

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR GROUND FISH REBUILDING PLAN ANALYTICAL REVIEW

The Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC's) Terms of Reference for Groundfish Rebuilding Analyses was developed by the SSC in 2001 and adopted by the Council in April 2001. This Terms of Reference has guided authors of groundfish rebuilding analyses, which are critical for developing rebuilding plans for overfished groundfish stocks. New rebuilding analyses for depleted groundfish species are anticipated later this year. The Council has decided these rebuilding analyses need to provide results that can be used to evaluate the adequacy of progress of adopted rebuilding plans, which is a Magnuson-Stevens Act mandate.

The SSC deliberated an evaluation methodology in March. However, in their March report to the Council, they indicated a recommendation for Council consideration may not be available by the April Council meeting Briefing Book deadline. The Council discussed the need for a modified Rebuilding Analysis Terms of Reference before the June Council meeting, since development of rebuilding analyses will begin prior to then, and the Terms of Reference is needed to update instructions to authors of these analyses. The Council subsequently instructed the SSC to develop a new Terms of Reference before the June Council meeting and include both updated modeling specifications and the elements requested by the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) (Agenda Item B.4.a, Attachment 1).

The Council task for this agenda item is to adopt a final Terms of Reference for Groundfish Rebuilding Analyses that includes the methodology for evaluating rebuilding plan progress, as well as the estimates and projections requested by the GMT.

Council Action:

Adopt a final Terms of Reference for Groundfish Rebuilding Plan Analytical Review.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item B.4.a, Attachment 1: March 2005 Groundfish Management Team Report on Terms of Reference for Groundfish Rebuilding Plan Review.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. SSC Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Terms of Reference for Groundfish Rebuilding Plan Analytical Review

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