Groundfish Committee Report

Council Meeting

Newport, RI and Webinar

December 3, 2025

New England
Fishery Management Council

Framework Adjustment 72 / Specifications and Management Measures

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For Today

- Framework 72 / Specifications and Management Measures:
  - Discuss draft alternatives and draft impact analysis
  - Receive PDT analysis on white hake projections (Committee tasking)
  - Recommend preferred alternatives and take final action

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Draft Scope

Fishing year (FY) 2026-2030 Specifications and Management Measures, to:

- Revise status determination criteria for Georges Bank (GB) yellowtail flounder,
- Set FY2026 total allowable catches (TACs) for US/Canada management units of Eastern GB cod and Eastern GB haddock, and the GB yellowtail flounder stock,
- Set FY2026 specifications for GB cod, GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder
- Set FY2026-FY2030 specifications for Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine (CC/GOM) yellowtail flounder, Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, white hake, Acadian redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish,
- Review sub-component analysis for stocks with revised specifications, Atlantic halibut, and others as time permits and,
- Address recreational measures as part of Atlantic cod management transition for Phase 1 (i.e., Regional Administrator authority to adjust recreational measures for cod and haddock)

Draft Timeline

2025	
MAY-JUN	Committee/AP/PDT preliminary discussion
MAY 22	Assessment Oversight Panel meets (fall 2025 assessments)
JUN 24-26	**Council initiates framework**
JUL-SEP	Committee/AP/PDT develop draft alternatives
SEP 15-18	Peer review – Management Track Assessments for yellowtail flounder, winter flounder, white hake, and redfish
SEP 24-27	Council reviews progress on developing draft alternatives
OCT 1	TMGC/SC meets to recommend TACs for US/CA management units of EGB cod and EGB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder stock
OCT 8	SSC recommends OFLs/ABCs for ocean pout* and wolffish*
OCT 21-22	SSC recommends OFLs/ABCs for GB cod, GB haddock, yellowtail flounder (GB, CC/GOM, SNE/MA), winter flounder (GB, GOM, SNE/MA), white hake, redfish
OCT-NOV	Committee/AP/PDT continue developing draft alternatives and complete impact analysis
DEC	**Council receives draft alternatives and takes final action**
2026	
JAN	Preliminary submission of framework document to NMFS
FEB	Final submission of framework document to NMFS
MAR	NMFS publishes proposed rule
MAY 1	Target Implementation

*Assessment schedule change – data update only

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Draft Range of Alternatives

1. Updated Status Determination Criteria for GB Yellowtail Flounder
2. Specifications
   - FY2026 TACs for US/Canada management units of EGB cod and EGB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder stock
   - FY2026 specifications for GB cod, GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder
   - FY2026-FY2030 specifications for CC/GOM yellowtail flounder, SNE/MA yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, white hake, Acadian redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish,
   - Sub-component analysis for stocks with revised specifications, Atlantic halibut, and other stocks as time permits
3. Recreational Fishery Management Measures
   - Establish regulatory process for Regional Administrator to adjust recreational measures for cod and haddock

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Discussion Order

1. Updated Status Determination Criteria for GB Yellowtail Flounder
3. Recreational Fishery Management Measures
   - Establish regulatory process for Regional Administrator to adjust recreational measures for cod and haddock
2. Specifications
   - FY2026 TACs for US/Canada management units of EGB cod and EGB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder stock
   - FY2026 specifications for GB cod, GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder
   - FY2026-FY2030 specifications for CC/GOM yellowtail flounder, SNE/MA yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, white hake, Acadian redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish,
   - Sub-component analysis for stocks with revised specifications, Atlantic halibut, and other stocks as time permits

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Action 1 – Status Determination Criteria

Section 4.1 – Action 1 – Status Determination Criteria *The Council may select one alternative under Action 1.*		Preferred by	
		AP	**Committee**
Alternative 1 (Sec. 4.1.1)	**No Action** Status determination criteria (SDCs) would not be adopted for Georges Bank (GB) yellowtail flounder		
Alternative 2 (Sec. 4.1.2)	**Updated Status Determination Criteria for Georges Bank yellowtail flounder** SCDs would be adopted for GB yellowtail flounder	***GAP: Recommends (11/17/2025)***	***CMTE: Recommends (11/18/2025)***

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Action 1 – Status Determination Criteria

Which alternative do you recommend?

Alternative 1 – No action

- Status determination criteria (SDCs) would not be adopted for GB yellowtail flounder

Alternative 2 – Updated Status Determination Criteria for Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder

- Adopts updated SDCs for GB yellowtail flounder from the 2025 Management Track Stock Assessment

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Action 3 – Recreational Fishery Management Measures

Section 4.3 – Action 3 – Recreational Fishery Management Measures *The Council may select one alternative under Action 3.*		Preferred by	
		AP	**Committee**
Alternative 1 (Sec. 4.3.1)	**No Action** Maintains the process for RA to adjust recreational measures for stocks with recreational sub-ACLs only		
Alternative 2 (Sec. 4.3.2)	**Establish a Regulatory Process for the Regional Administrator to Adjust Recreational Measures for Cod and Haddock** Establishes a regulatory process for the RA to adjust recreational measures for all stocks of cod and haddock	***RAP: Recommends (11/17/2025)***	***CMTE: Recommends (11/18/2025)***

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Action 3 – Recreational Fishery Management Measures

Which alternative do you recommend?

Alternative 1 – No Action

- Maintains the process for RA to adjust recreational measures for stocks with recreational sub-ACLs only

Alternative 2 – Establish Regulatory Process for Regional Administrator to Adjust Recreational Measures for Cod and Haddock

- Establishes a regulatory process for the RA to adjust recreational measures for all stocks of cod and haddock

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Action 2 - Revised Specifications

Section 4.2 – Action 2 – Revised Specifications *The Council may select one alternative under Action 2.* *Under Alternative 2, the Council may select Option A.*		**Preferred by**	
		AP	**Committee**
Alternative 1 (Sec. 4.2.1)	**No Action** There would be default specifications for several stocks.		
Alternative 2 (Sec. 4.2.2)	**Revised Specifications** Revise the annual specifications for FY2026 - FY2030 for CC/GOM yellowtail flounder, SNE/MA yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, redfish, white hake, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish. Revise the annual specifications for FY2026 for GB cod, GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder. Specify total allowable catches (TACs) for the U.S./Canada management units for FY2026 of Eastern GB cod, Eastern GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder. Includes updated sub-component analysis for several stocks.	***GAP: Recommends (except white hake and redfish) (11/17/2025)***	***CMTE: Recommends (except white hake) (11/18/2025)***
	Option A - Remove the management uncertainty buffer for sectors for white hake if the ASM target coverage rate is set at 90% or greater for FY2026-2030		***CMTE: Recommends (11/18/2025)***

Groundfish Advisory Panel – 11/17/2025

Note: the GAP did not have a quorum. GAP members present proceeded in a discussion format.

- Some of the Groundfish Advisors in the meeting support consideration for setting white hake catch advice at a higher risk level for FY2026 through the next assessment.

- Some of the Groundfish Advisors in the meeting support consideration for setting redfish catch advice at a higher level of risk level for FY2026 through the next assessment. Groundfish advisors also support consideration for examining the redfish sector exemption program and impacts of a potential suspension of the redfish sector exemption program on catches and quotas.

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Groundfish Committee – 11/18/2025

Move to accept the PDT's recommendations for sub-components (as referenced in Table 8 in the draft Framework 72 discussion document).

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Groundfish Committee – 11/18/2025

Move to recommend setting the SNE/MA yellowtail flounder scallop fishery sub-ACL at the FY2025 sub-ACL (2.7 mt). This would be set for FY2026-2030 with plans for the PDT to re-evaluate in 2026 with updated data.

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Groundfish Committee – 11/18/2025

Move to set the FY2026-2030 ABC for CC/GOM yellowtail flounder at 1,736mt within Framework 72.

Rationale: There are significant questions about the biological plausibility of the assessment results and projections. The 2025 stock assessment finds Cape Cod/GOM Yellowtail to be overfished, noting that the stock remains below the new SSBMSY proxy even though fishing pressure has been at historically low levels and that recruitment has been generally weak to moderate over the past decade. Despite these results, scaling changes in the model suggest catch could increase 10-fold. Further, the projections suggest biomass will nearly double between 2024 and 2025. Maintaining the ABC at the 2026 value tries to account for the seemingly implausible results while also allowing for significant increase in catches, which have been under 400mt over the last decade.

DRAFT Allocation:
GB Cod
FY2026

OFL — **473 mt**

ABC — **473 mt (ABC & US/CA EGB TAC)**
151 mt for US fisheries

- **Canadian Fishery** — **322 mt**
- **State water fisheries** — **0 mt**
- **"Other" fisheries** — **12.1 mt**
- **Sector* & Common Pool ABC**
  - **- 5% buffer**
  - **Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL** — **132.3 mt**

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation: GB Haddock FY2026

OFL → **8,177 mt**

ABC → **8,177 mt (EGB TAC US 998 mt)**

4,425 mt for US fisheries

- **Canadian Fishery** — **3,752 mt**
- **State water fisheries** — **0 mt**
- **"Other" fisheries** — **22.1 mt**
- **Midwater Trawl ABC** — **- 7% ↓ buffer** → **Midwater Trawl sub-ACL** — **82 mt**
- **Sector* & Common Pool ABC** — **- 5% ↓ buffer** → **Sector* & Common Pool Sub-ACL** — **4,098.2 mt**

Subcomponents

- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs

- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation:
GB Yellowtail Flounder FY2026

OFL — 57 mt

ABC — 57 mt (ABC & US/CA TAC)
31 mt for US fisheries

Canadian Fishery	State water fisheries	"Other" fisheries	Scallop ABC	Small-mesh ABC	Sector* & Common Pool ABC
26 mt	0 mt	0 mt	- 3% buffer	- 7% buffer	- 3% buffer
			Scallop Sub-ACL	Small-mesh sub-ACL	Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL
			4.8 mt	0.6 mt	24.5 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation:
CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder FY2026

OFL — 2,224 mt

ABC — 1,736 mt

- **State water fisheries** — 17 mt
- **"Other" fisheries** — 35 mt
- **Sector* & Common Pool ABC**
  - - 5% ↓ buffer
  - **Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL** — 1,599.8 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation:
SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder FY2026

OFL — 46 mt

↓

ABC — 33 mt

- **State water fisheries** — 0.2 mt
- **"Other" fisheries** — 0.7 mt
- **Scallop ABC** ↓ **Scallop Sub-ACL** — 2.7 mt
- **Sector* & Common ABC** — - 5% ↓ buffer → **Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL** — 28 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation: GB Winter Flounder FY2026

OFL — 2,279 mt

ABC — Total ABC: 1,785 mt
Canadian Catch Estimate: 72 mt
US ABC: 1,713 mt

State water fisheries — 0 mt

"Other" fisheries — 43 mt

Sector* & Common Pool ABC
- 3% ↓ buffer
Sector & Common Sub-ACL — 1,620 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation: GOM Winter Flounder FY2026

OFL — 1,064 mt

↓

ABC — 798 mt

- **State water fisheries** — 96 mt
- **"Other" fisheries** — 8 mt
- **Sector* & Common Pool ABC** — 659.5 mt
  - - 5% ↓ buffer
  - **Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL**

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation: SNE/MA Winter Flounder FY2026

OFL — 961 mt

ABC — 507 mt

- State water fisheries — 25 mt
- "Other" fisheries — 81 mt
- Sector* & Common Pool ABC
  - - 5% ↓ buffer
  - Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL — 380.5 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation: Acadian Redfish FY2026

OFL — 7,519 mt

↓

ABC — 5,665 mt

- **State water fisheries** — 28 mt
- **"Other" fisheries** — 0 mt
- **Sector* & Common Pool ABC** — 5,665 mt
  - **- 5% ↓ buffer**
  - **Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL** — 5,354.8 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 100% or more

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DRAFT Allocation: Ocean Pout FY2026

OFL — 125 mt

ABC — 87 mt

- State water fisheries — 0.9 mt
- "Other" fisheries — 30 mt
- Sector & Common Pool ABC — 51.8 mt
  - - 7% ↓ buffer
  - Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

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DRAFT Allocation: Atlantic Wolffish FY2026

OFL — 124 mt

ABC — 93 mt

- State water fisheries — 0 mt
- "Other" fisheries — 0 mt
- Sector & Common Pool ABC
  - - 7% ↓ buffer
  - Sector & Common Pool Sub-ACL — 86.5 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

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Draft revised specifications – groundfish sub-ACLs

	Stock	Commercial groundfish sub-ACL		
		FY2025 (mt)	Proposed FY2026 (mt)	% Change
Allocated Stocks	EGOM Cod	N/A	36.5	N/A
	WGOM Cod	N/A	289.8	N/A
	GB Cod	N/A	132.3	N/A
	SNE Cod	N/A	6.7	N/A
	GB Haddock	1,441.3	4,098.2	+184%
	GOM Haddock	2,076.8	2,213.2	+7%
	GB Yellowtail Flounder	76.3	24.5	-68%
	SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	33.4	28.0	-16%
	CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder	808.4	1,599.8	+98%
	American Plaice	8,220.9	6,596.9	-20%
	Witch Flounder	1,406.2	1,406.2	0%
	GB Winter Flounder	1,430.8	1,620.0	+13%
	GOM Winter Flounder	607.2	659.5	+9%
	SNE/MA Winter Flounder	440.8	380.5	-14%

	Stock	Commercial groundfish sub-ACL		
		FY2025 (mt)	Proposed FY2026 (mt)	% Change
Allocated Stocks	Redfish	7,859.3	5,354.8	-32%
	White Hake	1,815.8	1,287.4	-29%
	Pollock	10,705.3	9,391.2	-12%
Non-allocated Stocks	Northern Windowpane Flounder	93.6	93.6	0%
	Southern Windowpane Flounder	29.7	29.7	0%
	Ocean Pout	49.0	51.8	+6%
	Atlantic Halibut	23.1	23.1	0%
	Atlantic Wolffish	86.5	86.5	0%

Draft revised specifications – other fisheries sub-ACLs

Fishery	Stock	FY2025 (mt)	Proposed FY2026 (mt)	% Change
Recreational Groundfish	WGOM Cod	N/A	118	N/A
	SNE Cod	N/A	18	N/A
	GOM Haddock	1,075	1,146	+7%
Sea Scallop	GB Yellowtail Flounder	14.9	4.8	-68%
	SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	2.7	2.7	0%
	GOM/GB Windowpane Flounder	26.6	26.6	0%
	SNE/MA Windowpane Flounder	71.3	71.3	0%
Midwater Trawl	GB Haddock	29	82	+183%
	GOM Haddock	32	34	+6%
Small-Mesh	GB Yellowtail Flounder	1.8	0.6	-67%
Other Sub-components – Large-Mesh Non-Groundfish	SNE/MA Windowpane Flounder	98	98	0%

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Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

Option	Groundfish Gross Revenues	Total Gross Revenues	Operating Cost	Sector Cost	Quota Cost	Operating Profit	Days Absent
FY2024 Realized	41.0	59.8	14.5	1.2	6.9	37.2	9,214
FY2024 Prediction	40.8	58.2	15.0	1.3	6.1	36.1	8,342
FY2025 Prediction (FW69)	34.7	51.7	11.6	1.2	5.0	33.9	7,192
FY2026 (No Action)	16.8	23.9	5.2	0.5	3.3	18.7	3,405
FY2026 (Alt. 2 with MUBs; white hake 70% Fmsy)	36.8	52.6	11.9	1.0	6.5	33.1	7,511
FY2026 (Alt. 2 w/o MUBs*; white hake 70% Fmsy	38.6	55.1	12.6	1.1	6.9	34.6	7,869

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*Sector management uncertainty buffer (MUB) would be removed for all groundfish stocks other than SNE cod, assuming an ASM target rate of 100% for FY2026

Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

Alternative 2 (MUB removed for all stocks, other than SNE cod)

Stock	Sub-ACL (mt)	Predicted Catch (mt)	Predicted Utilization	FY26 Revenue Prediction	*p(5%) Revenue*	*p(95% Revenue)*	FY24 Realized Revenue
White Hake	1,340	1,330	99.3%	3.8	3.5	3.9	4.1
Redfish	5,567	5,380	96.6%	6.8	6.2	7.2	6.7
WGOM Cod	294	283	96.3%	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.2
GB Cod	134	121	90.3%	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5

Most constraining stocks predicted in FY2026 (sector sub-ACL percent utilization)

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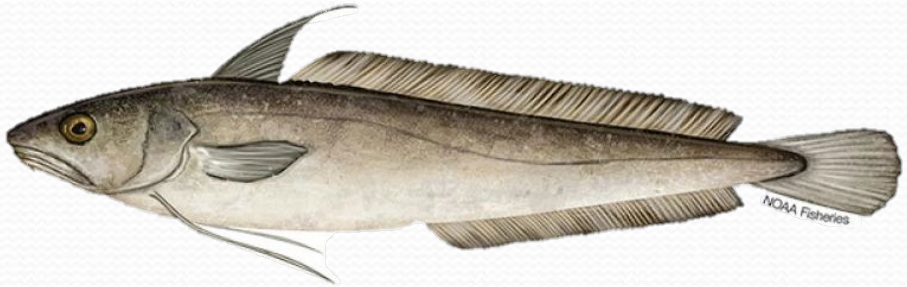
White Hake Projections



Groundfish Committee – 11/18/2025

For white hake, the GF Committee tasks the PDT to produce the following information in time for the Council meeting:

1. Provide OFL/ABC projections associated with F(MSY)75% for FY2026-2030, and provide updated rebuilding projections comparing 70% F(MSY) and 75% F(MSY) under both the long-term (1963-2022) and more-recent recruitment timeframes (1995-2022).

