NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Groundfish Committee

I. STATUS

A. Meetings: The Groundfish Plan Development Team met on May 10, 2021.

B. Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring: The preliminary submission was sent to GARFO on April 30, 2021.

C. Framework Adjustment 61 (specifications and management measures): The preliminary submission was sent to GARFO on March 29, 2021. GARFO sent back corrections on May 27, 2021. Council staff are preparing the final submission to GARFO.

D. Atlantic Cod Stock Structure: The Council will receive an update on the NEFSC and NEFMC led workshops on science and data for assessments and management. The workshops are being facilitated by UNH/NH Sea Grant.

E. ABC Control Rules: The Council will receive an overview of work to revise acceptable biological catch (ABC) control rules for groundfish stocks – including a report from GMRI and the SSC. See tab 12 for SSC report.

F. Framework Adjustment 63 (specifications and management measures): The Council plans to initiate this action to include (1) 2022 total allowable catches (TACs) for U.S./Canada shared resources on Georges Bank (GB) of cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder, (2) 2022-2024 specifications for GB cod and Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod (3) 2022-2023 specifications for GB yellowtail, (4) possible adjustments to 2022 specifications for white hake, GB haddock, and GOM haddock, and (5) other measures.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

Framework Adjustment 63 – Initiate the action described in item F above.

III. INFORMATION

1. ABC Control Rules
    a. Evaluation of Alternative Harvest Control Rules for New England Groundfish, GMRI
        i. Executive summary
        ii. Summary report
        iii. Presentation (*to be provided*)
    b. Council Staff memo to SSC re Groundfish ABC Control Rule and Issues to Consider, June 4, 2021
2. Atlantic Cod Stock Structure Workshops Progress Report, Presentation, NEFSC/NEFMC staff (*to be provided*)
3. Framework Adjustment 63, Presentation, NEFMC staff *(to be provided)*
4. Correspondence