

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Small Mesh Multispecies (Whiting) Committee

I. STATUS

- A. Annual Monitoring Report: The Plan Development Team (PDT) will present the results of its Annual Monitoring Report for the 2015 fishing year. The estimated northern red hake catch exceeded the Annual Catch Limit, which will trigger a post-season Accountability Measure that would take effect in 2017.

- B. Meetings: During July and August, the Plan Development Team (PDT) met several times to review analyses and prepare a 2015 Annual Monitoring Report. A joint PDT and Advisory Panel is scheduled for October 6, followed by a Committee meeting on October 13, primarily to focus on Amendment 22 limited access alternatives.

- C. Amendment 22 (limited access): Following committee guidance, staff has been working on analysis of fleet history to develop some example qualification criteria alternatives and estimate their effect on recent fishing activity.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

Decide whether a framework adjustment is needed to modify the regulations and change the post-season accountability measure in 2017.

III. INFORMATION

- 1. 2015 Annual Monitoring Report
- 2. Correspondence