2. Include draft specifications based on projections at 75% F(MSY) for FY2026-2030.

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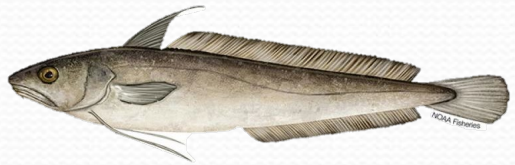
Stock Status and Rebuilding Plan

- Not overfished and overfishing is not occurring, based on the 2025 assessment
- In a rebuilding plan: Frebuild of 70%Fmsy, end date of 2031
  - Developed in Framework 61
  - At that time, indicated to have an 87.4% probability of achieving Bmsy by rebuilding end date



Catch Projections

75% F_{MSY}

Fishing Year	Possible OFL (mt)	Possible ABC (mt)	F	SSB (mt)
2026	1,943	1,488	0.132	12,267
2027	1,748	1,337	0.132	11,382
2028	1,617	1,236	0.132	11,026
2029	1,588	1,213	0.132	11,030
2030	1,662	1,270	0.132	11,412

95 mt ABC increase for FY2026

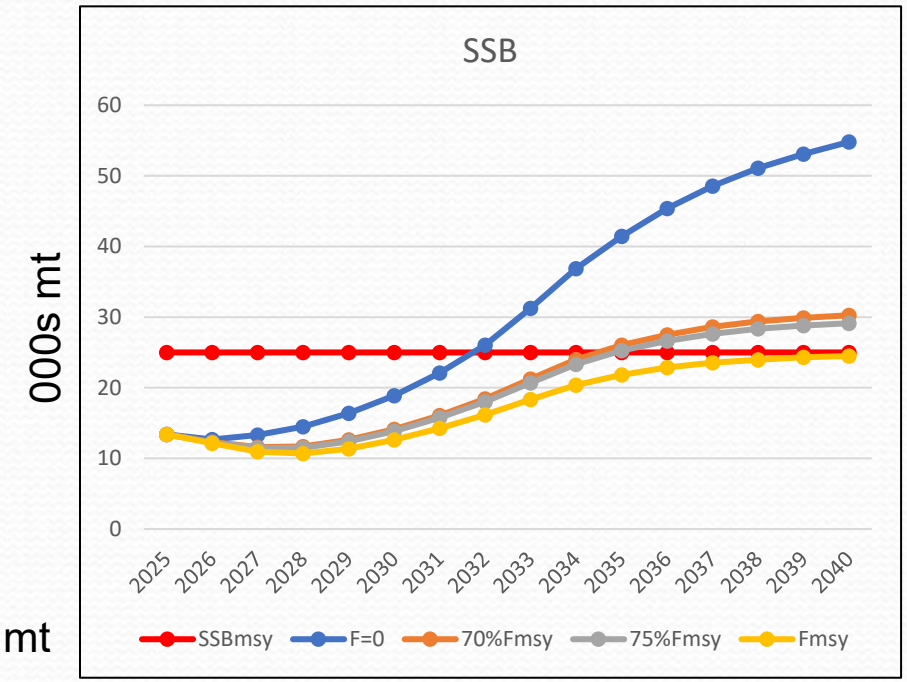
70% F_{MSY}

Fishing Year	Possible OFL (mt)	Possible ABC (mt)	F	SSB (mt)
2026	1,943	1,393	0.123	12,293
2027	1,760	1,261	0.123	11,497
2028	1,640	1,174	0.123	11,204
2029	1,618	1,157	0.123	11,252
2030	1,698	1,215	0.123	11,673

Rebuilding Projections

- Projections at: F=0, 70%Fmsy, 75%Fmsy, Fmsy
- Under long-term recruitment (1963-2022) BRP projections:
  - Stock does not rebuild by 2031 under any option
  - Rebuilds by 2032 under F=0
  - 70%Fmsy and 75%Fmsy both rebuild by 2035

Long-term recruitment used for biological reference points (BRP) rebuilding projections



SSBmsy = 25,004 mt

SSB

	F=0	70%Fmsy	75%Fmsy	Fmsy
2025	13.385	13.385	13.385	13.385
2026	12.680	12.314	12.288	12.16
2027	13.298	11.602	11.488	10.947
2028	14.516	11.701	11.526	10.696
2029	16.396	12.632	12.402	11.364
2030	18.905	14.134	13.856	12.625
2031	22.085	16.101	15.769	14.284
2032	26.064	18.426	18.007	16.157
2033	31.251	21.234	20.693	18.324
2034	36.855	24.008	23.322	20.402
2035	41.473	26.063	25.264	21.835
2036	45.375	27.517	26.631	22.864
2037	48.563	28.621	27.654	23.561
2038	51.123	29.383	28.355	23.982
2039	53.096	29.909	28.831	24.315
2040	54.803	30.269	29.140	24.498

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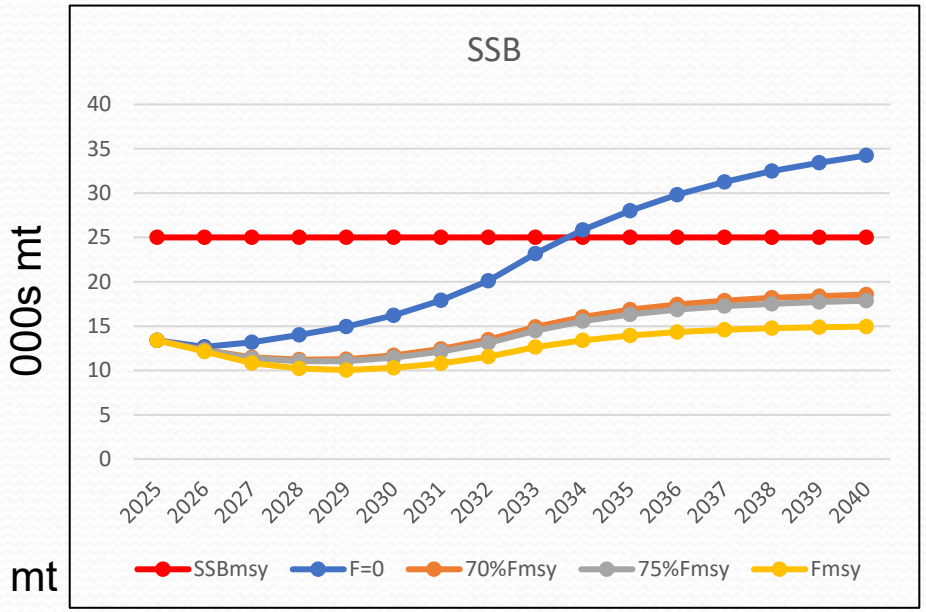
Rebuilding Projections

- Projections at: F=0, 70%Fmsy, 75%Fmsy, Fmsy
- Under short-term recruitment (1995-2022) catch advice projection sensitivity:
  - Rebuilding takes longer
  - Rebuilds by 2034 under F=0
  - Extending out to 2040, neither 70%Fmsy nor 75%Fmsy achieve rebuilding

Short-term recruitment used for catch advice projections / not rebuilding projections



SSBmsy = 25,004 mt

SSB

	F=0	70%Fmsy	75%Fmsy	Fmsy
2025	13.385	13.385	13.385	13.385
2026	12.658	12.294	12.268	12.141
2027	13.191	11.498	11.383	10.843
2028	13.998	11.214	11.038	10.220
2029	14.959	11.269	11.046	10.046
2030	16.213	11.694	11.434	10.276
2031	17.889	12.419	12.119	10.787
2032	20.112	13.466	13.110	11.558
2033	23.161	14.918	14.491	12.627
2034	25.846	16.043	15.548	13.41
2035	28.013	16.858	16.302	13.944
2036	29.813	17.445	16.844	14.323
2037	31.277	17.877	17.240	14.573
2038	32.474	18.181	17.521	14.752
2039	33.438	18.393	17.714	14.867
2040	34.251	18.560	17.861	14.947

Draft Specifications

Stock	FY	OFL	US ABC	State-Waters Sub-Component	Other sub-component	Scallops	Groundfish Sub-ACL	Comm. Ground-fish Sub-ACL	Rec Ground-fish Sub-ACL	Preliminary Sectors Sub-ACL	Preliminary Non-sector Groundfish Sub-ACL	MWT or Small mesh Sub-ACL	Total ACL
White Hake	2026	1,943	1,457	0	7.3		1,377	1,377.3		1,361.4	15.9		1,385
75%F_{MSY}	2027	1,748	1,306	0	6.5		1,234	1,234.5		1,220.3	14.2		1,241
	2028	1,617	1,205	0	6.0		1,139	1,139		1,125.9	13.1		1,145
	2029	1,588	1,182	0	5.9		1,117	1,117.3		1,104.4	12.9		1,123
	2030	1,662	1,239	0	6.2		1,171	1,171.2		1,157.7	13.5		1,177
White Hake	2026	1,943	1,362	0	6.8		1,287	1,287.4		1,272.6	14.8		1,294
70%F_{MSY}	2027	1,760	1,230	0	6.2		1,163	1,162.7		1,149.3	13.4		1,169
	2028	1,640	1,143	0	5.7		1,081	1,080.5		1,068	12.5		1,086
	2029	1,618	1,126	0	5.6		1,064	1,064.4		1,052.1	12.3		1,070
	2030	1,698	1,184	0	5.9		1,119	1,119.2		1,106.3	12.9		1,125

90 mt increase in commercial groundfish sub-ACL for FY2026

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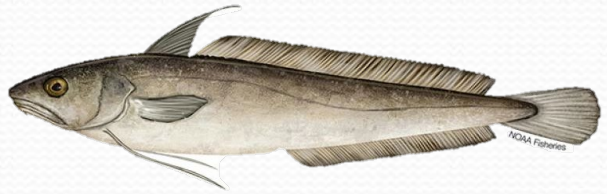
DRAFT Allocation:
White Hake
FY2026

75%Fmsy

OFL

1,943 mt



ABC

Total ABC: 1,488 mt
Canadian Catch Estimate: 31 mt
US ABC: 1,457 mt

State water fisheries

0 mt

"Other" fisheries

7.3 mt

Sector* & Common Pool ABC

- 5% buffer

Sub-ACL

1,377 mt

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 90% or more

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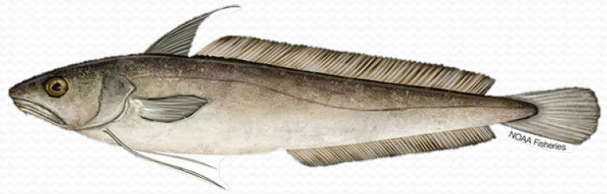
DRAFT Allocation:
White Hake
FY2026

70%Fmsy



OFL → **1,943 mt**

ABC

Total ABC: 1,393 mt
Canadian Catch Estimate: 31 mt
US ABC: 1,362 mt

- State water fisheries → **0 mt**
- "Other" fisheries → **6.8 mt**
- Sector* & Common Pool ABC → **- 5% buffer** → Sub-ACL → **1,287 mt**

Subcomponents
- Expected catches
- No AM's
- No adjustment for management uncertainty

Sub-ACLs
- Subject to AM's
- Management uncertainty adjustment

*Sector buffer set to 0 if ASM target coverage 90% or more

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Action 2 - Revised Specifications

Which alternative do you recommend?

Alternative 1 – No Action

- Default specifications for many stocks

Alternative 2 – Revised Specifications

- FY2026 TACs for US/Canada management units of EGB cod and EGB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder stock
- FY2026 specifications for GB cod, GB haddock, and GB yellowtail flounder
- FY2026-FY2030 specifications for CC/GOM yellowtail flounder, SNE/MA yellowtail flounder, GB winter flounder, GOM winter flounder, SNE/MA winter flounder, white hake, Acadian redfish, ocean pout, and Atlantic wolffish,
- Sub-component analysis for several stocks

Option A - Remove the management uncertainty buffer for sectors for white hake if the ASM target coverage rate is set at 90% or greater for FY2026-FY2030

For Today

- Framework 72 / Specifications and Management Measures:
  - Discuss draft alternatives and draft impact analysis
  - Receive PDT analysis on white hake projections (Committee tasking)
  - Recommend preferred alternatives and take final action

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Extra Slides

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Stock	Council Actions								
	Emergency Action	*Amendment 25 v2*		*Framework 69*			*Framework 72*		
	FY2025	**FY2026**	**FY2027**	**FY2025**	**FY2026**	**FY2027**	**FY2026**	**FY2027**	**FY2028**
Eastern Gulf of Maine cod	✓[1]	✓	✓						
Western Gulf of Maine cod		✓	✓						
Georges Bank cod		✓					✓[3]		
Southern New England cod		✓	✓						
Georges Bank haddock	✓			✓[2]			✓		
Gulf of Maine haddock	✓			✓[2]	✓	✓			
Georges Bank yellowtail flounder	✓			✓[2]	✓		✓		
Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder							✓	✓	✓
Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine yellowtail flounder							✓	✓	✓
American plaice	✓			✓[2]	✓	✓			
Witch flounder	✓			✓[2]	✓	✓			
Georges Bank winter flounder							✓	✓	✓
Gulf of Maine winter flounder							✓	✓	✓
Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic winter flounder							✓	✓	✓
Redfish									
White hake							✓	✓	✓
Pollock	✓			✓[2]	✓	✓			
Northern windowpane flounder							✓[4]	✓[4]	✓[4]
Southern windowpane flounder							✓[4]	✓[4]	✓[4]
Ocean pout							✓[5]	✓[5]	✓[5]
Atlantic halibut	✓			✓[2]	✓	✓			
Atlantic wolffish							✓[5]	✓[5]	✓[5]

[1] Proposed ABCs in Framework 69 were combined to distribute specifications for GOM and GB cod stocks.
[2] Specifications will replace those included in the emergency action.
[3] Specifications will replace those included in Amendment 25.
[4] Potential to be omitted from FW72.
[5] 2025 Management track assessments have been deferred to data updates only.

Draft revised specifications – groundfish sub-ACLs

Commercial groundfish sub-ACL summed across cod stocks		
FY2025 (mt) **GOM + GB**	**Proposed FY2026 (mt)** **EGOM + WGOM + GB + SNE**	**% Change**
317.0	465.3	+47%

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Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

Alternative 2 (MUB removed for all stocks, other than SNE cod)

Stock	Sub-ACL (mt)	Predicted Catch (mt)	Predicted Utilization	FY26 Revenue Prediction	*p(5%) Revenue*	*p(95% Revenue)*	FY24 Realized Revenue
Redfish	5,567	5,380	96.6%	6.8	6.2	7.2	6.7
GB Haddock	4,215	1,871	44.4%	5.8	4.9	6.8	6.0
American Plaice	6,729	1,272	18.9%	5.0	4.5	5.5	5.2
Pollock	9,777	2,187	22.4%	4.0	3.7	4.3	4.2
GOM Haddock	2,269	1,136	50.1%	3.9	3.6	4.3	4.1
White Hake	1,340	1,330	99.3%	3.8	3.5	3.9	4.8
Witch Flounder	1,424	1,033	72.5%	3.1	2.8	3.3	3.3
GB Winter Flounder	1,587	662	41.7%	2.8	2.3	3.3	2.7
WGOM Cod	294	283	96.3%	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.2
GB Cod	134	121	90.3%	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5
GOM Winter Flounder	588	102	17.4%	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5
CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder	1,585	272	17.1%	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
Halibut	23	35	150.7%	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
SNE/MA Winter Flounder	341	47	13.9%	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2
EGOM Cod	37	1	1.6%	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
GB Yellowtail Flounder	24	2	10.0%	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
SNE Cod	7	<0.1	5.8%	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	22	<0.1	0.8%	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1

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Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

Alternative 2 (MUB removed for all stocks, other than SNE cod) revenue prediction by **home port**

	Groundfish Revenue		Total Revenue	
State/Port	FY2026 Prediction	FY2024 Realized	FY2026 Prediction	FY2024 Realized
Massachusetts				
Gloucester	8.6 (7.6 – 9.5)	11.9	12.0 (10.7 - 13.2)	16.0
Boston/Scituate	8.5 (7.5 – 9.4)	10.1	11.1 (9.8 – 12.3)	13.1
New Bedford	16.7 (15.2 – 18.3)	13.9	23.6 (21.6 – 25.6)	19.8
Outer/Lower Cape	<0.1 (<0.1 - 0.1)	0.1	0.7 (0.6 - 0.8)	2.8
Other MA ports	<0.1 (<0.1 - <0.1)	<0.1	<0.1 (<0.1 - 0.1)	<0.1
Maine				
Portland	2.7 (2.3 – 3.2)	3.0	3.2 (2.7 - 3.8)	3.7
Other ME ports	0.7 (0.6 – 0.9)	0.7	0.9 (0.7 - 1.1)	0.9
Rhode Island (all)	0.5 (0.3 - 0.6)	0.4	2.1 (1.7 - 2.5)	1.9
New Hampshire (all)	0.8 (0.6 – 1.0)	0.9	1.4 (1.1 - 1.6)	1.4

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Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

Alternative 2 (MUB removed for all stocks, other than SNE cod) revenue prediction by **trip port**

	Groundfish Revenue		Total Revenue	
State/Port	FY2026 Prediction	FY2024 Realized	FY2026 Prediction	FY2024 Realized
Massachusetts				
Gloucester	10.9 (9.7 - 11.9)	11.8	14.7 (13.1 - 15.9)	15.6
Boston/Scituate	9.1 (8.2 - 10.0)	10.5	11.9 (10.7 - 13.1)	13.5
New Bedford	16.2 (14.9 - 17.7)	15.9	22.2 (20.5 – 24.2)	20.8
Outer/Lower Cape	0.1 (<0.1 - 0.1)	0.1	1.5 (1.2 – 1.8)	4.6
Other MA ports	<0.1 (<0.1 - <0.1)	<0.1	<0.1 (<0.1 - <0.1)	<0.1
Maine				
Portland	1.7 (1.4 - 2.1)	1.9	2.2 (1.8 - 2.6)	2.3
Other ME ports	0.3 (0.2 - 0.4)	0.3	0.3 (0.3 - 0.4)	0.4
Rhode Island (all)	0.1 (0.1 - 0.1)	0.1	1.5 (1.2 – 1.8)	1.3
New Hampshire (all)	0.3 (0.2 - 0.3)	0.4	0.6 (0.5 - 0.8)	0.8

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Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

Alternative 2 (MUB removed for all stocks, other than SNE cod) groundfish species revenue and total revenue prediction by **vessel size class**

	Groundfish Revenue		**Total Revenue**	
Vessel Length Category	FY2026 Prediction	FY2024 Realized	FY2026 Prediction	FY2024 Realized
75'+	25.2 (23.6 – 26.7)	27.6	33.7 (31.5 – 35.8)	36.3
50'to<75'	8.9 (7.8 – 9.9)	9.8	14.4 (12.9 - 16.0)	15.4
<50'	4.4	3.6	6.9	8.1

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Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

Stock-level landings (Alternative 2: MUB removed for all stocks, other than SNE cod), estimated quota prices, and quota costs.

Stock	Predicted Catch (lbs.)	Estimated Quota Price	Quota Cost ($)
Redfish	11,860,094	0.10	1,186,009
GB Haddock	4,124,169	0.00	0
American Plaice	2,803,893	0.00	0
Pollock	4,820,552	0.00	0
GOM Haddock	2,504,148	0.36	896,435
White Hake	2,932,766	0.91	2,656,764
Witch Flounder	2,276,370	0.51	1,172,057
GB Winter Flounder	1,458,616	0.00	0
WGOM Cod	623,155	1.37	851,348
GB Cod	267,447	0.81	216,761
GOM Winter Flounder	225,653	0.00	0
CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder	598,704	0.00	0
Halibut	76,739	N/A	N/A
SNE/MA Winter Flounder	104,699	0.00	0
EGOM Cod	1,262	0.00	0
GB Yellowtail Flounder	5,180	0.00	0
SNE Cod	826	0.00	0
SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	359	0.00	0
Total	*34,684,631*		*6,979,373*

- For most stocks, the estimated quota price represents the inter-sector lease price from FY2024.
- For white hake, the estimated lease price was calculated by taking the FY2024 price ($0.70 per pound) and increasing by 29.7%, the percentage decline in the sector sub-ACL for FY2026 relative to FY2024.
- For redfish, the lease price for redfish was assumed to be $0.10 per pound, roughly 20% of the ex-vessel price.

