



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting

July 25, 2022

Terms of Reference

For *Illex* squid, the SSC will provide a written report that identifies the following for the 2023 fishing year:

- 1) Utilizing the 2022 research track stock assessment and peer review results and the most recent fishery and NEFSC trawl survey information, specify a preliminary 2023 acceptable biological catch (ABC), in weight, and provide any rationale and justification for the recommended ABC (note: the SSC will review an updated “Indirect Method” analysis in March 2023 with 2022 catch and the fall 2022 NEFSC trawl survey information, which could be used to modify/finalize the 2023 ABC);
- 2) Provide any recommendations or areas of consideration to update the “Indirect Method” analysis (see [Rago 2022](#)) for 2023;
- 3) The most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with determination of the ABC;
- 4) 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.