2025 Research Track Topics – Final Proposal List and Guidance

Topics
1. Consideration of ecosystem information and dynamic reference points in assessments
2. Ensemble modeling
3. Evaluation of control rules
4. Evaluation of efficacy of various management tools
5. Retrospective patterns (including historical catch biases and stock assessment performance)
6. Spatial analysis of survey data

Stocks (data "rich" stocks with substantive research track proposal)
7. Herring
8. Lobster(s)
9. Scup
10. Winter flounder(s)

Stocks (data "poor" stocks with proposal focused on data needs for research track)
11. Blueline tilefish
12. Chub mackerel
13. Jonah crab
14. Monkfish

Deferred topics (no deferred stocks)
A. Application of Statistical-Catch-at-age models for assessments in Virtual Population Analyses framework
   Rationale for deferral: this would be "upgrading" VPAs to ASAP; Assessment WG felt that much of this would occur through the stock-specific research tracks prior to 2025
B. Application/uses of CPUE in assessments
   Rationale for deferral: Congress appropriated funds in 2020 to follow up on the NEFMC Working Group that focused on CPUE; Assessment WG felt this was likely to be addressed prior to 2025 outside of research track
C. Wind development and surveys
   A lot of work in this arena is expected within and outside of NMFS over the next few years; Assessment WG felt this topic would be well covered outside of the research track