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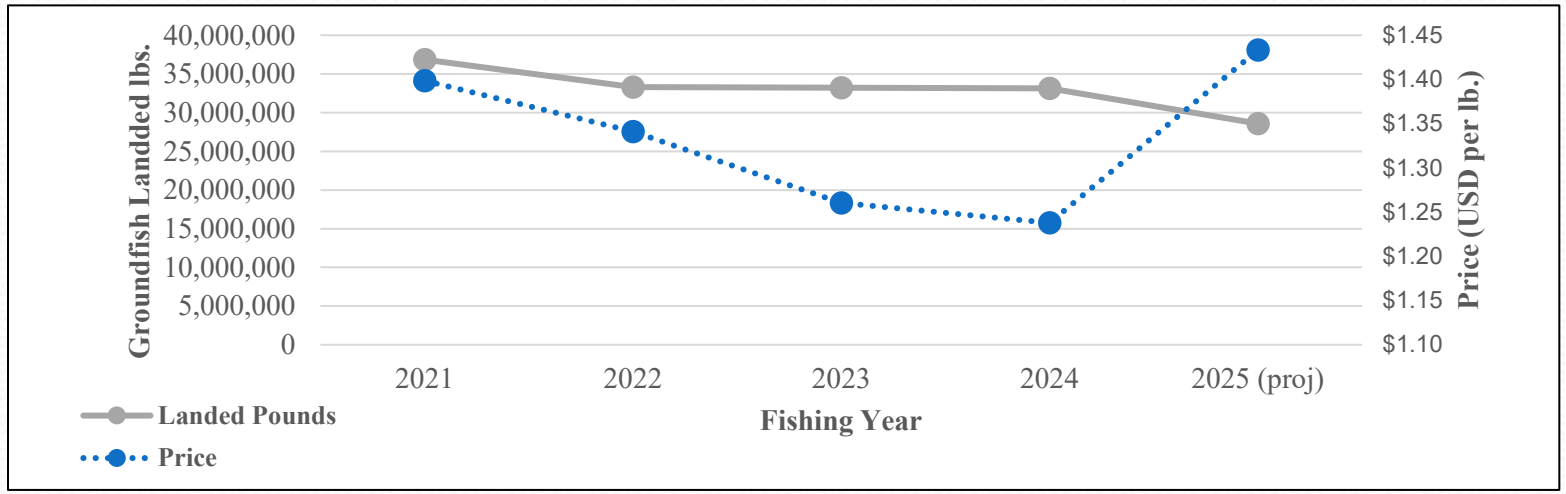
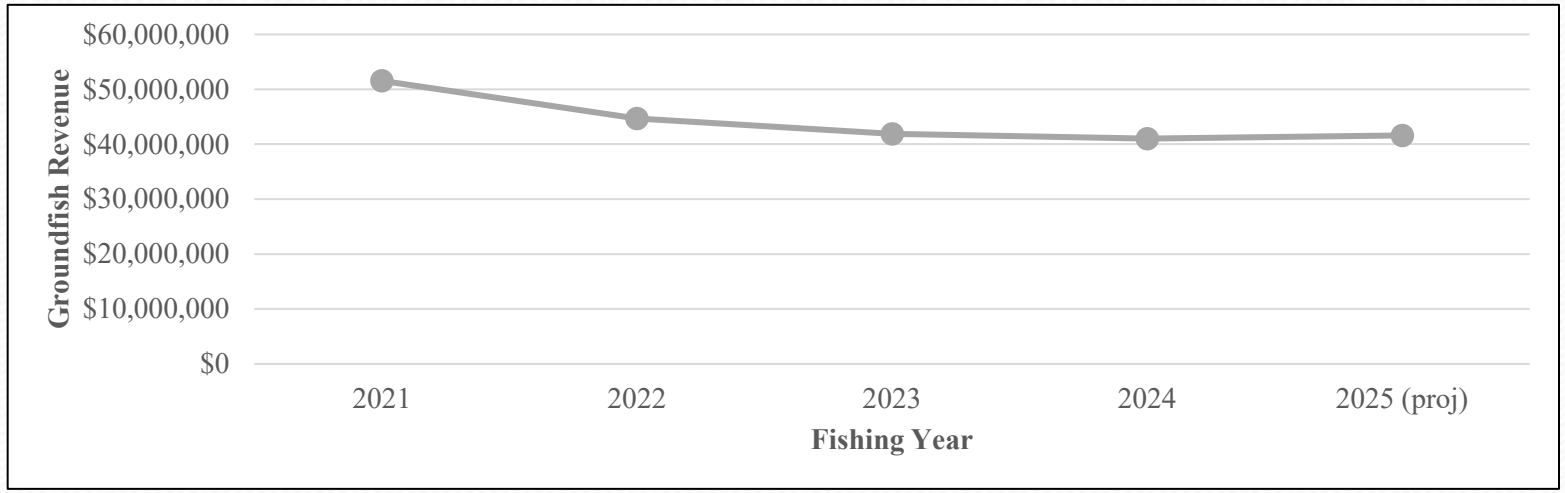
Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors



Sector groundfish landings and prices, fishing years 2021-2025. Projected landings for FY2025 based on fishing activity from May-October, 2025.



Sector groundfish revenue, fishing years 2021-2025. Projected revenue for FY2025 based on fishing activity from May-October, 2025.

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Draft economic impacts – Quota Change Model Results – Sectors

	FY2021		FY2022		FY2023		FY2024		FY2025
	Predicted[1]	Realized	Predicted[2]	Realized	Predicted[3]	Realized	Predicted[4]	Realized	Predicted[5]
Groundfish Revenue	45.3	51.9	51.9	45.1	47.9	41.7	40.8	41.0	34.7
Total Revenue	63.5	75.1	73.3	66.6	74.2	61.6	58.2	59.8	51.7
Operating Cost	10.9	16.1	10.9	17.5	19.1	14.8	15.0	14.5	11.6
Sector Cost	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2
Quota Cost	3.6	4.3	2.7	4.2	4.3	6.1	6.1	6.9	5.0
Operating Profit	47.1	53.1	59.4	43.4	51.0	39.3	36.1	37.2	33.9

[1]FW61, reference pool = FY2019

[2]FW63, reference pool = September 2020 – August 2021

[3]FW65, reference pool = November 2021 – October 2022

[4]FW66, reference pool = November 2022 – October 2023

[5]FW69, reference pool = FY2023

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Action 1 – Status Determination Criteria

Alternative 2 – Updated Status Determination Criteria for GB Yellowtail Flounder

Stock	Biomass Target	Minimum Biomass Threshold	Maximum Fishing Mortality Threshold
Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder	SSB_{MSY} Proxy	$\frac{1}{2}SSB_{MSY}$ Proxy	F_{MSY}

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Action 1 – Status Determination Criteria

Alternative 2 – Updated Status Determination Criteria for GB Yellowtail Flounder

Numerical estimates of SDCs.

Stock	Model/Approach	SSB_{MSY} (mt)	F_{MSY}	MSY (mt)
Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder	WHAM	7,072	0.09	597

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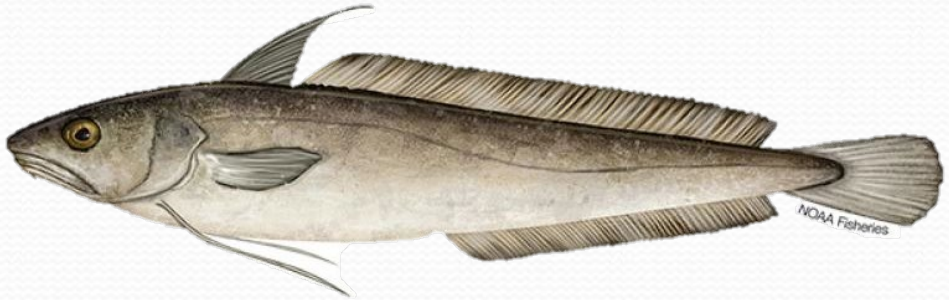
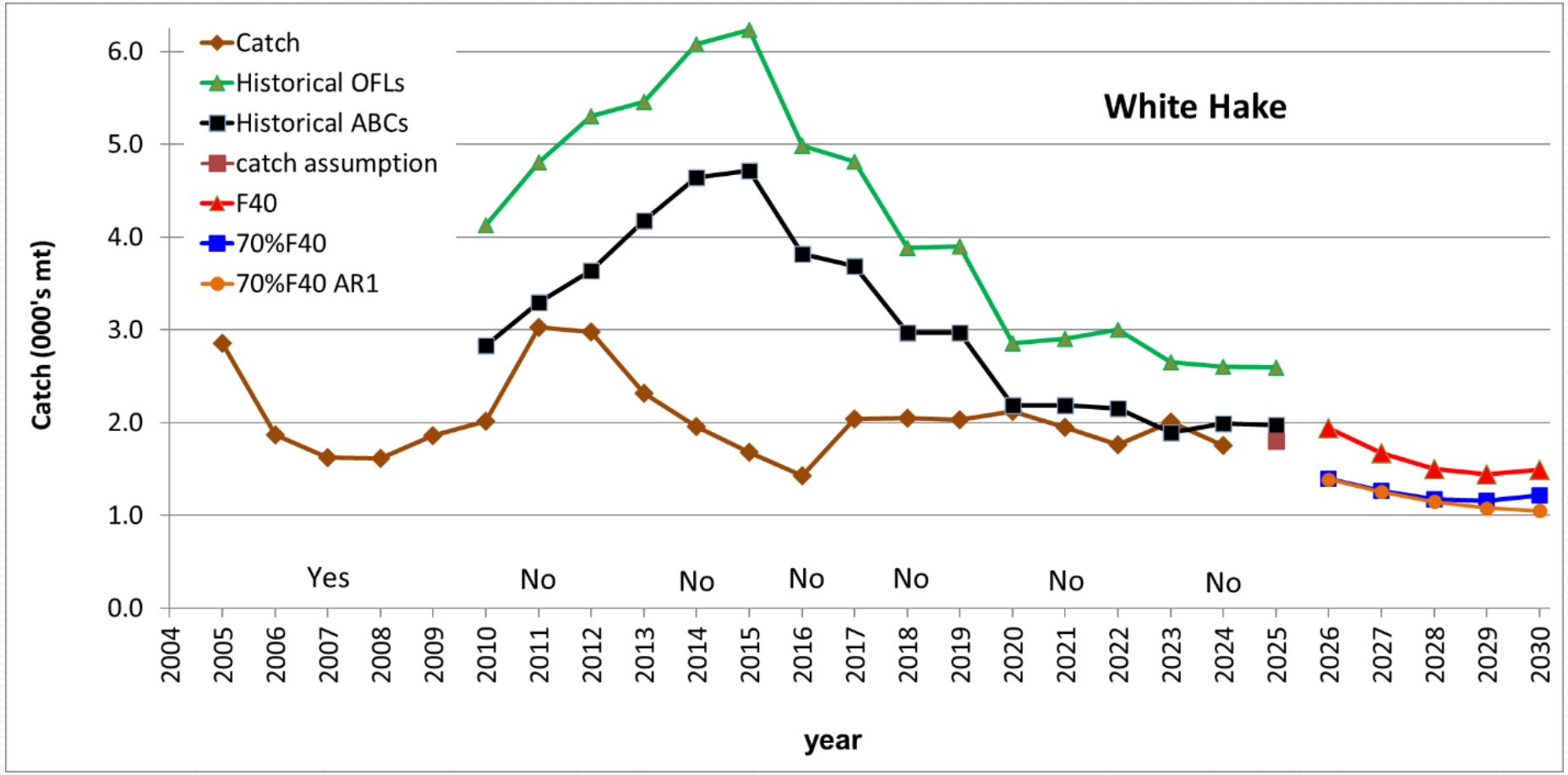
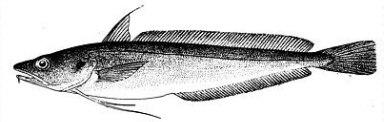
White Hake
Fishing Year 2026 and Fishing Year 2030
OFLs and ABCs



Catch Performance



Overfishing status in the terminal year of the assessment indicated on the x-axis ("Yes" = overfishing, "No" = not overfishing).



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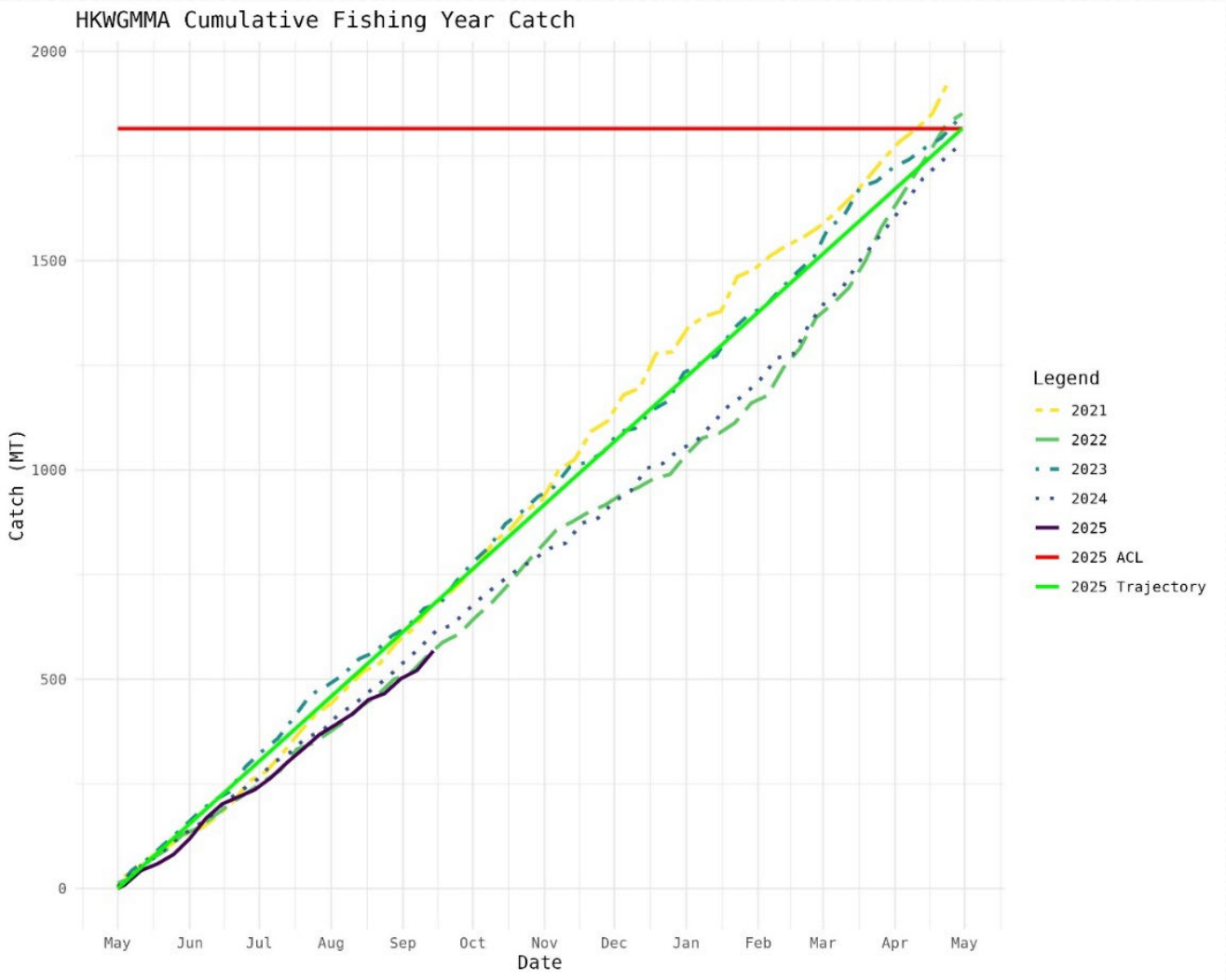
Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



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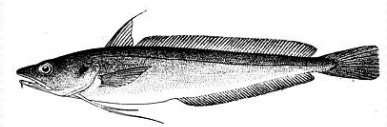
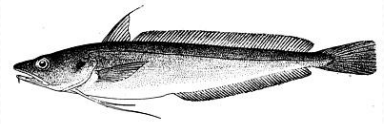


Quota Change Model Results - Sectors

	FY	Sector sub-ACL	Catch (mt)		*Utilization (%)*		Gross Rev ($mil, 2024)	
			Realized	Predicted	*Realized*	*Predicted*	Realized	Predicted
White Hake	2012	3,257	2,414	1,980	*0.74*	*0.43*	9.3	5.8
	2013	4,142	2,025	2,570	*0.49*	*0.70*	7.7	8.2
	2014	4,308	1,721	1,932	*0.40*	*0.45*	7.3	7.4
	2015	4,313	1,581	1,689	*0.37*	*0.39*	6.3	6.4
	2016	3,434	1,432	1,780	*0.42*	*0.52*	5.6	7.1
	2017	3,333	2,014	2,071	*0.60*	*0.62*	5.6	8.3
	2018	2,713	2,083	1,907	*0.77*	*0.70*	5.4	7.1
	2019	2,715	2,044	2,691	*0.75*	*0.99*	5.1	7.1
	2020	2,004	1,790	1,839	*0.89*	*0.92*	5.2	4.8
	2021	1,994	1,930	1,995	*0.97*	*1.00*	6.6	4.6
	2022	1,970	1,824	1,906	*0.93*	*0.97*	5.7	5.8
	2023	1,808	1,747	1,719	*0.97*	*0.95*	4.9	5.6
	2024	1,905	1,741	1,904	*0.91*	*1.00*	4.8	5.2

White hake has been a highly constraining stock for the last five years



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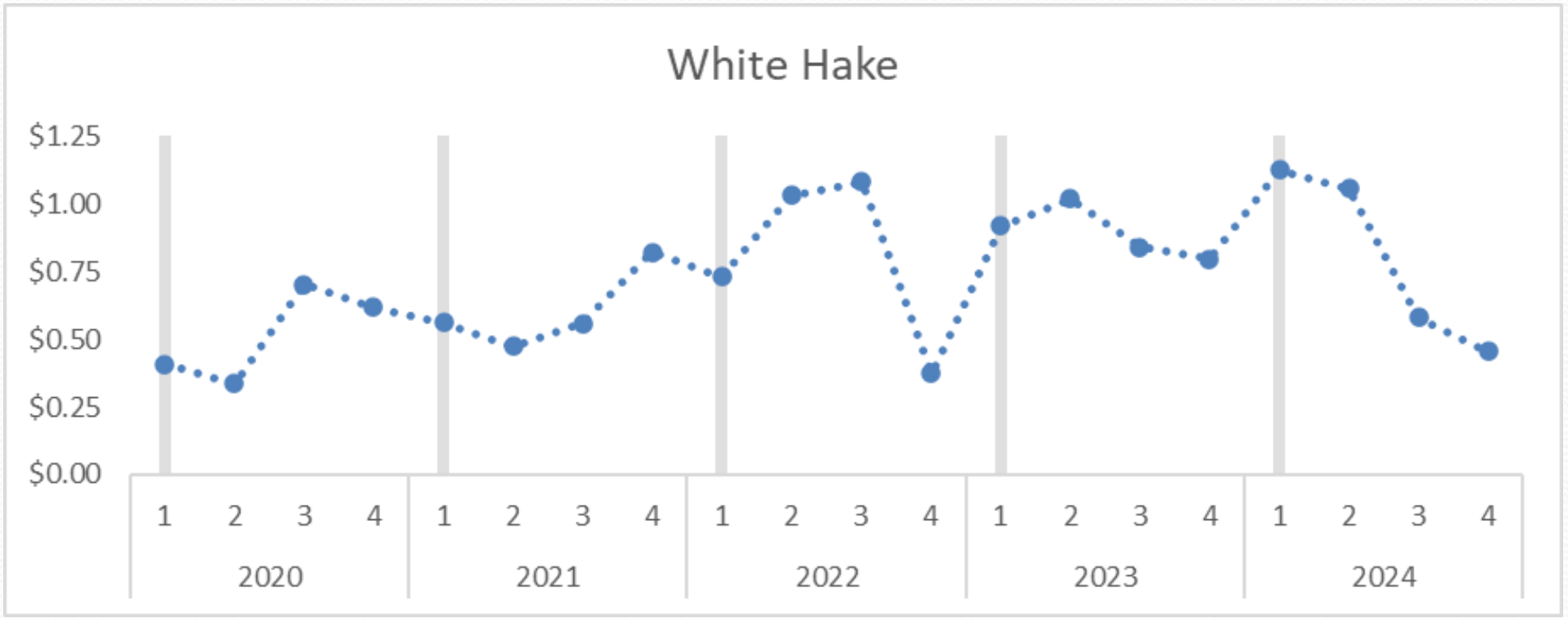
Inter-Sector ACE Lease Prices - Sectors



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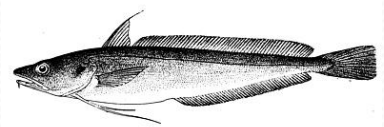
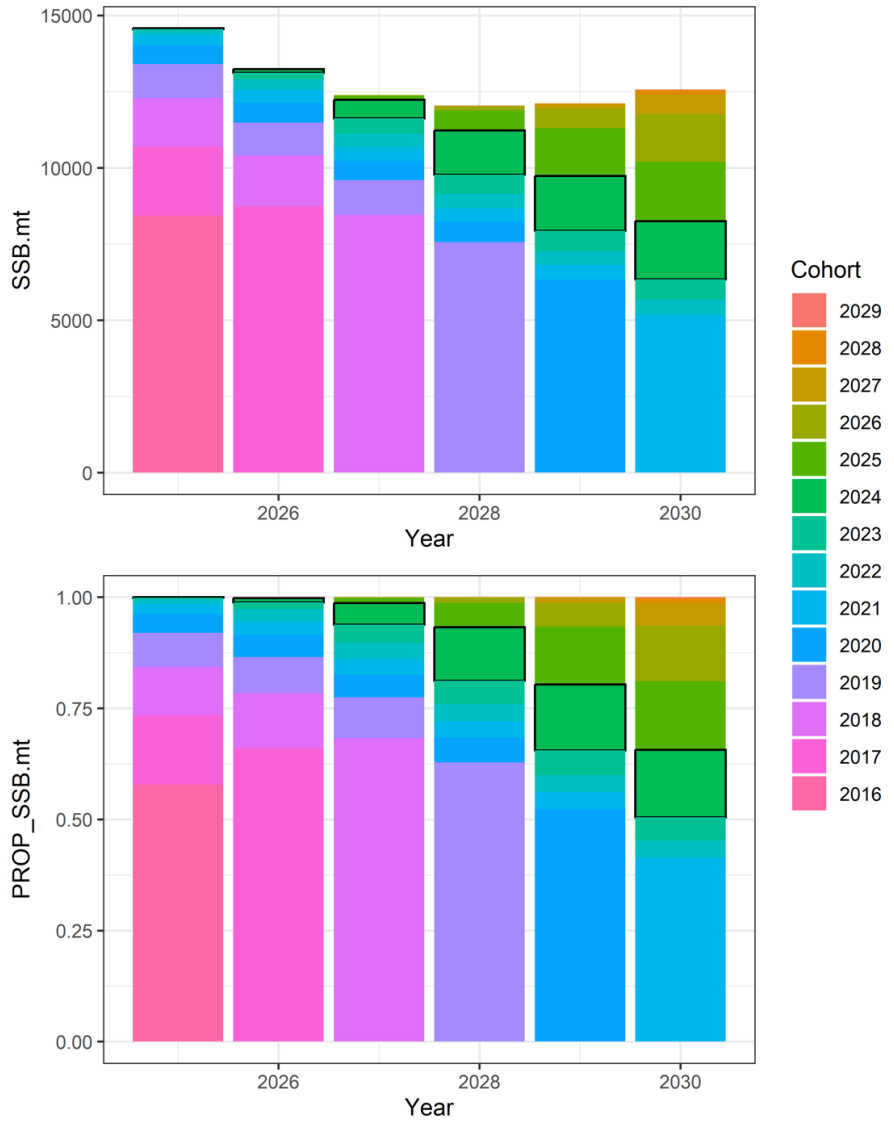
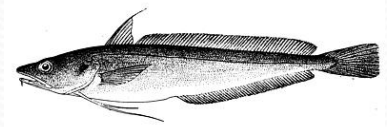


