Scientific and Statistical Committee

Other Business

Dr. Rachel Feeney, SSC Coordinator
May 5, 2023

Other business
- Updates on 2023 SSC Work Plan
- Commenting on Guidelines for NS 4, 8, and 9
- Stock leads for ABC setting
Updates to 2023 SSC Tasks (since late March)

Tentative tasks:

• **Postponed:** Review PDT work on herring localized depletion.
  • Should know after the April June Council meeting if SSC review is needed.
  • In April, Council was drafting a problem statement on this issue, but tasked the Herring Committee with refining it. Will reconsider how to proceed in June.

• **Removed from list:** Review recent work on the scallops SAMS model.
  • Council and Center still discussing how and when the SAMS model will be reviewed. PDT expects to use the SAMS model to develop OFL and ABC this fall.

• **Removed from list:** Review a redesign of the scallop survey strata.
  • The survey strata redesign will likely be reviewed by another entity.
Updates to 2023 SSC Tasks (since late March)

Task ready to move ahead: Northeast Regional Habitat Assessment review sub-panel

- EFH regulations recommend 5-year reviews of data supporting EFH designations and potential updates to designations.
- June 2022: joint NEFMC-MAFMC SSC sub-panel reviewed the workplan, methods and models under development (Collie, Jordaan, Truesdell from NEFMC SSC).
- Ready to identify another joint SSC sub-panel; review likely to occur in late summer/early fall – ideally prior to MAFMC Ecosystem and Ocean Planning Committee meets to discuss the action.
- Review progress on single species and joint distribution models and application of results to EFH designations.

Please let Rachel know if you would like to serve on NRHA review sub-panel.
Updates to 2023 SSC Tasks (since late March)

Tasks clarified:

- White hake ABC
  - On September 8, SSC needs to review rebuilding plan and recommend white hake ABCs for 2024-2025.
  - If there is an assessment, then will also need a 2026 ABC.

- Groundfish ABC control rules
  - May have follow up discussions at future meetings

Next meetings:

- June 1 (afternoon) – EBFM pMSE subgroup
- Aug 10 (morning) – full SSC. Red crab ABC. Other topics TBD?
Updates to 2023 SSC Tasks (since late March)

- **NEW task:** Comment on updating Guidelines for National Standards 4, 8, and 9. SSC comments requested by mid-June 2023.
  - NOAA Fisheries (Headquarters) soon to issue an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, seeking comment.
  - Comment deadline yet to be announced, likely to be between June and September Council meetings.
  - SSC input is sought to inform NEFMC comments.
4 – Allocation
Conservation and management measures shall not discriminate between residents of different states. If it becomes necessary to allocate or assign fishing privileges among various United States fishermen, such allocation shall be (a) fair and equitable to all such fishermen; (b) reasonably calculated to promote conservation; and (c) carried out in such manner that no particular individual, corporation, or other entity acquires an excessive share of such privilege.

8 – Communities
Conservation and management measures shall, consistent with the conservation requirements of this Act (including the prevention of overfishing and rebuilding of overfished stocks), take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities by utilizing economic and social data that meet the requirement of paragraph (2) [i.e., National Standard 2], in order to (a) provide for the sustained participation of such communities, and (b) to the extent practicable, minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities.

9 – Bycatch
Conservation and management measures shall, to the extent practicable, (a) minimize bycatch and (b) to the extent bycatch cannot be avoided, minimize the mortality of such bycatch.
National Standards comment process

- Early May – Identify 3-4 volunteers for a sub-group.
- Late May - early June, sub-group:
  - Meets to discuss the standards and develop preliminary comment.
  - Drafts memo to Council, including circulating among full SSC via correspondence/Google doc.
- June 6 - 8 - sub-group can listen to NMFS presentation to MAFMC on the ANPR to help inform memo.
- June 16 - deadline for providing documents to the June Council meeting.
  - SSC to submit comment memo.
  - Staff to submit draft NEFMC letter.

Please let Rachel know if you would like to serve on NS comments sub-panel.
## Stock leads for ABC setting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock</th>
<th>SSC meeting</th>
<th>SSC member assigned</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red crab</td>
<td>August 10</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georges Bank yellowtail flounder</td>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White hake</td>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scallops</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>?</td>
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<td>Skates</td>
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<td>Whiting</td>
<td>October 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Redfish</td>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern and Southern Windowpane</td>
<td>October 27</td>
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Please let Lisa know if your interest in serving as a stock lead (via Google doc).