

GROUND FISH STOCK ASSESSMENT PRIORITIES FOR 2003

Situation: As per the Council's stock assessment and review procedures, stock assessment priorities are to be set in September to allow sufficient time for assessment authors to obtain relevant data for next year's assessments. Preliminary consideration of a list of proposed species and discussion of priorities occurred at the June Council meeting. Dr. Elizabeth Clarke will present a list of proposed species for assessment in 2003 and issues to consider in setting assessment priorities for 2003.

Council Task:

1. Discussion and guidance.

Reference Materials:

1. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife letter from Mr. Phil Anderson to Dr. Donald McIsaac dated August 2, 2002 (Exhibit C.8, Attachment 1).

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion

John DeVore
Elizabeth Clarke

Groundfish Fishery Strategic Plan (GFSP) Consistency Analysis

This agenda item is consistent with GFSP goals for science, data collection, monitoring, and analysis (Sec. II.B).