Projected Cohorts



- Note: with ASAP and AGEPRO unable to produce this for catch (uses SSB instead)
- By 2028 25% of projected SSB is from projected recruits (50% by 2030)

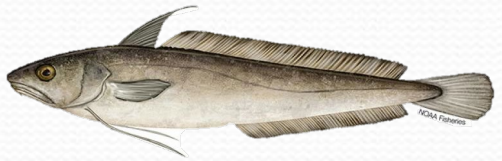
Source: NEFSC



Recruitment and projection methodology

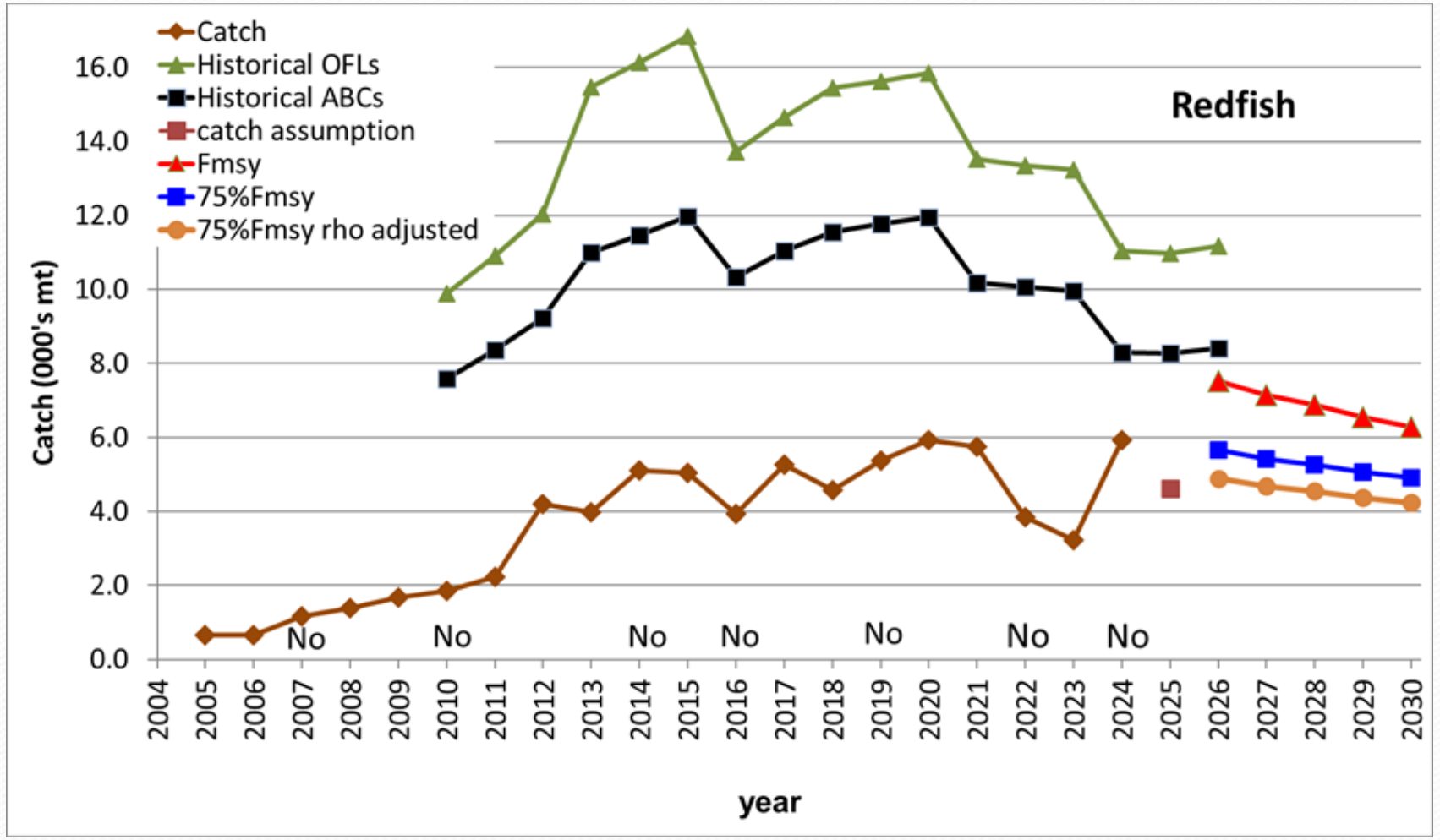
- Based on the 2025 Peer Review Panel recommendations, projections continue the use of the projection methodology from the SAW56 benchmark:
  - Long-term projections estimate SSBmsy at an F40%proxy for Fmsy using a CDF of recruitment from the model times series minus the last two years (1963-2022)
  - Short-term projections used for catch advice use a shorter time series of recruitment from 1995-2022, since there was a declining trend in recruitment.

- Inconsistency between recruitment methods used in the long-term and short-term projections explored in the 2025 Management Track Assessment but not resolved
  - Considered alternative projection approach using projected recruitment based on a lognormal distribution with autocorrelated error in recruitment (AR1; Cadrin 2023).
  - Panel provided several research recommendations regarding continued exploration of alternative projection approaches.



Acadian Redfish
Fishing Year 2026 – Fishing Year 2030
OFLs and ABCs

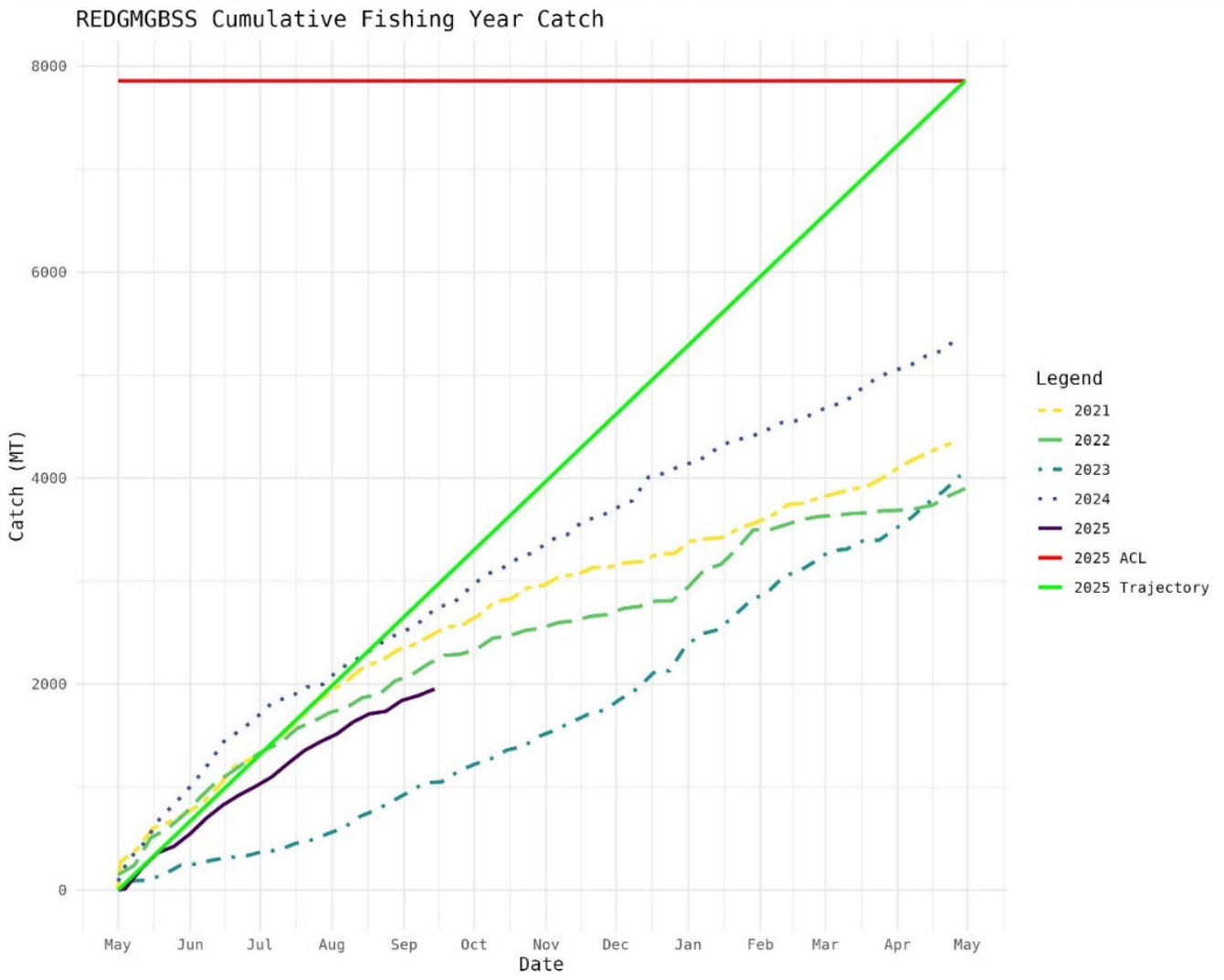
Catch Performance



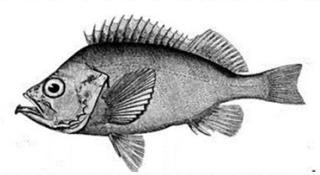
Overfishing status in the terminal year of the assessment indicated on the x-axis ("No" = not overfishing).

New England Fishery Management Council

Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



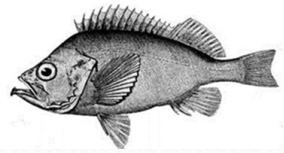
New England Fishery Management Council



Quota Change Model Results - Sectors

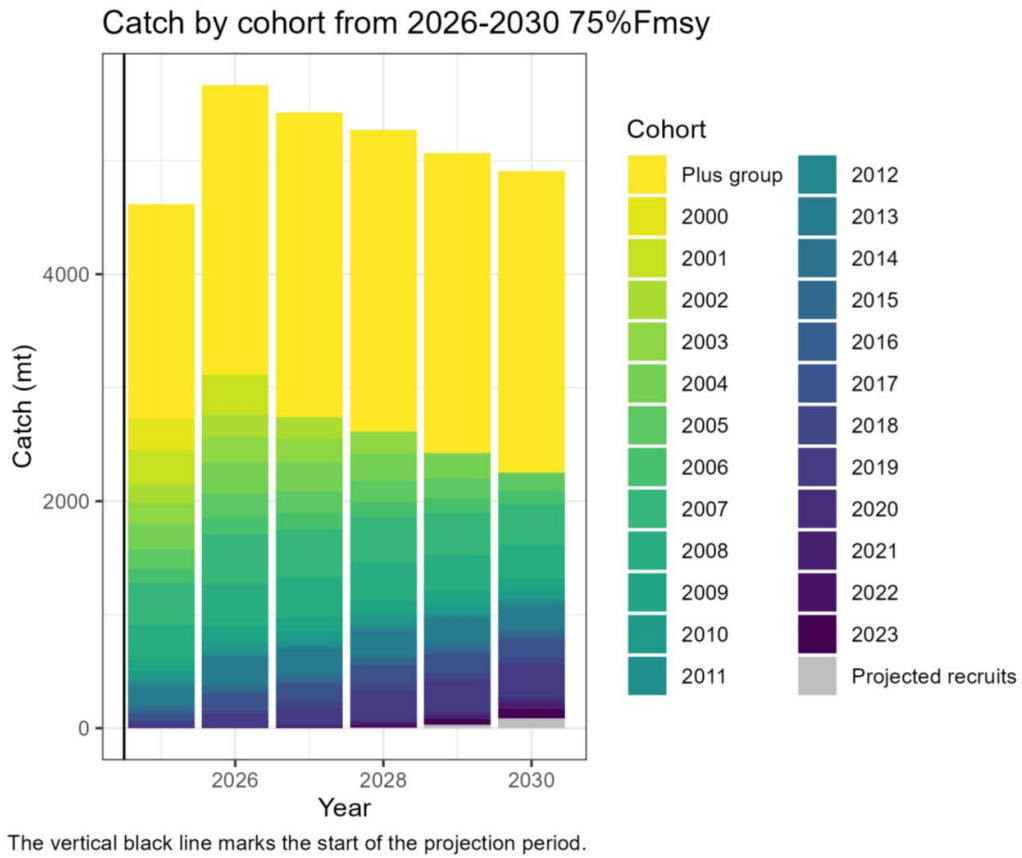
	FY	Sector sub-ACL	Catch (mt)		*Utilization (%)*		Gross Rev ($mil, 2024)	
			Realized	Predicted	*Realized*	*Predicted*	Realized	Predicted
Redfish	2012	8,291	4,423	2,064	*0.53*	*0.17*	7.4	3.1
	2013	10,092	3,996	3,361	*0.40*	*0.31*	5.7	5.4
	2014	10,521	4,682	3,363	*0.45*	*0.32*	7.0	4.8
	2015	10,970	5,284	4,145	*0.48*	*0.38*	8.5	5.9
	2016	9,474	4,078	6,860	*0.43*	*0.72*	6.8	10.5
	2017	10,127	4,647	4,199	*0.46*	*0.41*	6.9	6.6
	2018	10,705	5,361	4,650	*0.50*	*0.43*	7.2	7.4
	2019	10,915	4,957	4,993	*0.45*	*0.46*	7.0	7.1
	2020	11,085	6,712	4,894	*0.61*	*0.44*	9.5	6.4
	2021	9,537	4,353	4,634	*0.46*	*0.49*	6.5	6.3
	2022	9,459	3,856	5,267	*0.41*	*0.56*	6.3	6.8
	2023	9,369	3,921	4,027	*0.42*	*0.43*	5.8	6.3
	2024	8,226	5,347	2,912	*0.65*	*0.37*	6.7	4.4

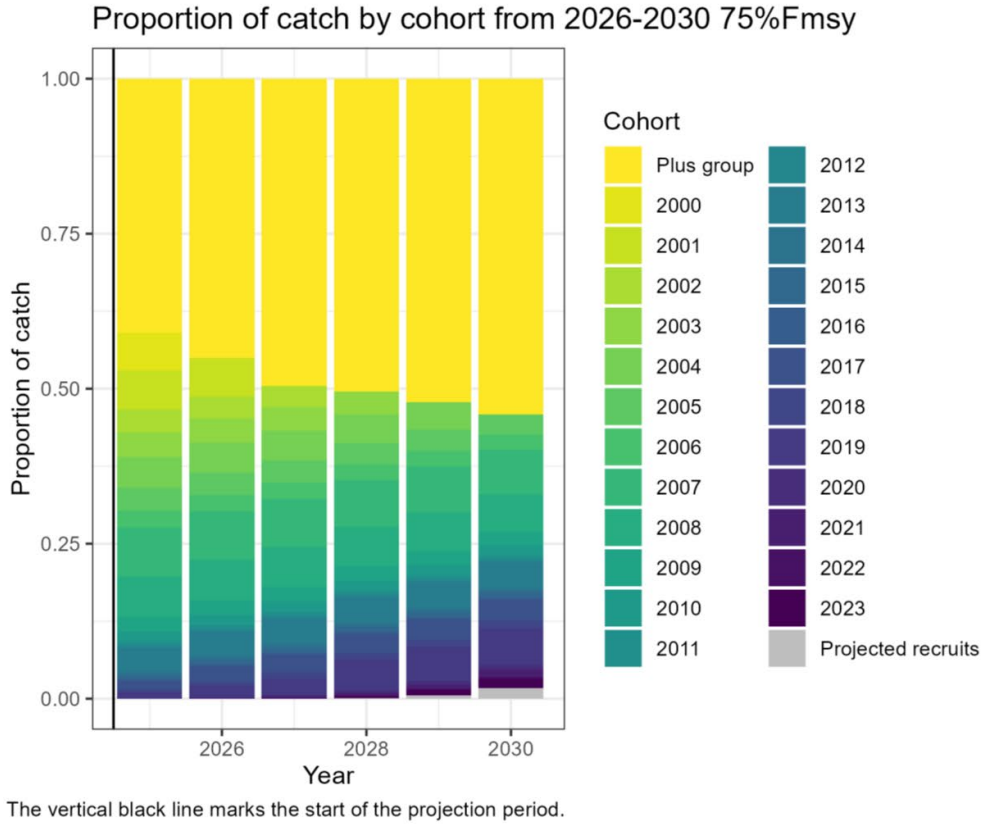
Inter-sector ACE lease prices have been $0



New England Fishery Management Council

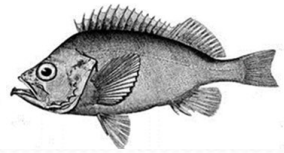
Projected Cohorts





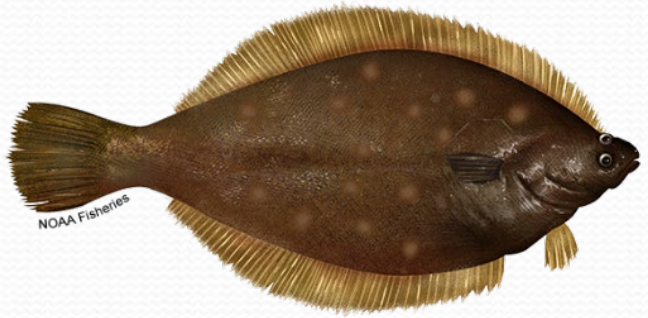
Source: NEFSC

Reliance on projected recruits in catch projections less of an issue for redfish – given life history as long-lived species

