



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | G. Warren Elliott, Vice Chairman
Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

February 11, 2019

Mr. Michael Pentony
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

Dear Mike:

In its 2019 Implementation Plan, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council prioritized the creation of a workgroup to investigate improved ways to set ABCs for *Illex* squid. We are requesting that Doug Christel participate on the workgroup, which will include staff from the Council, NEFSC, GARFO, and members from our SSC. Topics for the workgroup will include evaluating the potential and practicability of improved assessment and/or management approaches for *Illex* squid and identifying short-term metrics, data, and/or analyses that could be used by the SSC for possible ABC adjustments.

We plan to schedule a webinar meeting as soon as practicable that will include the workgroup, MSB Committee, and MSB Advisory Panel.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request. Please call me or Jason Didden of my staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D.
Executive Director

cc: M. Luisi, J. Didden