



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting

May 12, 2020

Terms of Reference

For *Illex* squid, the SSC will provide a written report that identifies the following for the 2020 and 2021 fishing years:

- 1) Review the current 2020 *Illex* Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) of 26,000 MT and determine if an ABC adjustment is warranted. If so, please specify an adjusted 2020 *Illex* ABC and provide any rationale and justification for the adjustment;. If appropriate, specify any metrics the GARFO could monitor in 2020 to trigger an in-season ABC modification;
- 2) Specify a 2021 *Illex* ABC (in weight) and provide any rationale and justification. If appropriate, specify any metrics the SSC could examine in late 2020 or 2021 to determine if any 2021 ABC modification might be appropriate;
- 3) The most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with determination of the ABC;
- 4) Provide any research, data, and/or assessment considerations for the 2021 *Illex* research track assessment;
- 5) The materials considered by the SSC in reaching its recommendations;
- 6) A conclusion that the recommendations provided by the SSC are based on scientific information the SSC believes meets the applicable National Standard guidelines for best scientific information available.