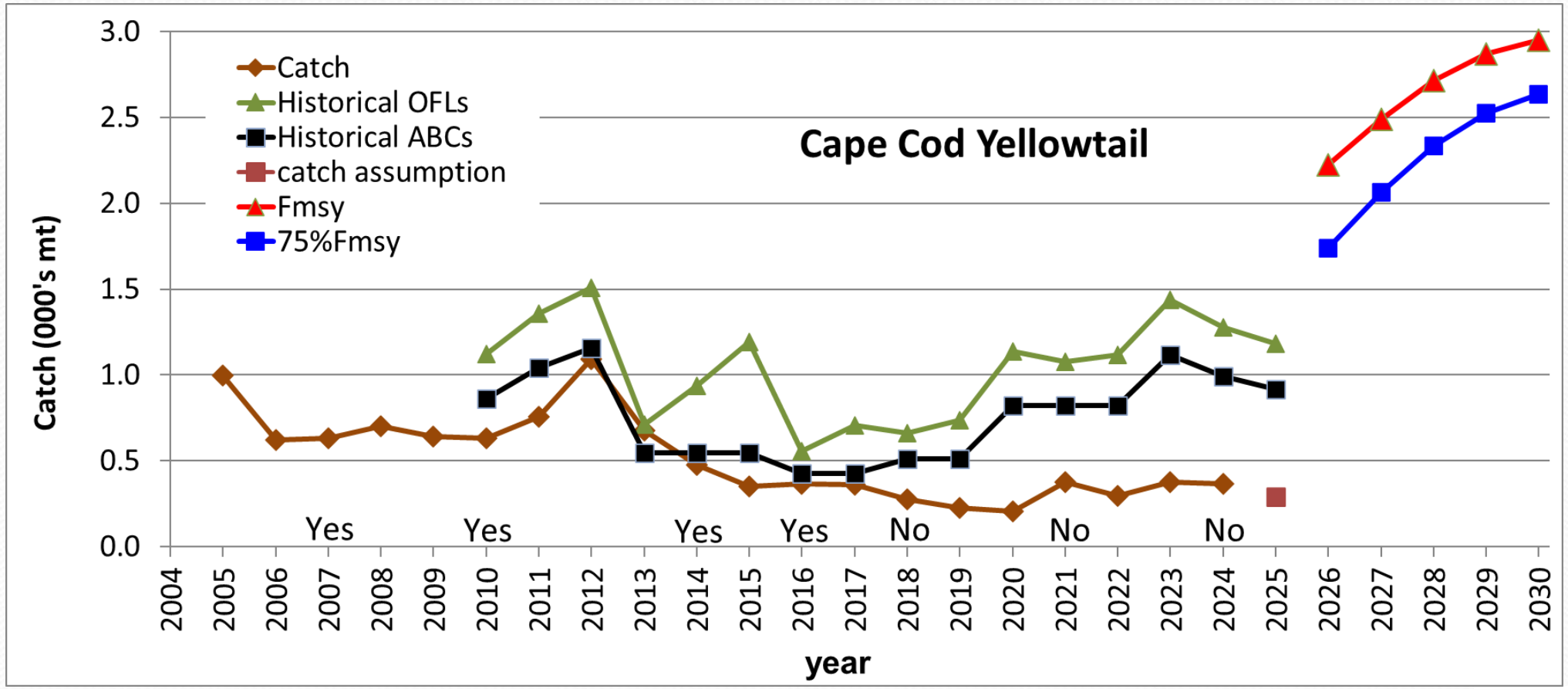


New England Fishery Management Council

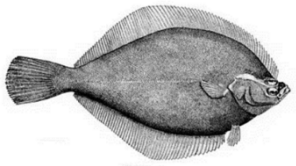
Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine Yellowtail Flounder Fishing Year 2026 through Fishing Year 2030 OFLs and ABCs



Catch Performance

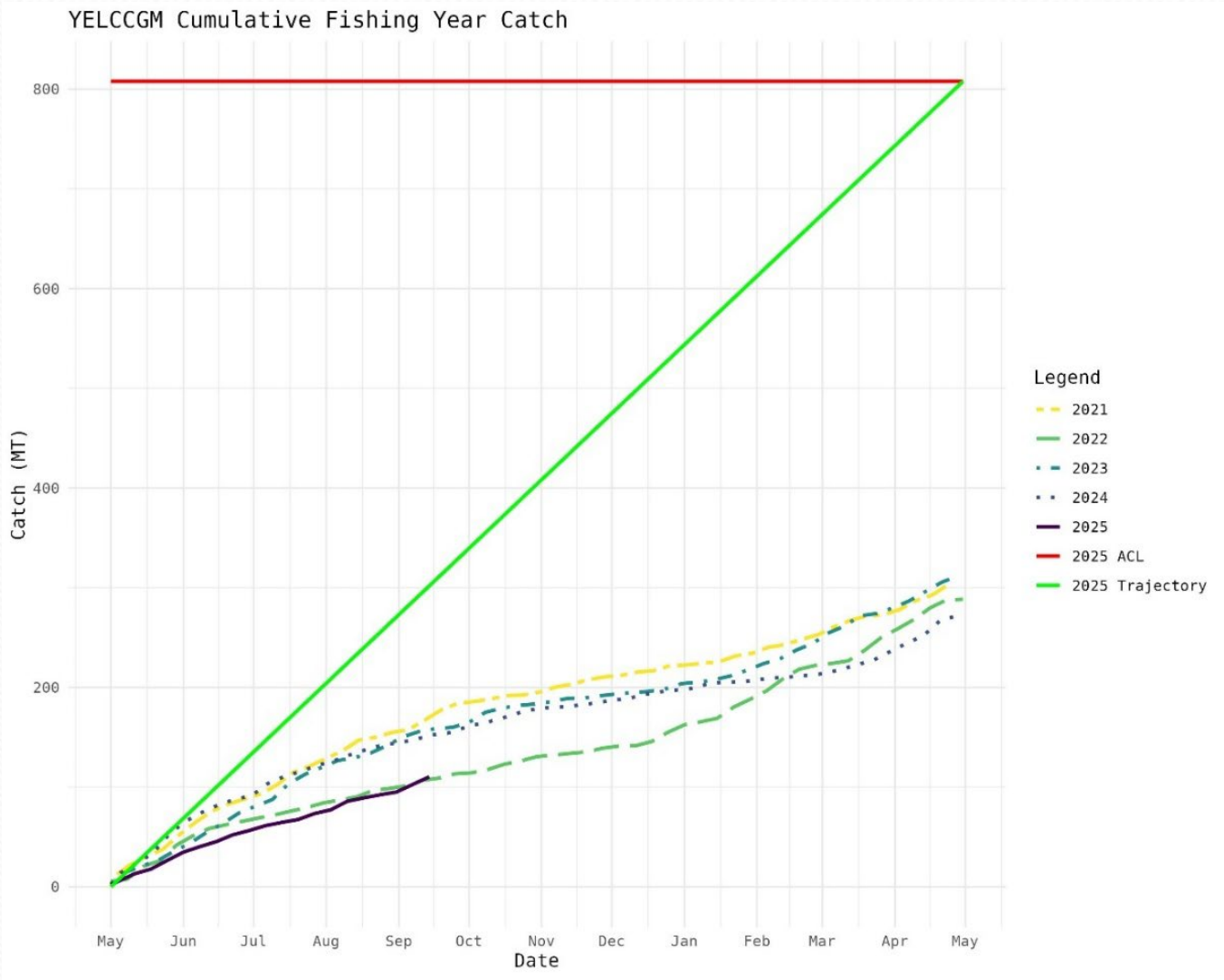


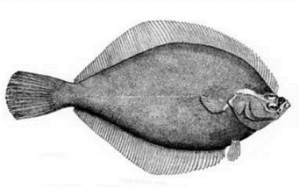
Overfishing status in the terminal year of the assessment indicated on the x-axis ("Yes" = overfishing, "No" = not overfishing).



New England Fishery Management Council

Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



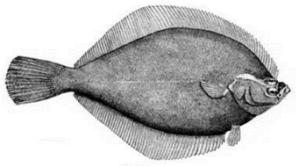


New England Fishery Management Council

Quota Change Model Results - Sectors

	FY	Sector sub-ACL	Catch (mt)		*Utilization (%)*		Gross Rev ($mil, 2024)	
			Realized	Predicted	*Realized*	*Predicted*	Realized	Predicted
CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder	2012	1021	954	391	*0.94*	*0.33*	3.5	0.7
	2013	466	377	423	*0.81*	*0.74*	1.5	1.6
	2014	463	249	338	*0.54*	*0.72*	0.8	1.3
	2015	437	372	204	*0.85*	*0.46*	1.4	0.8
	2016	327	249	177	*0.76*	*0.54*	1.1	0.6
	2017	326	196	237	*0.60*	*0.73*	0.8	1.0
	2018	381	165	380	*0.43*	*1.00*	0.5	1.6
	2019	377	141	282	*0.37*	*0.74*	0.4	1.0
	2020	656	182	178	*0.28*	*0.27*	0.4	0.5
	2021	651	284	124	*0.44*	*0.19*	0.6	0.3
	2022	661	287	344	*0.43*	*0.53*	0.4	0.6
	2023	931	299	165	*0.32*	*0.18*	0.4	0.3
	2024	876	259	339	*0.30*	*0.41*	0.3	0.5

Inter-sector ACE lease prices have been $0 in recent years



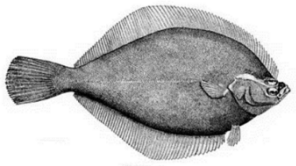
New England Fishery Management Council

Other Fishery and State Fishery Sub-components Catch

Other significant sources of CC/GOM yellowtail flounder catch include:

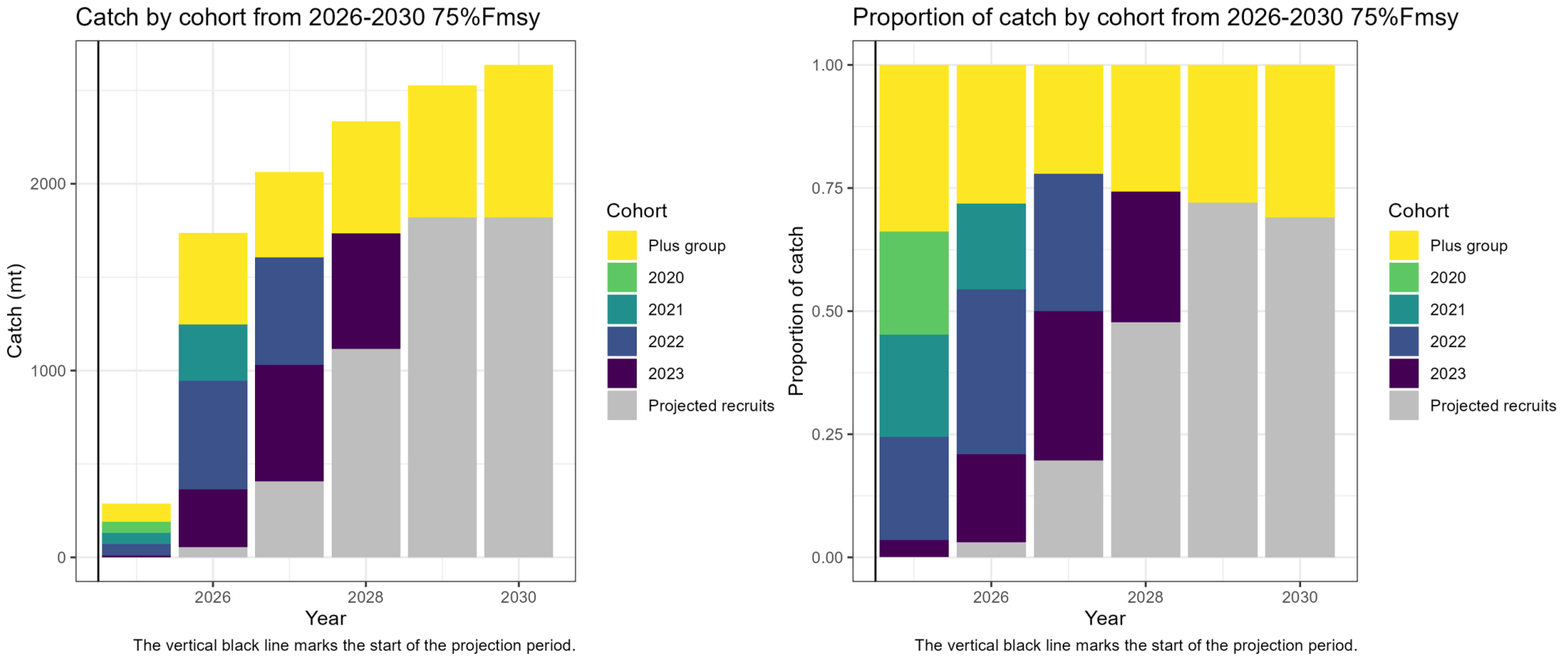
- scallop fishery (27.8 mt in FY2023) and
- state commercial fishery (8.5 mt in FY2023).

These other fishery and state sub-components are expected catches and do not have associated accountability measures (AMs).



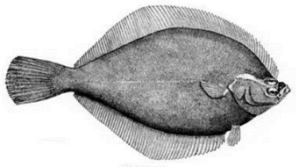
New England Fishery Management Council

Projected Cohorts



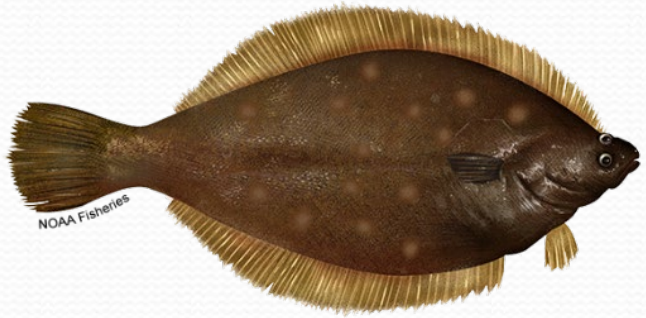
Source: NEFSC

By 2028 50% of projected catch is from projected recruits

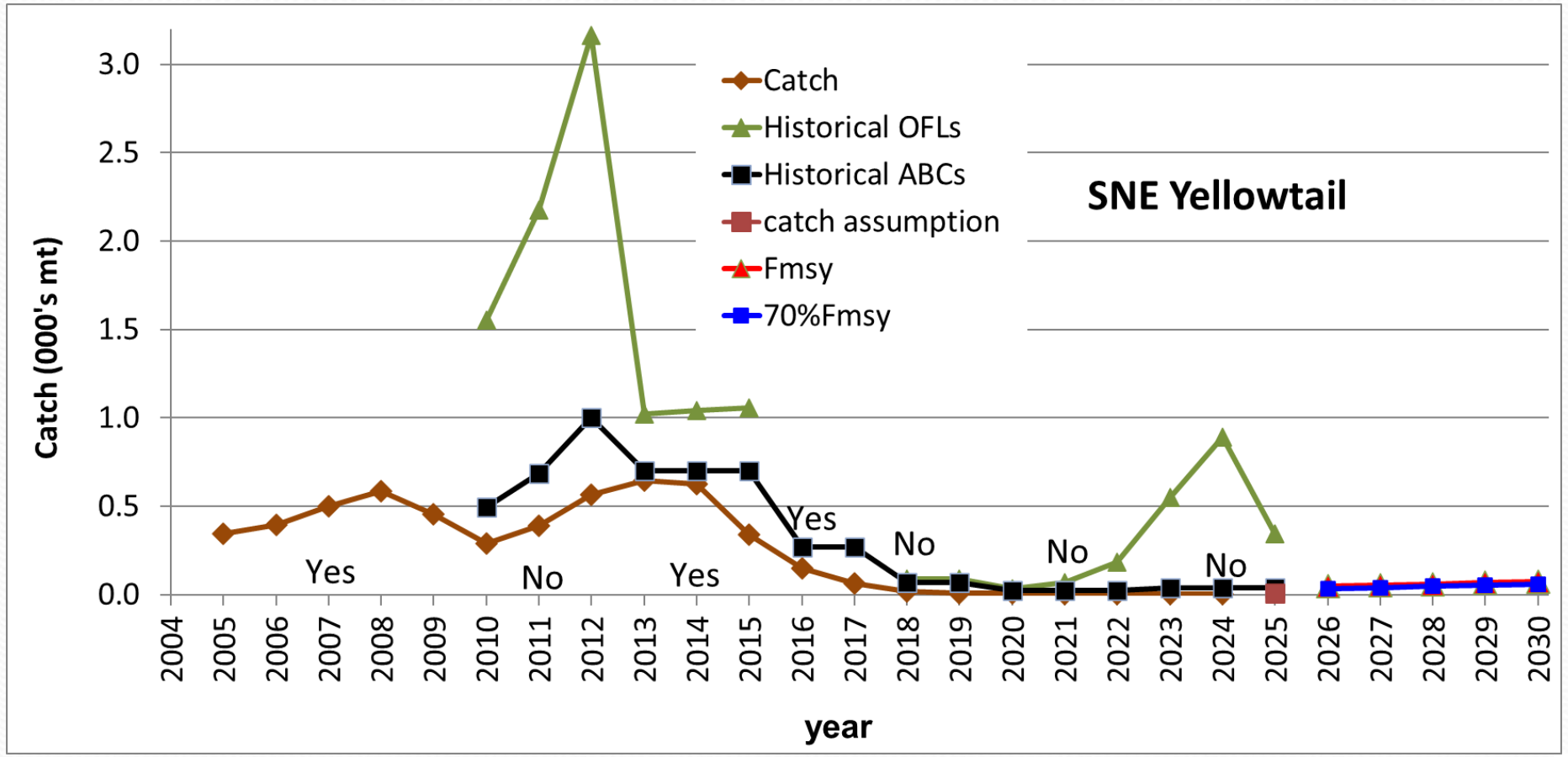


New England Fishery Management Council

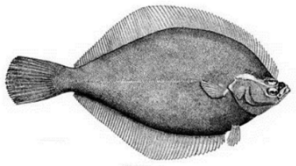
Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Yellowtail Flounder Fishing Year 2026 and Fishing Year 2030 OFLs and ABCs



Catch Performance

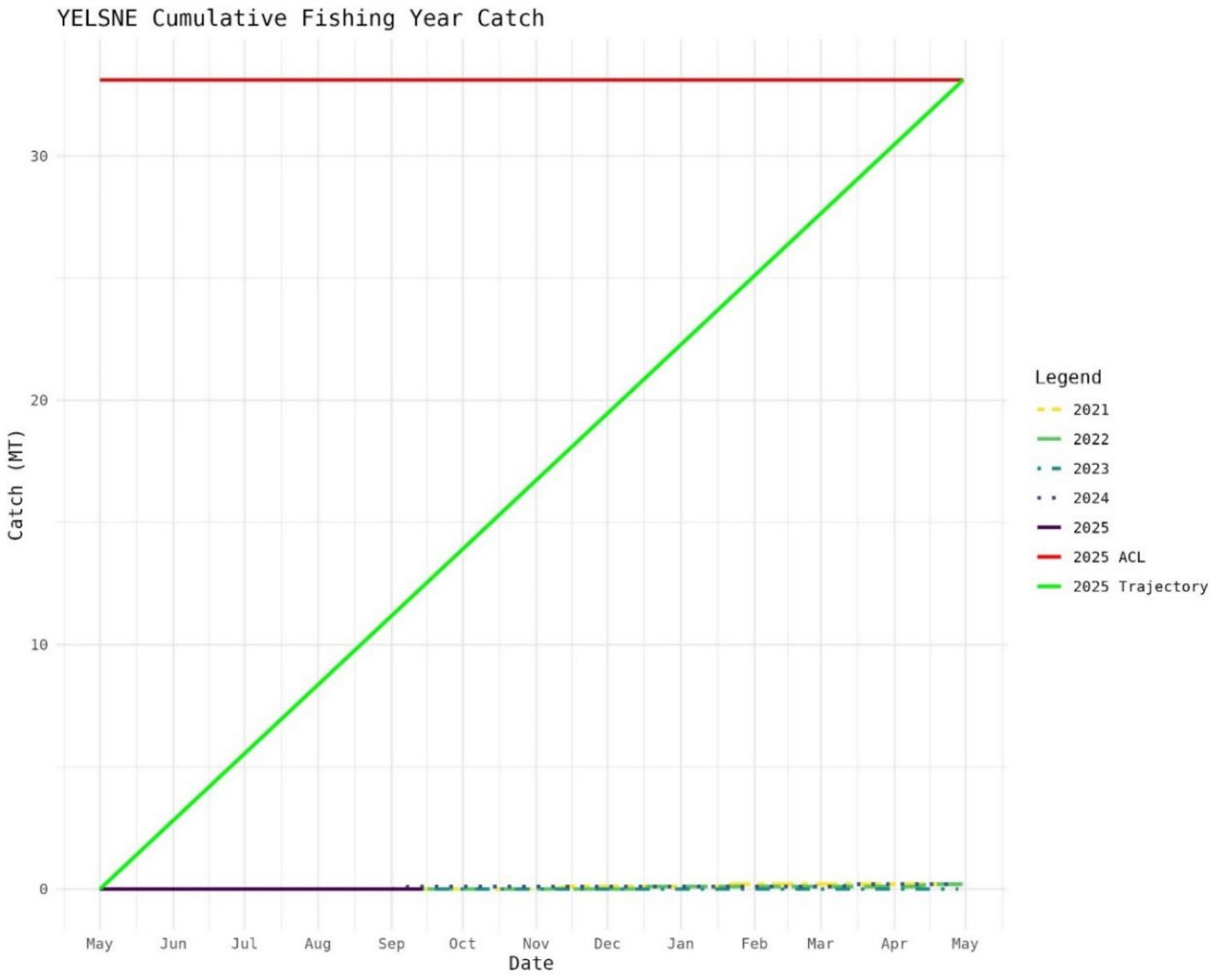


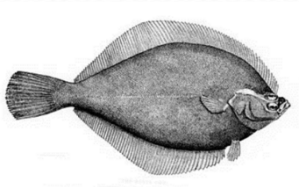
Overfishing status in the terminal year of the assessment indicated on the x-axis ("Yes" = overfishing, "No" = not overfishing).



