Draft OFL CV Decision Criteria Table for Summer Flounder – July 2023

Decision Criteria	Summary of Decision Criteria Considerations	Assigned OFL CV Bin (60/100/150)
Data quality	**Surveys** • R/V Bigelow indices take account of trawl efficiency estimates at length from 'sweep-study' experiments. • Data rich assessment with many fishery-independent surveys incorporated and with relatively good precision of the fishery dependent data. **Landings and discards** • Landings and discards are thought to have good precision. • Estimates of recreational catch came from calibrated MRIP time-series.	
Model appropriateness and identification process	• The research track assessment (SAW-66) included consideration of alternative models (sex-specific ASAP and sex-specific state space), model configurations, and sensitivity analyses of key assumptions. • Most of the alternative models showed similar stock trends and stock status. • The assessment notes that growth appears to have decreased in recent years and maturity may be changing.	
Retrospective analysis	• No major persistent retrospective patterns were identified in the most recent model.	
Comparison with empirical measures or simpler analyses	• The last benchmark assessment included a comparison with swept area biomass. Simple to more complex models have generally shown consistent estimates of biomass.	
Ecosystem factors accounted	• No ecosystem factors were included in the assessment. • No factor ("driver") was identified as strongly influencing the spatial shift in spawner biomass or the level of recruitment. • Classified as "moderate climate vulnerability" by Hare et al. (2016).	
Trend in recruitment	• The most recent 12-year recruitment series is used for OFL projections, because near-term future conditions are more likely to reflect recent recruitment patterns than those in the entire assessment time series. • There has been no apparent recent temporal trend in stock-wide recruitment.	
Prediction error	• Prior assessments were largely consistent prior to the change in MRIP estimates (and since this change), but the scale change with changes in assumptions about the MRIP data is substantial.	
Assessment accuracy under different fishing pressures	• Fishing mortality has been relatively high during the time series such that the data should be informative about fishing mortality rates and abundance.	
Simulation analysis/MSE	• An MSE was recently conducted to evaluate alternatives for managing the recreational portion of the fishery.	

Narrative