



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting

September 13, 2022

Terms of Reference

There are currently acceptable biological catch (ABC) specifications in place for Spiny Dogfish through the 2022 fishing year (May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023). Spiny Dogfish is currently scheduled for a research track peer review in December 2022, followed by a management track assessment in mid-2023 with data through 2022 to inform future catch limit recommendations. Given the timing and availability of the 2023 management track assessment results, an ABC recommendation for the 2023 fishing year is needed. Depending on the timing of the 2023 management track assessment, there may be an opportunity to review and modify the 2023 ABC.

For Spiny Dogfish, the SSC will provide a written report that identifies the following for the 2023 fishing year:

- 1) Utilizing the most recent fishery and NEFSC trawl survey information, specify a 2023 acceptable biological catch (ABC), in weight, and provide any rationale and justification for the recommended ABC;
- 2) The most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with determination of the ABC;
- 3) 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.