Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting

July 22, 2020

Terms of Reference

For Longfin Squid, the SSC will provide a written report that identifies the following for the 2021-2023 fishing years:

1) Based on the criteria identified in the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) control rule, assign the stock to one of four types of control rules (analytically derived, modified by the assessment team, modified by the SSC, or OFL cannot be specified) the SSC deems most appropriate for the information content of the most recent stock assessment;

2) If possible to determine, the level of catch (in weight) associated with the overfishing limit (OFL) for each requested fishing year based on the maximum fishing mortality rate threshold or, if appropriate, an OFL proxy, and the associated coefficient of variation recommended by the SSC and its basis;

3) The level of catch (in weight) and the probability of overfishing (P*) associated with the ABC for each requested fishing year, based on: 1) the traditional approach of varying ABCs in each year, and 2) a constant ABC approach derived from the projected ABCs. If possible, specify interim metrics that can be examined to determine if multi-year specifications need reconsideration prior to their expiration;

4) The most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with determination of OFL and ABC;

5) Ecosystem considerations accounted for in the stock assessment, as appropriate, and any additional ecosystem considerations that the SSC considered in selecting the ABC, including the basis for those additional considerations;

6) Research or monitoring recommendations that would reduce the scientific uncertainty in the ABC recommendation and/or improve the assessment level;

7) The materials considered by the SSC in reaching its recommendations;

8) 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.