

Request to SSC

- Projection performance, alternative control rule
- ABC for FY2013-2015
 - GB yellowtail range of ABC
 - SNEMA yellowtail biomass target



Projection Performance

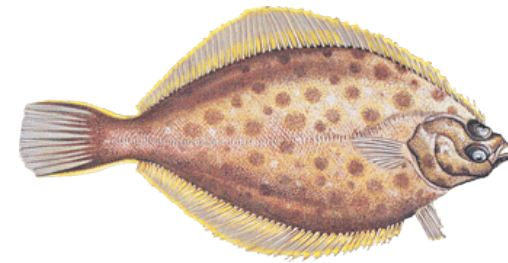
- Projected stock too high
 - Causes catch advice to be set too high
 - Overfishing can occur even when quota not filled
 - Solution: update assessments more frequently so projections are shorter duration
- SSC decided not to change control rule
 - Single analysis insufficient
 - More comprehensive study needed

Table 1 Groups

- Previously set (4 stocks)
 - 3 winter flounder, pollock
- Will be set after SARC 55 Dec 2012 (2 stocks)
 - 2 cod
- FY2013 set; FY2014-15 after SARC 56 Feb 2013 (1 stock)
 - White hake
- Default control rule (8 stocks)
 - Analytical: 2 haddock, plaice, redfish, halibut
 - Index based: 2 windowpane, pout
- Change from default control rule (5 stocks)
 - 3 yellowtail, witch, wolffish

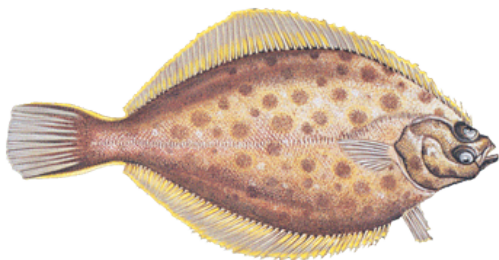
Georges Bank yellowtail flounder

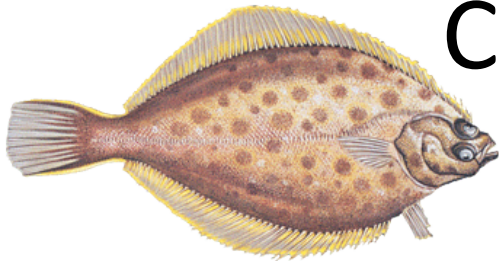
- SSC recommends no directed fishery and no increase in bycatch
- Range of ABC
 - 200 mt low probability of overfishing
 - 400-500 mt greater probability of overfishing and allow some rebuilding
 - 1,150 mt backstop ABC if no directed fishery and measures taken to reduce bycatch as much as possible



Southern New England-Mid Atlantic yellowtail flounder

- SSC considers B_{msy} associated with recent recruitment more appropriate than B_{msy} from two stanza recruitment model
- ABC for FY2013-2015 set to long-term $75\%F_{msy}$ catch
 - Prevents sudden increase then decrease in catch as stock fished down to new B_{msy}



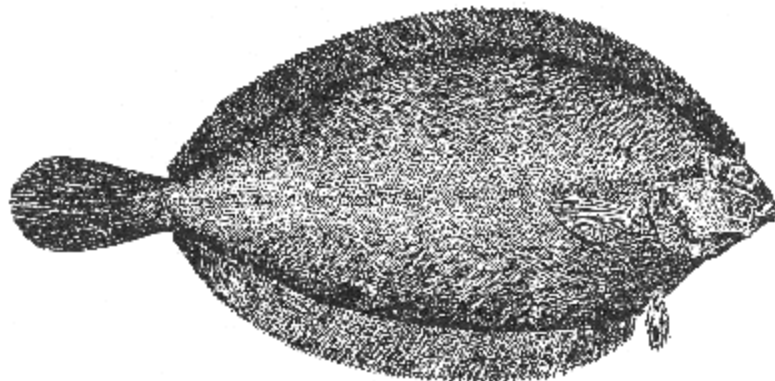


Cape Cod-Gulf of Maine yellowtail flounder

- New retrospective pattern
 - Not present in GARM III assessment
- Retrospective adjustment applied
- Default 75%Fmsy application resulted in large increases in catch for FY2014-2015
- SSC set FY2014-2015 ABC equal to FY2013 ABC
 - Increased buffer between OFL and ABC for FY2014-2015 due to increased uncertainty

