



## New England Fishery Management Council

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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 27, 2019  
**TO:** Council  
**FROM:** Tom Nies, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** **Remand of an ABC to the Scientific and Statistical Committee**

At the November 25th Groundfish Committee meeting, Committee members discussed the possibility of remanding certain acceptable biological catch (ABC) recommendations back to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

Council members seeking to remand ABC recommendations back to the SSC should be aware that the Council has a policy in place for remanding recommendations back to the SSC and should be prepared to explain which of the four criteria that justify a remand are met.

***Council Remands to the SSC** The Council may remand back to its Scientific and Statistical Committee the SSC's recommendations based on the following criteria:*

- (a) failure of the committee to follow the terms of reference provided to it by the Council;*
- (b) an error, in fact or omission, in the materials provided to the committee;*
- (c) an error in fact in the calculations, if any, undertaken by the Committee in developing an ABC recommendation; and*
- (d) failure of the committee to follow its standard operating procedures.*

See the Council's policy (pp. 19 of the Operations Handbook located here:

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/nefmc.org/1.UPDATED\\_fin06.2019\\_Operations\\_Handbook\\_190625\\_100626.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/nefmc.org/1.UPDATED_fin06.2019_Operations_Handbook_190625_100626.pdf)

Please let me know if you have any questions.