

# Northeast Region Coordinating Council

## 2027 Stock Assessment Schedule

	Stock	Management Organization
<b>Spring</b> Research Track	Striped bass	ASFMC
<b>June</b> Management Track	Atlantic cod (Georges Bank)	NEFMC
	Atlantic mackerel	MAFMC
	Black sea bass	MAFMC
	Bluefish	MAFMC
	Scup	MAFMC
	Summer flounder	MAFMC
<b>September</b> Management Track	Atlantic cod (Eastern Gulf of Maine)	NEFMC
	Atlantic cod (Western Gulf of Maine)	NEFMC
	Atlantic cod (Southern New England)	NEFMC

### Additional 2027 Assessment Related Work

NEFSC will provide **data updates** and/or **projections updates** for additional stocks. This document will be updated once the NRCC approves the stock list for update related work, and if any changes occur to the above assessment schedule.

## **Appendix: Stock Assessment Related Definitions**

### **Research Track Assessments**

Research track assessments are complex scientific efforts focused either on assessments of individual stocks or research topics that apply to assessments of several stocks. These assessments are typically carried out over several years and may involve comprehensive evaluation of new data streams and model changes. Research track assessments are designed to directly inform future management track assessments but might not immediately inform management decisions.

### **Management Track Assessments**

Management track assessments provide routine, scheduled, updated advice to directly inform management actions. Management track assessments are designed to be simpler, quicker, and more efficient than Research Track assessments. The management track assessment process provides scientists some flexibility to improve the science when problems arise or new data become available, without requiring a research track assessment.

### **Data Updates**

Data updates are summaries of new data that have become available since the last management track assessment. Specifically, they update (1) total U.S. catch (landings and discards) by commercial and recreational sector, as appropriate, and (2) aggregated NEFSC survey indices.

### **Projections Updates**

Using the existing peer-reviewed assessment model, projections are updated by adding realized catch for recent years instead of assumed catch and re-running the projections out for a specified number of years. The updated projections do not update the assessment model or the terminal year of the assessment.