Other Business

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 27-28, 2026

DRAFT STOCK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

- Northeast Region Coordinating Council's Assessment Working Group tasked with developing a draft five-year schedule, at a minimum 2028
- Next NRCC meeting November 19-20
- AWG Discussions:
    - Continue to support annual specifications setting process for Atlantic sea scallop
    - Schedule includes stock assessments and data updates
    - Increasing the number of years between stock assessments for most stocks
    - Continue using data updates for certain stocks
    - Using data updates between assessment years to check-in for stocks with a frequency of 4+ years
    - Continue to peer review stocks scheduled for management tracks
    - Continue to provide data updates direct delivery
    - Discussing restarting research track working groups: Projections and Monkfish

DRAFT STOCK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL STOCKS

Frequency Years	Stock
2	Herring
3	Scallop*, Cods, Haddocks, White Hake, Plaice, Pollock, Redfish
4	Witch, Winter Flounders, Yellowtail Flounders, Halibut, Windowpane Flounders, Ocean Pout, Wolffish, Skate species, Hakes, Monkfish, Dogfish
5	Red Crab

*continue annual management support

DRAFT STOCK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL STOCKS - 2028

Management Track	Data Update
Scallop	Monkfish - North & South
Groundfish: Haddock - GB & GOM Pollock	Skates - Barndoor, Clearnose, Little, Rosette, Smooth Thorny and Winter
Dogfish	

SOLICITATION FOR 2027 SSC MEMBERS

Timeline

- Oct 30 – Application deadline
- Nov 18 – Executive Committee meeting (initial recommendation)
- Dec 8-10 – Council meeting (Council recommendation, EC final decision)

Link for more information

SSC 2026 WORK PLAN - REMAINING MEETINGS

- **November 17** SSC subpanel – webinar
  - Review river herring/shad catch estimation methods, bycatch reduction

- **December 15** Social Sciences Subcommittee – Kingston and via webinar
  - Ongoing permit portfolio project
  - Improving utility of groundfish sector annual reports
  - Input on social science products (e.g., NEFMC Advisory Panel Performance Reports, Snapshot Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Profiles, Risk Policy Reports, Social Sciences Branch portals and products)
  - Reflect on 2026, plan for 2027.

PRELIMINARY SSC 2027 WORK PLAN



- Specifications
  - Scallop, red crab, white hake, witch flounder, all cod stocks
- Topics/panels
  - Year-long: Dynamic Reference Points (subpanel)
  - January: Groundfish ABC control rules; Holistic Strategic Plan
  - Feb/March: Scallop projection methods (subpanel)
  - March/April: State of the Ecosystem report review (with Council)
  - Timing TBD: Support the Ecosystem Component Designation process
  - November: CCC Scientific Coordination Subcommittee 9 workshop (3-4 members)
- Standing/ongoing
  - Climate and Ecosystem Steering Committee, Social Sciences Subcommittee, assessment peer reviews