New England Fishery Management Council

Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



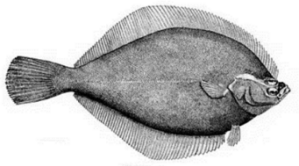


New England Fishery Management Council

Quota Change Model Results - Sectors

	FY	Sector sub-ACL	Catch (mt)		*Utilization (%)*		Gross Rev ($mil, 2024)	
			Realized	Predicted	*Realized*	*Predicted*	Realized	Predicted
SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	2012	607	426	148	*0.70*	*0.20*	1.9	0.1
	2013	488	282	455	*0.58*	*0.88*	1.5	1.9
	2014	462	313	450	*0.68*	*1.00*	1.4	2.0
	2015	460	174	457	*0.38*	*1.00*	0.9	1.8
	2016	169	45	138	*0.26*	*0.95*	0.4	0.5
	2017	176	11	120	*0.06*	*0.77*	0.1	0.4
	2018	35	7	34	*0.20*	*1.00*	<0.1	0.1
	2019	36	3	16	*0.07*	*0.61*	<0.1	0.1
	2020	13	1	12	*0.07*	*1.00*	<0.1	<0.1
	2021	12	<1	3	*0.02*	*0.25*	<0.1	<0.1
	2022	12	<1	1	*0.01*	*0.09*	<0.1	<0.1
	2023	25	<1	1	*0.00*	*0.02*	<0.1	<0.1
	2024	27	<1	<1	*0.01*	*0.00*	<0.1	<0.1

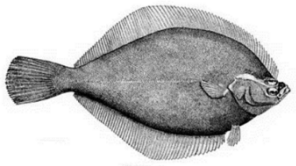
Inter-sector ACE lease prices have been $0



New England Fishery Management Council

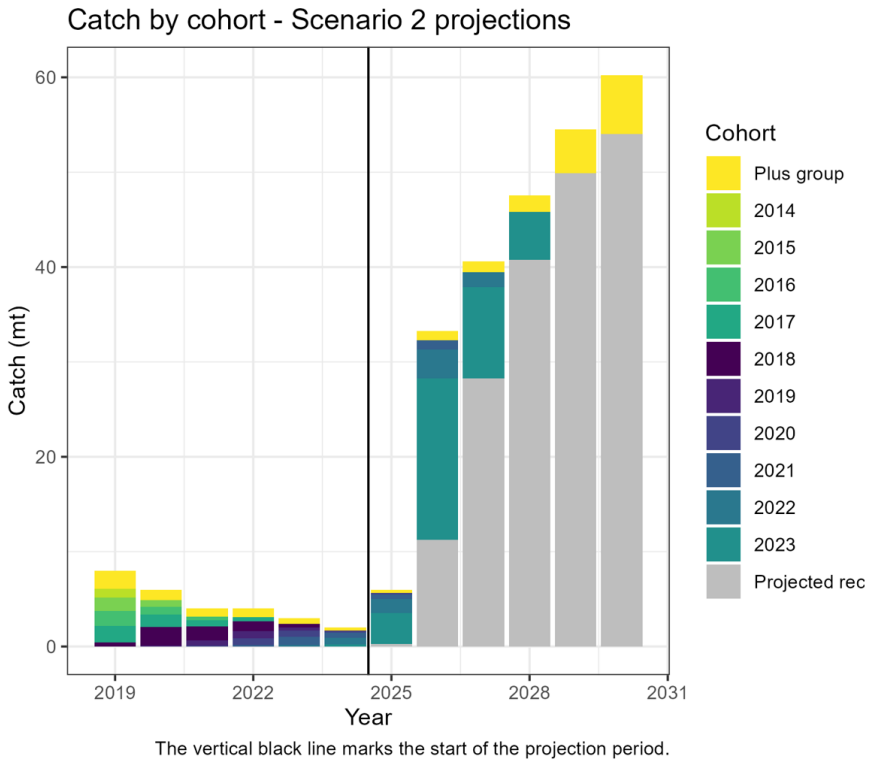
Scallop Fishery Sub-ACL

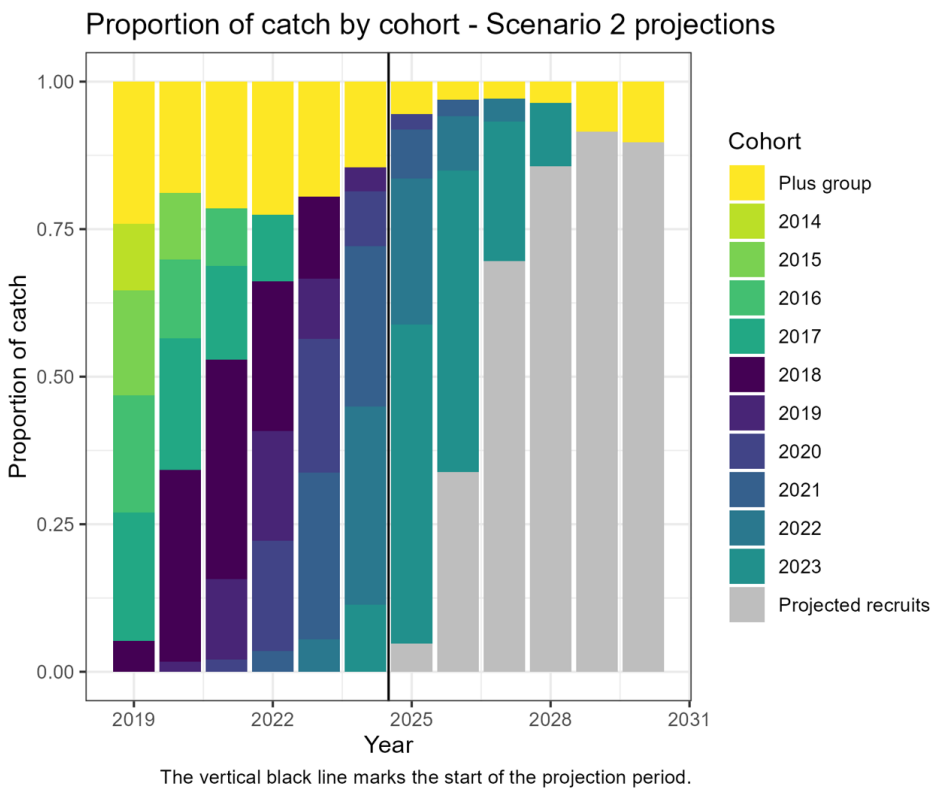
- Presently, the sub-ACL is determined at 90% of the Scallop PDT's projected catch for the fishery, which was set at 2.7 mt for FY2023-FY2025.
- In FY2023, the scallop fishery caught 79% of its sub-ACL (2.1 mt out of 2.7 mt).
- The preliminary in-season GARFO catch report indicates 191.5% of the sub-ACL has been caught in FY2025, and so the scallop fishery may exceed its sub-ACL in 2025.
- AMs can be triggered under certain conditions, and these AMs would require gear modifications in a subsequent year following an overage.



New England
Fishery Management Council

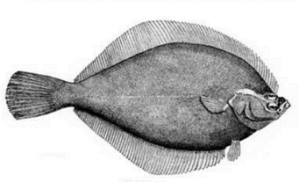
Projected Cohorts





Source: NEFSC

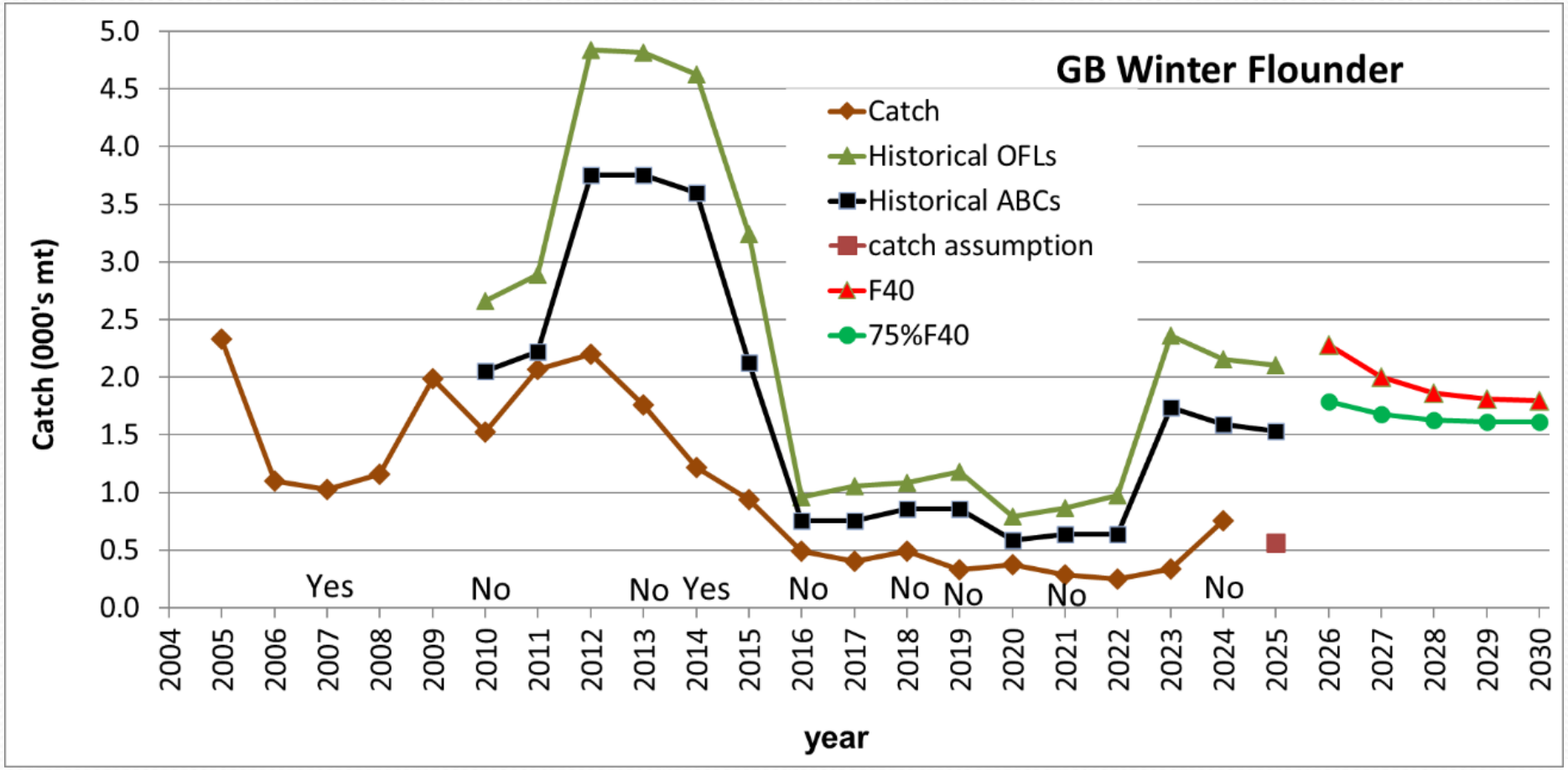
By 2027-2028 greater than 50% of projected catch is from projected recruits



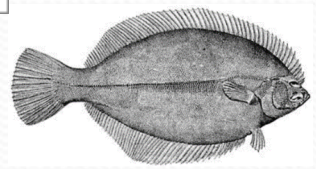
New England Fishery Management Council

Georges Bank Winter Flounder Fishing Year 2026 and Fishing Year 2030 OFLs and ABCs

Catch Performance

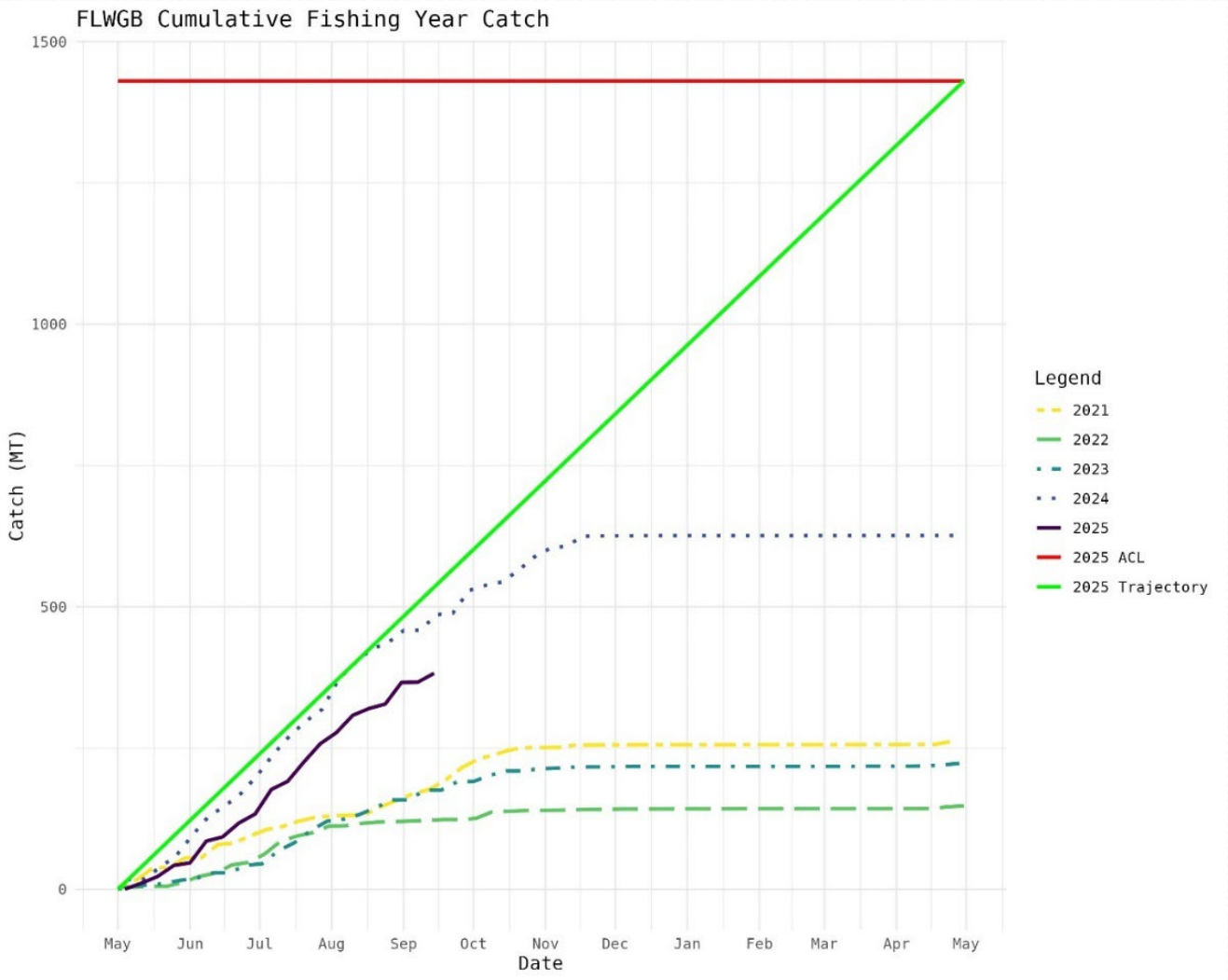


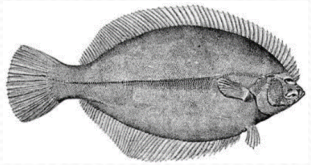
Overfishing status in the terminal year of the assessment indicated on the x-axis ("Yes" = overfishing, "No" = not overfishing).



New England Fishery Management Council

Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



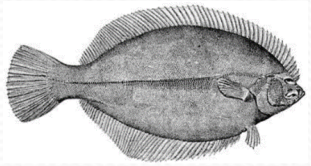


New England Fishery Management Council

Quota Change Model Results - Sectors

	FY	Sector sub-ACL	Catch (mt)		*Utilization (%)*		Gross Rev ($mil, 2024)	
			Realized	Predicted	*Realized*	*Predicted*	Realized	Predicted
GB Winter Flounder	2012	3,367	1,931	941	*0.57*	*0.16*	11.3	5.2
	2013	3,506	1,722	1,780	*0.49*	*0.46*	8.2	10.2
	2014	3,356	1,149	2,031	*0.34*	*0.60*	6.5	11.7
	2015	1,873	869	1,870	*0.46*	*1.00*	4.9	9.0
	2016	585	423	456	*0.72*	*0.78*	4.1	3.2
	2017	615	378	409	*0.61*	*0.66*	3.4	3.5
	2018	725	420	598	*0.58*	*0.83*	3.7	5.6
	2019	742	306	480	*0.41*	*0.63*	2.4	4.2
	2020	502	290	498	*0.58*	*0.99*	1.5	4.3
	2021	517	262	292	*0.51*	*0.54*	1.8	2.2
	2022	551	148	236	*0.27*	*0.46*	0.9	1.6
	2023	1,585	222	232	*0.14*	*0.15*	1.0	1.2
	2024	1,488	627	257	*0.42*	*0.18*	2.7	1.2

Inter-sector ACE lease prices have been $0 in recent years

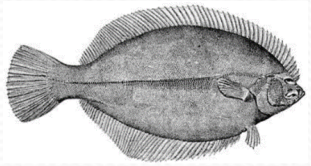


New England Fishery Management Council

Other Fisheries Sub-components Catch

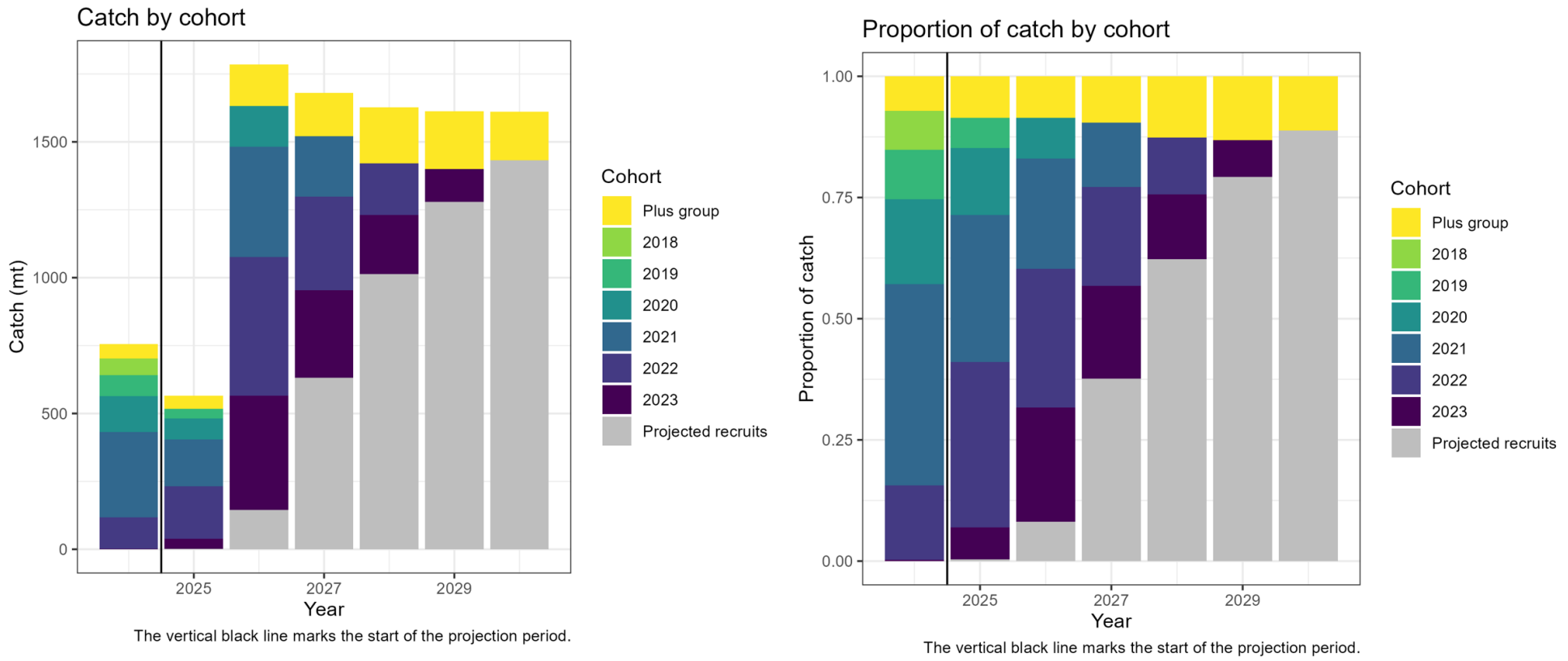
Other significant sources of GB winter flounder catch include the scallop fishery (55.9 mt in FY2023).

