

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON THE SCIENTIFIC AND
STATISTICAL COMMITTEE'S SUGGEST APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING ISSUES AND
QUESTIONS ON REBUILDING

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) thanks the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) for discussing [Agenda Item J.4.b, GMT Report](#) and recommending an approach to addressing the questions raised in that report. That suggested approach is described in [Agenda Item J.4.b, Supplemental SSC Report](#). We are unsure how far this Terms of Reference (TOR) approach will go towards addressing the issues and questions that we have raised, yet it seems like a good first step. The one day meeting prior to the March Council meeting between the SSC Economics and Groundfish Subcommittees and the GMT would be our opportunity to provide feedback on the SSC updates to the TOR and for identifying future steps that we would see as necessary.

Lastly, the SSC noted that it “will determine which of the GMT issues/questions are scientifically relevant – many of the GMT points address policy issues that are the purview of the Council rather than the SSC.” We are not sure that it will be so straightforward. The focus of an analyst, like those on the GMT and the SSC, is on a policy question and on advising the Council on the tradeoffs involved with that question. As we noted in [Agenda Item J.4.b, GMT Report](#), it is therefore, fundamental that the policy question and the criteria used to weigh tradeoffs are as clear as possible. We would like opportunity for discussion, either at the “Post Mortem” review or a conference call between members of the GMT and the SSC before the SSC begins “step 2” of their suggested approach.

PFMC
11/07/11