

Atlantic Cod Stock Structure Discussion Guide

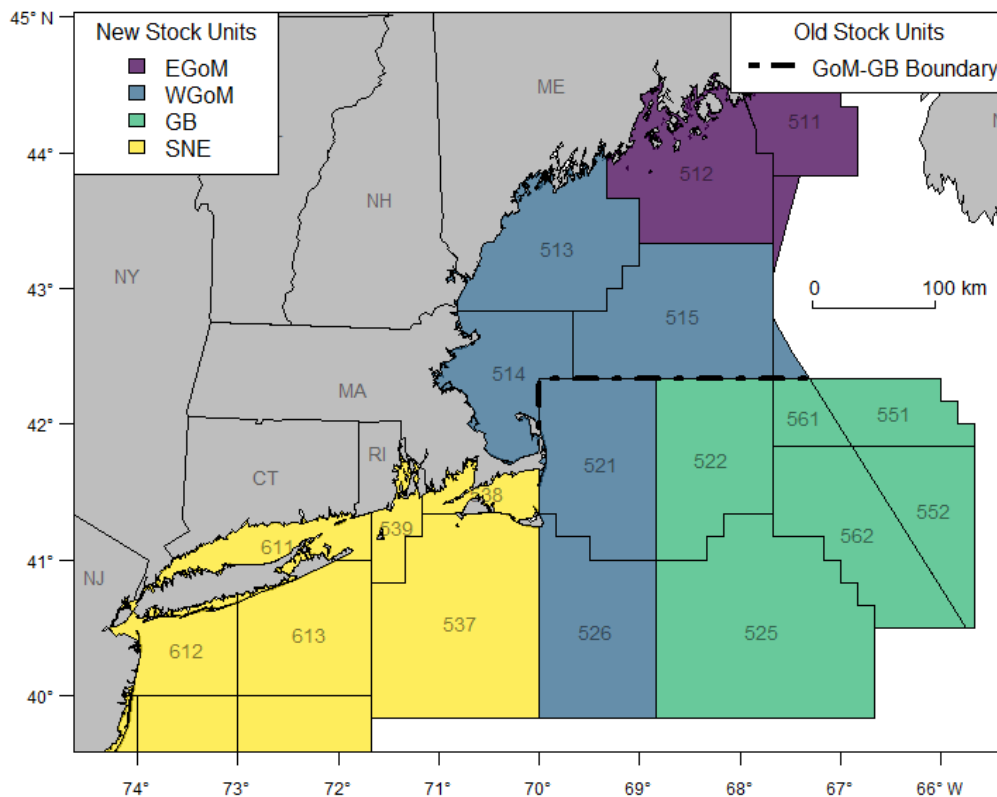
On February 3, 2022, the Council will:

- Receive the final report on the 2021 Atlantic Cod Stock Structure workshops;
- Receive an update from the Atlantic Cod Research Track Working Group; and
- Discuss management implications by holding a preliminary discussion of possible management units.

For April 2022, the Council would develop initial management units.

Preliminary Discussion: Main Question

Does the Council support the Atlantic Cod Research Track Working Group's initial proposal for 4 biological units as the new paradigm for management units? See map below.



Preliminary Discussion Questions:

1. Given the information, what makes this difficult to discuss at present?
2. What needs to be clarified at this point? Elaborate.
3. Is there a maximum number of management units the Council should consider?
4. Are there combinations of biological units the Council cannot support?
5. Do you prefer fewer stocks with analytic assessments, or more stocks even if that means several have empirical assessments?