These other fishery sub-components are expected catches and do not have associated accountability measures (AMs).



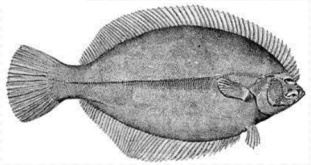
New England Fishery Management Council

Projected Cohorts



Source: NEFSC

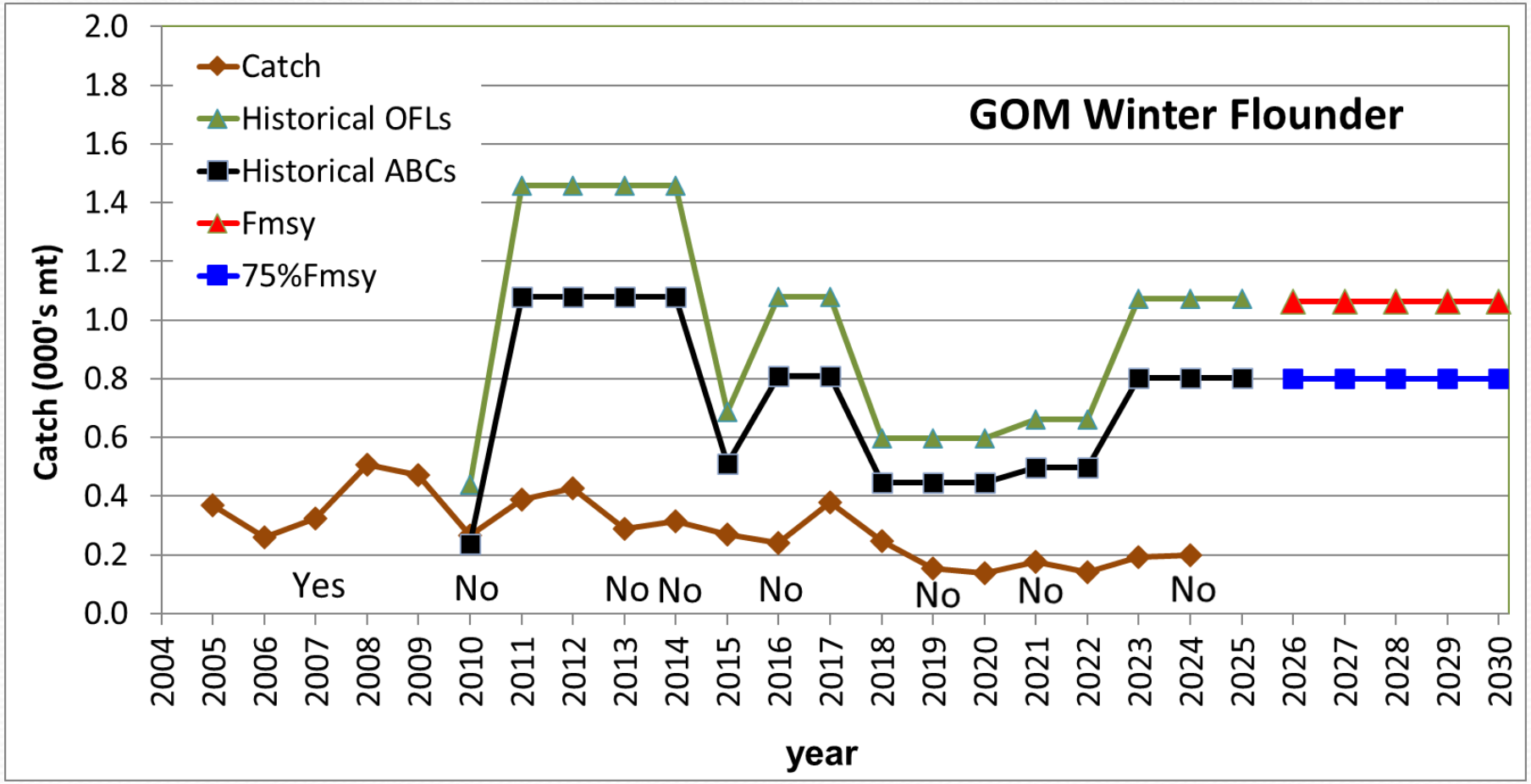
By 2028 greater than 50% of projected catch is from projected recruits



New England Fishery Management Council

Gulf of Maine Winter Flounder Fishing Year 2026 and Fishing Year 2030 OFLs and ABCs

Catch Performance



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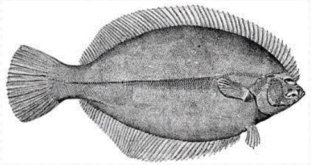
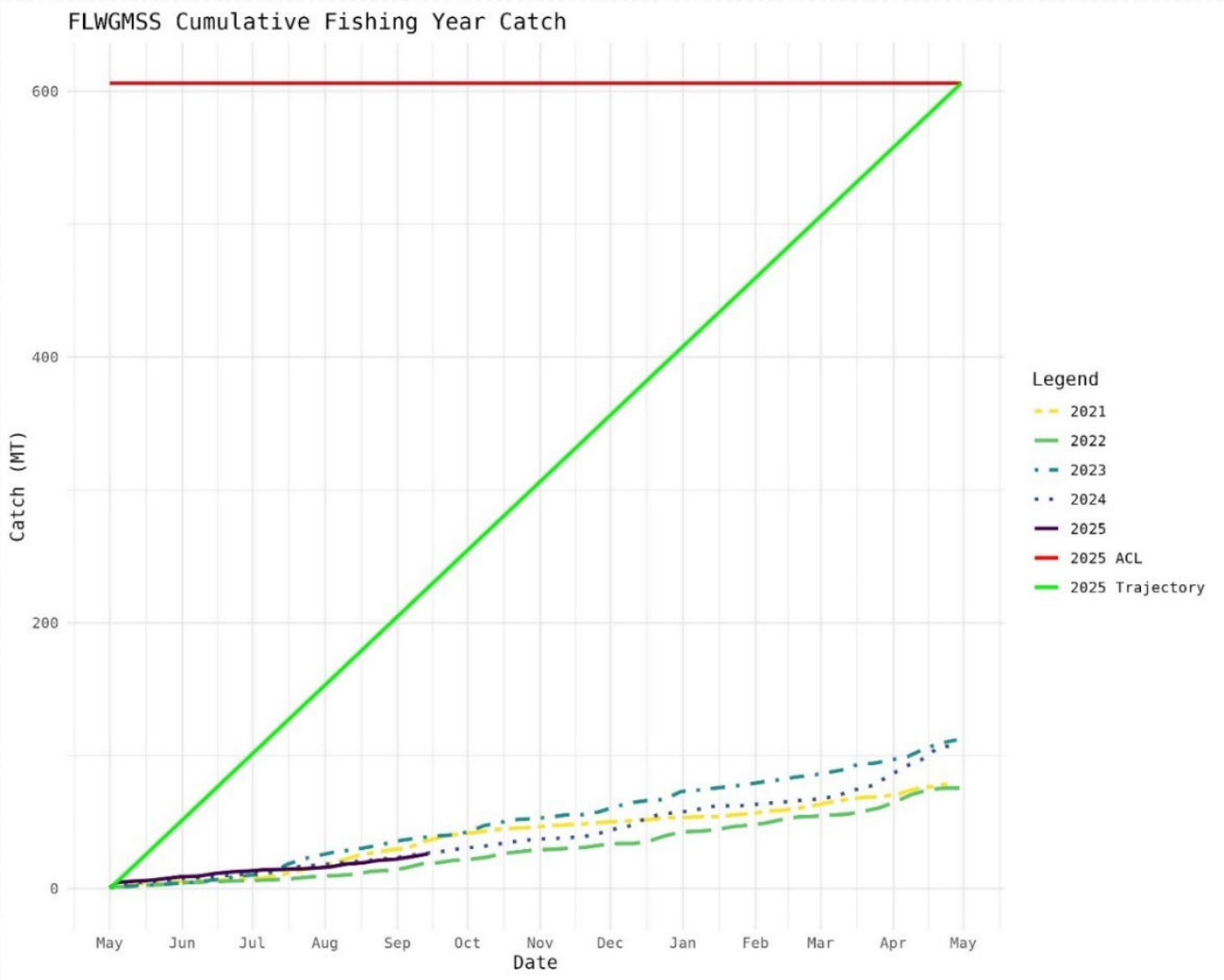
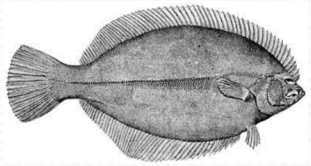


New England Fishery Management Council

Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



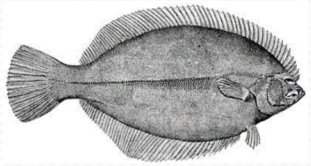
New England Fishery Management Council



Quota Change Model Results - Sectors

	FY	Sector sub-ACL	Catch (mt)		*Utilization (%)*		Gross Rev ($mil, 2024)	
			Realized	Predicted	*Realized*	*Predicted*	Realized	Predicted
GOM Winter Flounder	2012	690	258	33	*0.37*	*0.05*	1.5	0.1
	2013	688	168	119	*0.24*	*0.16*	0.8	0.7
	2014	683	124	117	*0.18*	*0.17*	0.7	0.7
	2015	371	118	96	*0.32*	*0.26*	0.6	0.5
	2016	607	109	85	*0.18*	*0.14*	0.8	0.4
	2017	607	111	148	*0.18*	*0.24*	0.9	1.0
	2018	339	91	164	*0.27*	*0.48*	0.6	1.2
	2019	337	57	161	*0.17*	*0.48*	0.4	1.1
	2020	272	55	95	*0.20*	*0.35*	0.4	0.6
	2021	267	69	48	*0.26*	*0.18*	0.3	0.3
	2022	259	75	87	*0.29*	*0.33*	0.3	0.4
	2023	519	105	41	*0.20*	*0.07*	0.4	0.2
	2024	553	100	93	*0.18*	*0.18*	0.5	0.3

Inter-sector ACE lease prices have been $0 in recent years

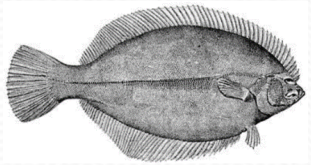


New England Fishery Management Council

Other Fishery and State Fishery Sub-components Catch

There are notable recreational catches of GOM winter flounder in state waters (67.6 mt in FY2023), as well as commercial state fishery catches (43.6 mt in FY2023).

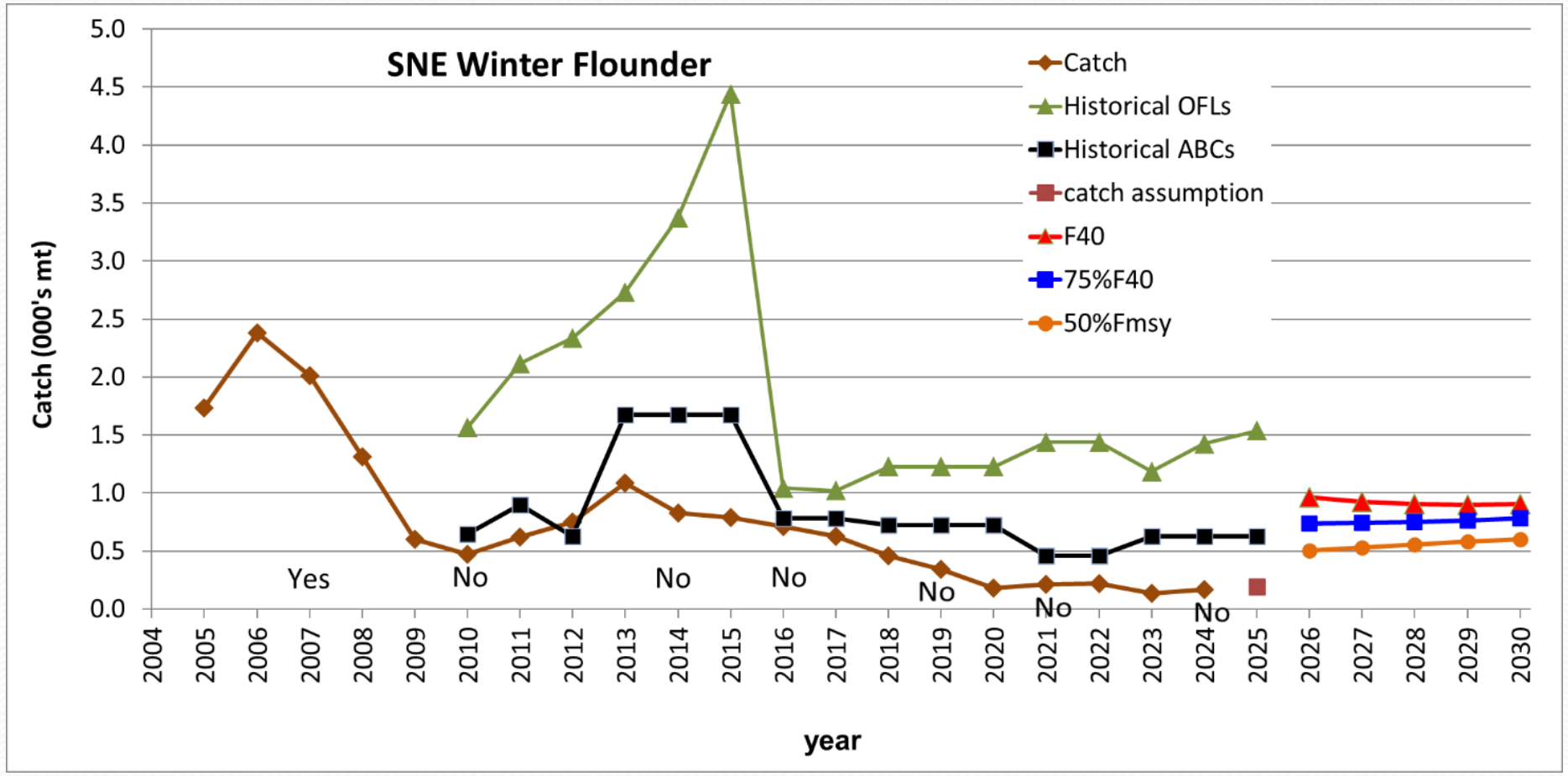
These other fishery and state fishery sub-components are expected catches and do not have associated accountability measures (AMs).



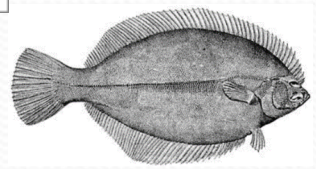
New England Fishery Management Council

Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic Winter Flounder
Fishing Year 2026 and Fishing Year 2030 OFLs and ABCs

Catch Performance

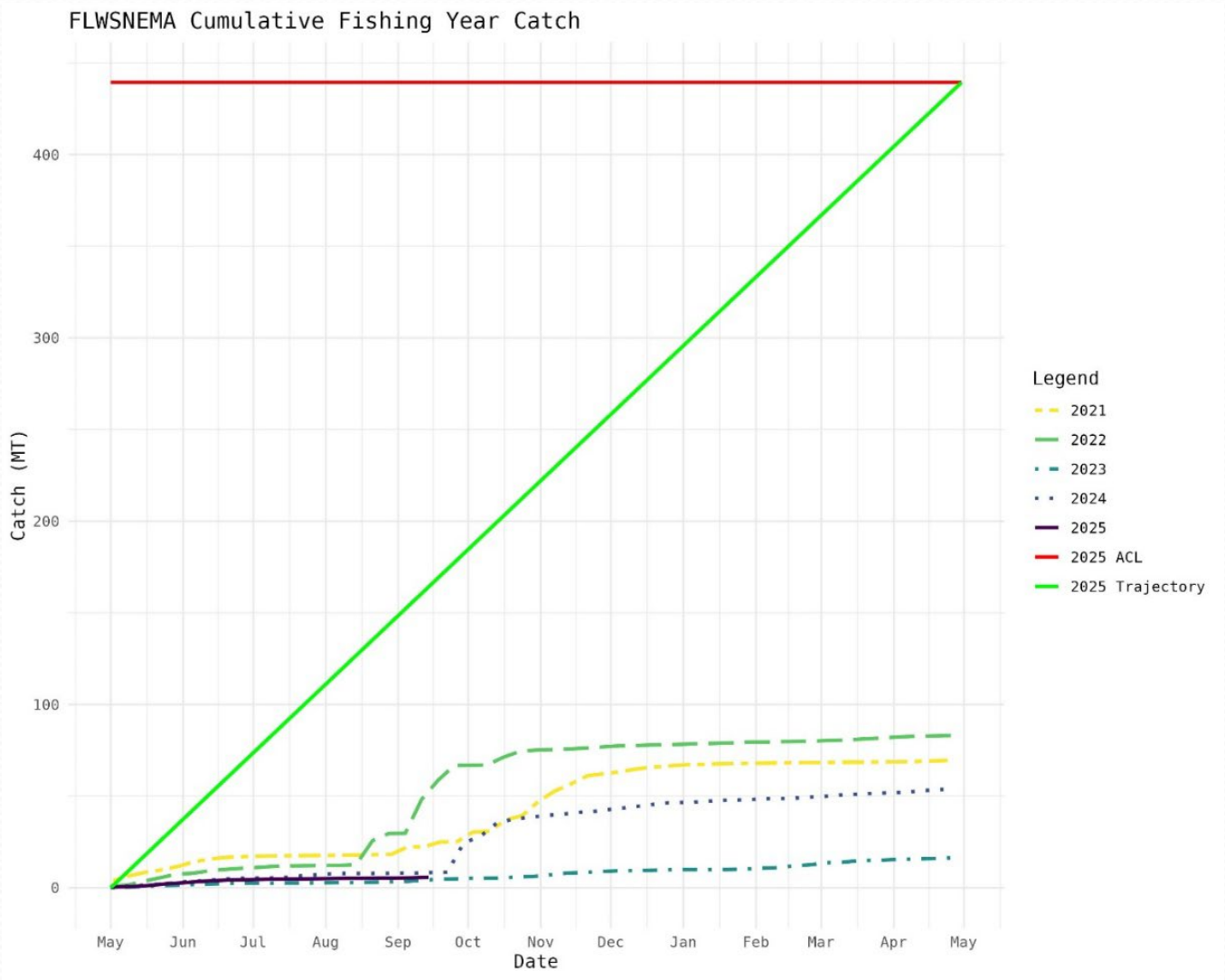


Overfishing status in the terminal year of the assessment indicated on the x-axis ("Yes" = overfishing, "No" = not overfishing).

