

2026 Tasks		Target for when SSC input is needed/confirmed date
Recommend OFLs and ABCs (whole SSC)		
1a	White hake (2026-2030)	January 21
1b	Atlantic herring (2027-2031) GB haddock (2027-2031)	July
1c	Scallop (2027-2028)	October
1d	Red hake and silver hake (2027-2031)	October
1e	US/Canada multispecies stocks (2027): GB cod, GB haddock, GB yellowtail flounder	October
1f	Other Northeast multispecies stocks (2027-2031): GOM haddock, American plaice, Atlantic halibut, witch flounder, pollock, northern windowpane flounder, southern windowpane flounder	October
Tasks continued from 2025		
2	Support Council implementation of Risk Policy: e.g., review simulation testing of revised risk policy concept; discuss approaches for setting specifications for longer (5-year) timeframes (whole SSC)	March/April
3	SSC workshop on non-stationarity in reference points and control rules (whole SSC, with 2 members on steering committee)	June
New tasks		
4	Review research on monkfish catch per unit effort indices (SSC subpanel)	February/March
5	Review methods for scallop projections (SSC subpanel)	July-August
6	Review methods for setting Atlantic herring fishery time/area closures and catch caps that would prevent bycatch of river herring and shad (SSC subpanel)	July-August
7	Consult with Council on development of ABC control rules for Northeast multispecies stocks (whole SSC)	August
8	Review permit portfolio analysis of Greater Atlantic region (SSC subpanel)	Fall
Standing Tasks		
9	General review of SSC timeline, roles, and responsibilities (whole SSC as needed)	First full-SSC meeting, may have short updates throughout year
10	Review <i>State of Ecosystem Report</i> (whole SSC)	March/April
11	Serve on Climate and Ecosystem Steering Committee (3 SSC members)	2-3 meetings annually
12	Serve on SSC Social Sciences Subcommittee (4 SSC members)	2-3 meetings annually
13	SSC participation in Assessment Oversight Panel (AOP), peer reviews (selected SSC members), and Assessment Working Group (AWG)	All year
14	Provide input on draft 2027 SSC work priorities (whole SSC)	Fall

Timeline of 2026 public meetings involving SSC members*

* Excludes meetings of the Climate and Ecosystem Steering Committee, Risk Policy Working Group, and the Assessment Working Group; all public meetings information is accessible via www.nefmc.org.

Meeting and topics	Date	Location	SSC and Council staff leads
SSC White hake SSC workshop planning	Jan 21	webinar	Staff: Cournane, Feeney, Frede
NEFMC Appoint SSC nominees	Jan 28-29	webinar	Staff: Feeney
SSC SSS Fishery data products & reporting Informing 2026 Council work	February 24	webinar	Staff: Feeney
AOP for June MTA	Likely Feb	webinar	SSC on panel: McManus Staff: Cournane
SSC subpanel Monkfish CPUE review	March 13	webinar	Staff: Couture, Feeney
SSC SOE Report Risk Policy	March 30	TBD, hybrid	Staff: Feeney, Peros
NEFMC	April 14-16	Portland, ME hybrid	SSC report: McManus
FIMS CIE Review	April 21-23	webinar	SSC on panel: Wiedenmann
AOP for Sept MTA	Likely May	webinar	SSC representative: McManus Staff: Cournane, Frede
NRCC	May 27-28	TBD	SSC representative: McManus Staff: O'Keefe, Cournane
SSC Workshop Dynamic Reference Points	June 1-2	TBD, In-person	Staff: Cournane, Feeney
MTA Peer Review	June	Woods Hole, hybrid	SSC on panel: TBD Staff: Cournane, Frede
NEFMC	June 23-25	Mystic, CT hybrid	SSC report: McManus
SSC ABCs: A. herring, GB haddock Summary of ref. pts. workshop Groundfish ABC control rules	July (potentially >1 day)	TBD	Staff: Cournane, Frede, Feeney
SSC subpanel A. herring fishery bycatch methods	July-early Aug	TBD	Staff: Cournane, Feeney
SSC subpanel Scallop projection methods	July-Aug	TBD	Staff: Buckley, Feeney
SSC SSS	Summer, TBD	TBD	Staff: Feeney
MTA Peer Review	September	Woods Hole, hybrid	SSC on panel: TBD Staff: Cournane, Frede
NEFMC	Sept 15-17	Plymouth, hybrid	SSC report: McManus

NEFMC SSC Work Plan for 2026

Update: January 14, 2026

Meeting and topics	Date	Location	SSC and Council staff leads
SSC ABCs: scallops, northern and southern windowpane flounder, witch flounder, halibut	Early Oct	TBD	Staff: Buckley, Feeney, Applegate/Frede
SSC ABCs: other groundfish, red and silver hake	Late Oct	TBD	Staff: Feeney, Applegate/Frede
SSC SSS subpanel Permit portfolio project	Fall	TBD	Staff: Couture, Feeney
NRCC	Fall	TBD	SSC representative: McManus Staff: O'Keefe, Cournane
NEFMC	Dec 8-10	Newport, hybrid	SSC report: McManus

Service on SSC subcommittee, Council work group, or other committees

SSC subpanel/Committee	SSC members assigned
Assessment Oversight Panel	McManus, Camp (alternate)
NEFMC Climate and Ecosystem Steering Committee	Kerr, Lawson, Staudinger
Research Track Steering Committee (currently paused)	Merrick is SSC rep; Kerr and McManus also on Cte
NEFMC Risk Policy Working Group	Kerr, Lawson, McNamee, St. Martin
SSC Social Science Subcommittee	Uchida (Chair), Birkenbach, Murphy (SSB), Nenadovic, St. Martin, Seara (SSB)
Assessment Working Group	Merrick

Service on peer review panels

2026 Peer Reviews	SSC member needed	SSC members assigned
Fisheries Integrated Modeling System (FIMS) CIE Review – April	1 Panelist	John Wiedenmann
MTA Peer Review - June Georges Bank haddock Atlantic herring	TBD	TBD
MTA Peer Review - September American plaice Gulf of Maine haddock	TBD	TBD

Service as stock lead for ABC discussion at SSC meetings

SSC meeting	Stock	SSC member assigned
Jan 21	White hake (MTA)	TBD
July-early August	Atlantic herring (MTA)	TBD
	Georges Bank haddock (MTA)	TBD
Early October	Atlantic sea scallops (data update)	TBD
other October (TBD)	Red hake (data update)	TBD
	Silver hake (data update)	TBD
	GOM haddock (MTA)	TBD
	American plaice (MTA)	TBD
	Atlantic halibut (data update)	TBD
	Witch flounder (data update)	TBD
	Pollock (data update)	TBD
	Northern windowpane flounder (data update)	TBD
	Southern windowpane flounder (data update)	TBD