

**NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Scientific and Statistical Committee**

**I. STATUS**

**A. Meetings:**

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) met on August 9-10, 2011 in Boston, MA and on September 14, 2011 in Providence, RI. At the August 9-10 meeting, the Committee:

- Received an update from the Groundfish Plan Development Team (PDT) on the alternatives for setting Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for all groundfish stocks for 2012 -2014. The PDT provided the SSC with a variety of projections based on the most recent assessments. (information item A.1)
- Reviewed analyses and presentations provided by the Whiting Plan Development Team (PDT) and developed ABC recommendations for the Council to consider in setting ACLs under Multispecies Amendment 19 for the whiting fishery (red, silver, and offshore hake) for fishing years 2012– 2014. (information item B.1)
- At its September 14, 2011 meeting, the SSC finalized the ABC recommendations for the Multispecies FMP to be included in Framework 47. (information item A.1)

**II. COUNCIL ACTION**

- A. The Council will consider the SSC recommendations for the ABCs for the Multispecies FMP when it approves Framework 47 including annual catch limits in November 2011.
- B. Under the Whiting Committee Report agenda item on Wednesday, September 29, the Council will consider the SSC recommendations for the ABCs for the Multispecies Amendment 17 (for red, silver, and offshore hake) for fishing years 2012– 2014.

**III. INFORMATION**

**A. Groundfish Reference Documents**

1. SSC Memo, September 23, 2011, ABC recommendations for Groundfish Stocks for 2012-2014 (to be distributed when available)
2. SSC Memo, September 13, 2011, Projection methodology for setting groundfish ABCs
3. Memo from Rip Cunningham to SSC, September 2, 2011, September 14 SSC Meeting - Terms of Reference
4. Groundfish PDT memo September 2, 2011, ABC Recommendations for FY 2012 – 2014
5. Memo from Paul Howard to SSC, Aug. 2, 2011, Aug 9-10 SSC Groundfish Meeting - Terms of Reference
6. Groundfish PDT memo August 2, 2011, FY 2012-2014 ABCs (first 16 pages)
7. Groundfish PDT memo July 13, 2011, FY 2012 - 2014 ABCs: APDT Conference Call, July 6, 2011
8. SSC Memo, June 20, 2011, Projection methodology for setting groundfish ABCs

**B. Whiting Reference Documents**

1. SSC memo, September 13, 2011, Acceptable Biological Catch Recommendations for Whiting 2012-2014
2. Memo from Paul Howard to SSC, July 28, 201, Acceptable Biological Catch recommendations for Whiting for Fishing Years 2012 – 2014 (Terms of reference)
3. Recommendations for Red, Silver, and Offshore Hake (Whiting) Allowable Biological Catches for 2012-2014, Whiting Plan Development Team Report to the Scientific and Statistical Committee