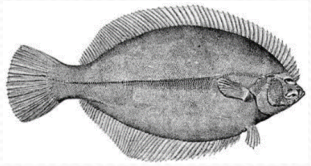


New England Fishery Management Council

Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



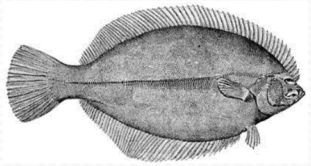
New England Fishery Management Council



Quota Change Model Results - Sectors

	FY	Sector sub-ACL	Catch (mt)		*Utilization (%)*		Gross Rev ($mil, 2024)	
			Realized	Predicted	*Realized*	*Predicted*	Realized	Predicted
SNE/MA Winter Flounder	2012	N/A	105	69	*N/A*	*N/A*	5.4	1.2
	2013	1,074	670	125	*0.62*	*0.37*	4.2	0.0
	2014	1,063	490	95	*0.46*	*0.10*	3.6	0.0
	2015	1,147	583	833	*0.51*	*0.73*	3.5	3.5
	2016	523	397	355	*0.76*	*0.69*	2.6	2.0
	2017	515	372	386	*0.72*	*0.74*	2.6	3.3
	2018	456	229	428	*0.50*	*0.94*	3.4	3.3
	2019	444	135	455	*0.30*	*1.00*	3.4	3.5
	2020	475	97	314	*0.21*	*0.68*	3.6	3.5
	2021	247	83	163	*0.34*	*0.64*	3.4	3.1
	2022	250	78	131	0.31	*0.53*	0.3	0.7
	2023	387	14	168	0.04	*0.44*	0.1	0.8
	2024	408	50	13	0.12	*0.03*	0.2	<0.1

Inter-sector ACE lease prices have been $0 in recent years



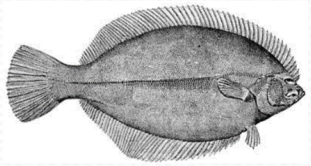
New England Fishery Management Council

Other Fishery and State Fishery Sub-components Catch

Other significant sources of SNE/MA winter flounder catch include:

- scallop fishery (17.4 mt in FY2023),
- squid fishery (19.4 mt in FY2023), and
- state recreational fishery (20.8 mt in FY2023)

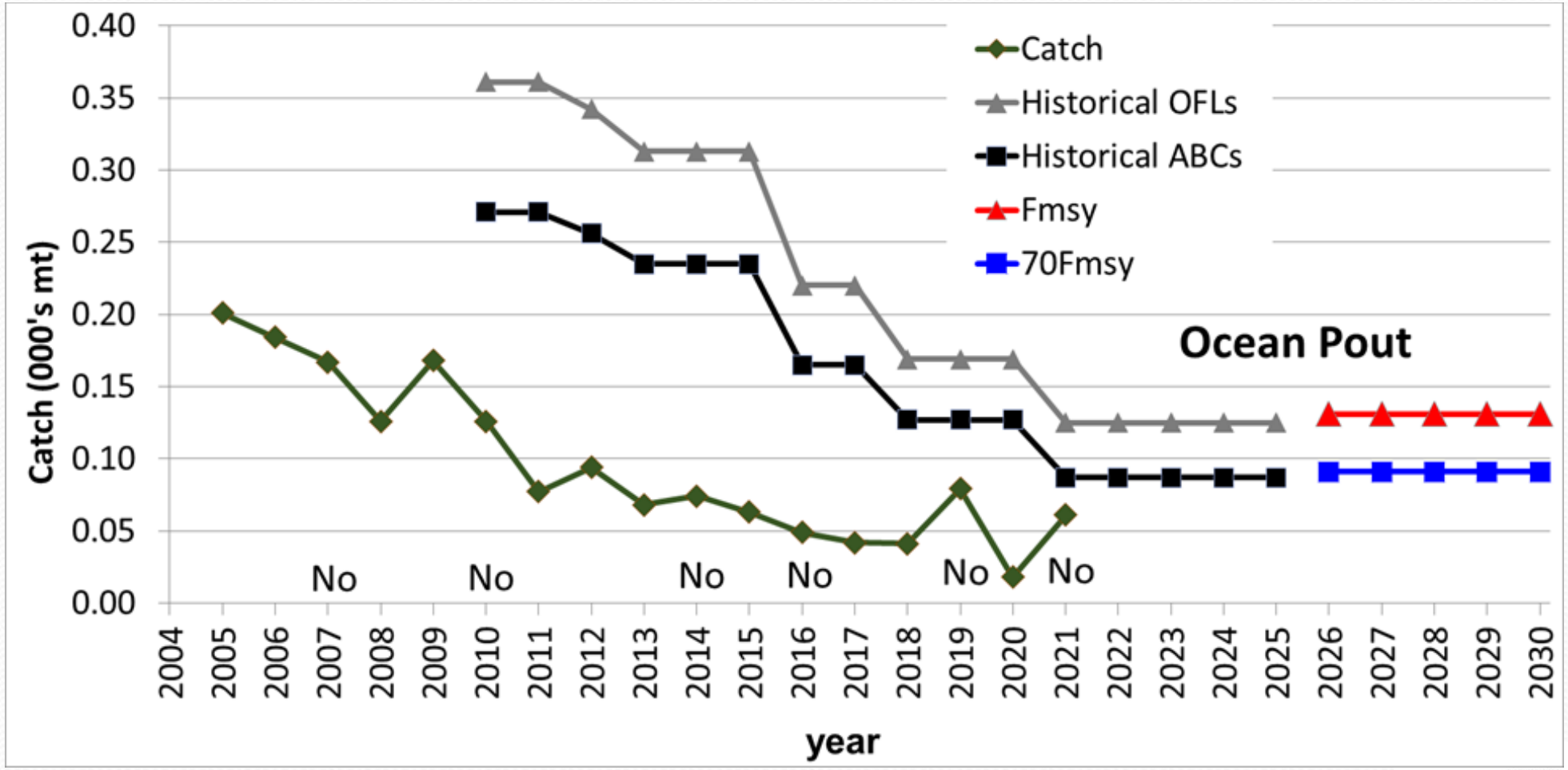
These other fishery and state sub-components are expected catches and do not have associated accountability measures (AMs).



New England Fishery Management Council

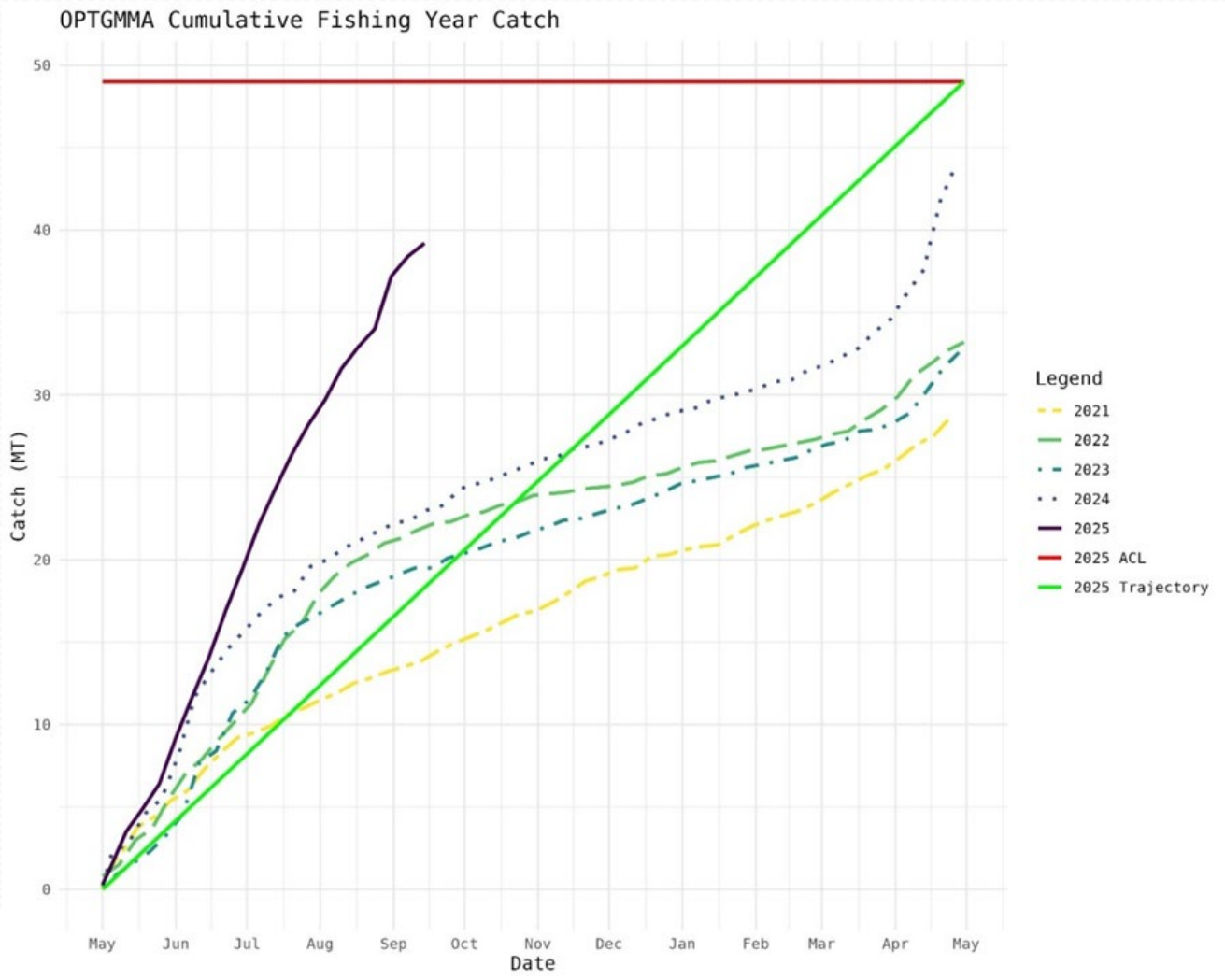
Ocean Pout
Fishing Year 2026 and Fishing Year 2030
OFLs and ABCs

Catch Performance



New England Fishery Management Council

Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



Ocean pout is a zero possession, non-allocated stock

New England Fishery Management Council

Other Fisheries Sub-component Catch

- Increases of ocean pout catches in squid, squid/whiting, and fluke fisheries are consistent with trends in the groundfish fishery - driven by increases in observed bycatch in small and large-mesh otter trawl gears in the Georges Bank/Southern New England (GB_SNE) estimation region

Ocean pout discard rates for large mesh otter trawl gear on non-groundfish trips

FISHING YEAR	GEAR GROUP	MESH CATEGORY	REGION	DISCARD RATE
2020	50	LM	GB_SNE	0.000122
2021	50	LM	GB_SNE	0.000147
2022	50	LM	GB_SNE	0.000799
2023	50	LM	GB_SNE	0.000292
2024	50	LM	GB_SNE	0.003134

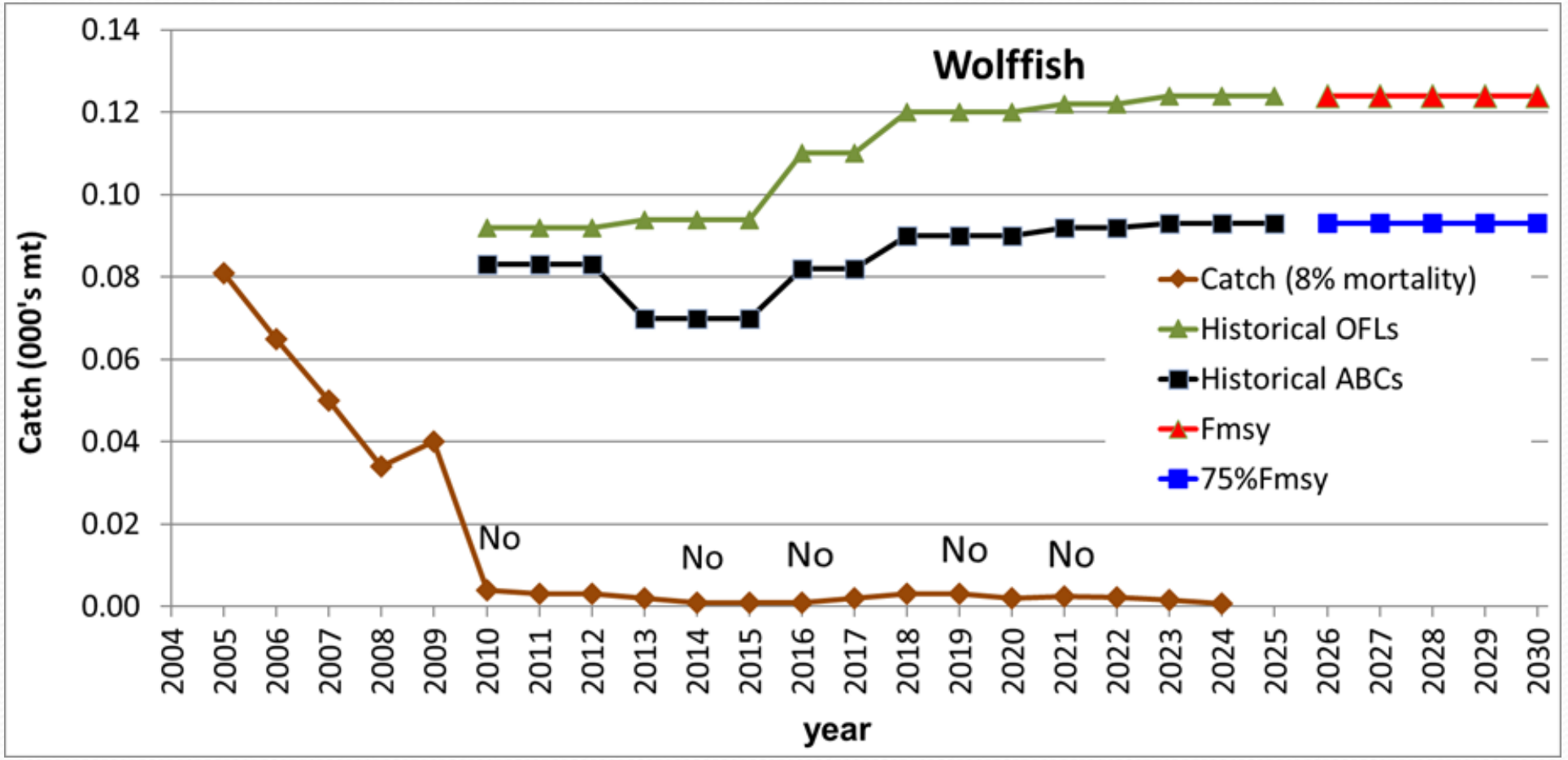
Ocean pout discard rates for small mesh otter trawl gear on non-groundfish trips

FISHING YEAR	GEAR GROUP	MESH CATEGORY	REGION	DISCARD RATE
2020	50	SM	GB_SNE	0.000027
2021	50	SM	GB_SNE	0.000811
2022	50	SM	GB_SNE	0.000431
2023	50	SM	GB_SNE	0.000085
2024	50	SM	GB_SNE	0.001199

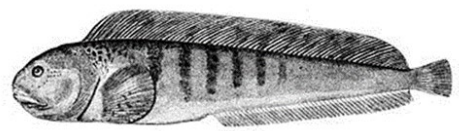
New England Fishery Management Council

Atlantic Wolffish
Fishing Year 2026 and Fishing Year 2030 OFLs and ABCs

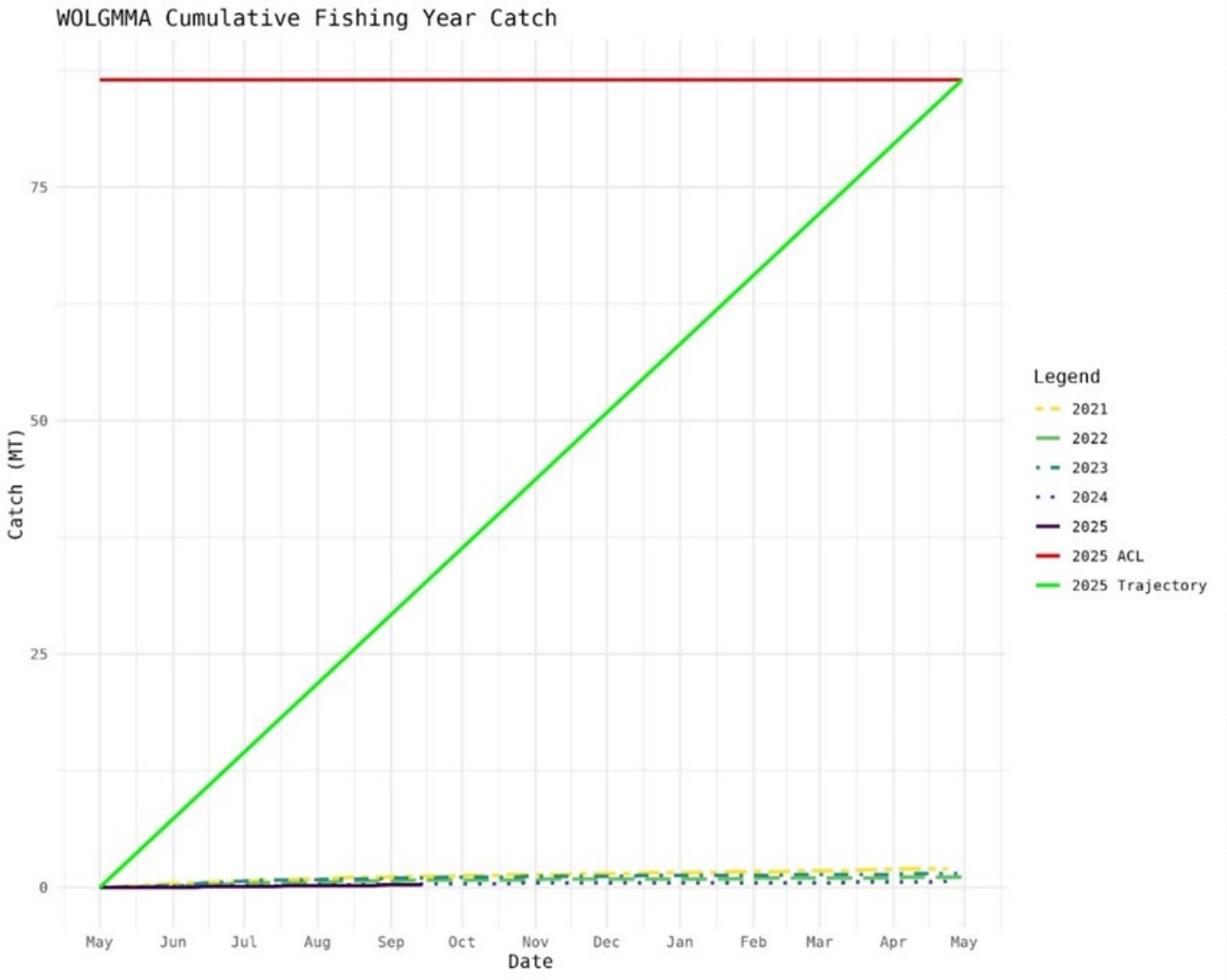
Catch Performance



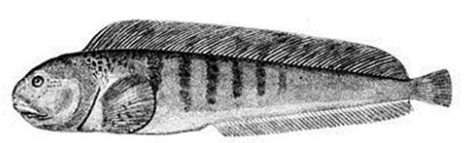
New England
Fishery Management Council



Commercial Groundfish Fishery In-Season Catch



Wolffish is a zero possession, non-allocated stock



New England Fishery Management Council

Groundfish Outlook by Quarter in 2025, updated November 13, 2025, NEFMC Staff

Council Priority*	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun	July - Sept	Oct - Dec
Amendment 23 Review	Complete development of metrics and indicators		On pause given change in Council priorities	
Framework Adjustment 69	Preliminary & Final Submissions			
Amendment 25	Final Submission	NOAA disapproval; Council priority change to revise and resubmit	Final action on resubmission	Preliminary & Final Submissions
Recreational Measures	Develop recommendations for cod & haddock	Emergency Measures Implemented		
Framework Adjustment 72		Initiate action	Develop specifications & measures, conduct analysis	Final action
Redfish Sector Exemption Review		Develop review	On pause given change in Council priorities	
ABC Control Rules Framework (68)	Staff tracks implementation strategy for revised Risk Policy, contract work conducted to evaluate integration of revised Risk Policy with revised ABC CRs			
Atlantic Cod Management	Continue to develop transition plan, planning for Phase 2			
Stock Assessments		Domestic updates for transboundary mgmt. (cod, haddock, yellowtail flounder) (Jul.)	MT- yellowtail flounder (GB, CC/GOM, SNE/MA), winter flounder (GB, GOM, SNE/MA), redfish, white hake Data updates - windowpane flounder (N. and S.), ocean pout, wolffish (Sept.)	
2026 Priorities			Make additions to list of possible priorities	Final priorities

*Additional: Participate in TMGC, coordinate on EFH designation updates, consult on protected species actions, and provide input for EO 14276