

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON 2027-2028 HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES PLANNING

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) discussed the proposed process and timeline for 2027-2028 harvest specifications and management measures and has the following comments.

The SSC provided feedback reflected in the updated schedule for developing 2027-2028 harvest specifications and management measures (Table 1 in [Agenda Item E.8, Supplemental Revised Attachment 1](#)) in response to the change in review timing of the update assessments.

The SSC's Groundfish Subcommittee (GFSC) will review the update assessments, the catch-only projections, and the five full assessments during their August 12-13 meeting. Due to the timing of stock assessment review (STAR) Panel 3, it is not realistic for the revised stock assessments coming out of that STAR Panel to be available, and instead the GFSC anticipates reviewing the pre-STAR panel draft assessments and STAR Panel reports. For this meeting, if possible, participation by the full assessment Stock Assessment Team leads, the lead update assessment authors, and representatives from the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Panel (GAP) would be beneficial. The GFSC report will be finalized and submitted within 2 weeks of the completion of this meeting.

At the September Council meeting, the GFSC requests to meet in the morning of the first day of the SSC meeting to review harvest specifications and any other QA/QC that might be required.

The SSC would like to rename the meeting formerly known as the "mop-up meeting" as "Supplemental Review Meeting", as "mop-up" does not fully reflect the considerable time and effort that goes into the stock assessment review process.