



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

Dr. Jonathan Hare
National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
166 Water Street
Woods Hole, MA 02543-1026

Dear Jon:

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 Lisa Hendrickson, Kim Hyde, and John Manderson participate on the workgroup, which will include staff from the Council, NEFSC, GARFO, and members from our SSC. Wendy Gabriel and Sarah Gaichas have expressed interest in participating as part of their SSC roles. 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