC and the expectation is the 2012 ABC will be revisited after next year's assessment is completed. ABCs are requested for two years in case there is an administrative delay in adopting a new ABC next year.