

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON
INITIAL STOCK ASSESSMENT PLANS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR
GROUND FISH AND COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) reviewed the recommended changes to the Groundfish/CPS Stock Assessment Terms of Reference (Attachment 5, Agenda Item F.8.a), and supports the changes listed.

The CPSMT recognizes that catch-only projections do not include data other than recent catch and that factors such as recruitment are relevant in adequately projecting stock biomass. The CPSMT requests clarification of expectations for catch-only population projections with regards to recruitment assumptions, and is willing to work with the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and CPS Stock Assessment Teams (STAT) to develop appropriate guidelines in the Terms of Reference.

The CPSMT agrees with CPS STAT members that a proposed change to the deadline for CPS stock assessment drafts to three weeks ahead of Stock Assessment Review Panel review meetings is unnecessary for CPS assessments. The draft groundfish stock assessments go through a pre-review process, necessitating the three-week deadline. This rationale does not apply to CPS assessments, given the smaller number of assessments and STAT members, as compared to groundfish.

PFMC
06/23/14