Witch flounder

- Uncertain large recent recruitment had large impact on Frebuild
- Kept model estimate of recruitment but set FY2014-2015 ABC equal to FY2013 ABC
 - Increased buffer between OFL and ABC for FY2014-2015 due to increased uncertainty



Atlantic wolffish

- Calibration coefficient relating Bigelow and Albatross not available for wolffish
 - Instead used value for ocean pout
 - Model results sensitive to this choice
- SSC set FY2014-2015 ABC equal to FY2013 ABC
 - Increased buffer between OFL and ABC for FY2014-2015 due to increased uncertainty



SSC Recommendations

- OFL and ABC recommendations in Table 1
- No directed fishery and no increase in bycatch for Georges Bank yellowtail flounder
- Updated assessments for all 20 stocks should be conducted as soon as possible

Table 1

| | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2015 | | Remarks |
|----------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| | OFL | ABC | OFL | ABC | OFL | ABC | |
| Stock | | | | | | | |
| GB cod | | | | | | | TBD after SARC 55 |
| GOM cod | | | | | | | TBD after SARC 55 |
| GB haddock | 46,185 | 35,783 | 46,268 | 35,699 | 56,293 | 43,606 | 75%Fmsy |
| GOM haddock | 371 | 290 | 440 | 341 | 561 | 435 | 75%Fmsy |
| GB yellowtail flounder | | 200-1,150 | | | | | range of objectives, 2014-2015 TBD after TRAC 2013-2014 |
| SNE/MA yellowtail flounder | 773 | 700 | 773 | 700 | 773 | 700 | long term 75%Fmsy held constant (ref point uncertainty) |
| CC/GOM yellowtail flounder | 713 | 548 | 936 | 548 | 1,194 | 548 | 2013 75%Fmsy held constant (retrospective uncertainty) |
| Plaice | 2,035 | 1,557 | 1,981 | 1,515 | 2,021 | 1,544 | 75%Fmsy |
| Witch flounder | 1,196 | 783 | 1,512 | 783 | 1,846 | 783 | 2013 Frebuild held constant (recruitment uncertainty) |
| GB winter flounder | 4,819 | 3,750 | 4,626 | 3,598 | | | set previously based on SARC 52 assessment |
| GOM winter flounder | 1,458 | 1,078 | 1,458 | 1,078 | | | set previously based on SARC 52 assessment |
| SNE/MA winter flounder | 2,637 | 697 | 3,471 | 912 | | | set previously based on SARC 52 assessment |
| Redfish | 15,468 | 10,995 | 16,130 | 11,465 | 16,845 | 11,974 | 75%Fmsy |
| White hake | 5,306 | 3,638 | | | | | rollover 2012, 2014-2015 TBD after SARC 56 |
| Pollock | 20,060 | 15,600 | 20,554 | 16,000 | | | set previously based on SARC 50 assessment |
| N windowpane | 202 | 151 | 202 | 151 | 202 | 151 | 75%Fmsy held constant (index assessment) |
| S windowpane | 730 | 548 | 730 | 548 | 730 | 548 | 75%Fmsy held constant (index assessment) |
| Ocean pout | 313 | 235 | 313 | 235 | 313 | 235 | 75%Fmsy held constant (index assessment) |
| Atlantic halibut | 164 | 99 | 180 | 109 | 198 | 119 | 75%Fmsy |
| Atlantic wolffish | 94 | 70 | 94 | 70 | 94 | 70 | 2013 75%Fmsy held constant (calibration uncertainty) |