



## New England Fishery Management Council

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

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 3, 2009  
**TO:** Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)  
**FROM:** Paul Howard, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** **Terms of reference for the September 16, 2009 SSC meeting concerning a correction to the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) value for the skate complex**

#### Terms of Reference

1. Approve a correction to the Skate Complex ABC, using the same basis (median catch/biomass from catches determined with the selectivity ogive method) for determining the ABC, approved by the SSC February 6, 2009. This correction substitutes the 2007 spring survey biomass index for little skate, replacing a zero value (included as a missing value) in the previous calculations and adds the 2008 spring survey value, both which were available for the Data Poor Assessment Workshop.

#### Background Information

1. Proposed correction to skate ABC calculation input values
2. SSC recommendations on Skate Amendment 3, February 11, 2009
3. Skate ABCs, updated reference points, and management recommendations (January 26, 2009 memo from Skate PDT to SSC)
4. Skate rebuilding catch limit re-analysis (January 14, 2009 memo from PDT to SSC)