



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
166 Water Street
Woods Hole, MA 02543-1026

March 24, 2000

DFO - BIO
RECORDS OFFICE

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File: _____

Robert O'Boyle
Regional Advisory Process Office Coordinator
Bedford Institute of Oceanography
P.O. Box 1006
Dartmouth, N. S. Canada B2Y4A2

Dear

You are cordially invited to attend the Spring 2000 meeting of the Transboundary Resources Assessment Committee (TRAC), to be held in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA, 26-28 April. This is the third meeting in a series initiated in 1998 to provide joint peer review of assessments for resources shared by both Canada and the USA. This year, the TRAC will consider update assessments for Georges Bank cod, haddock and yellowtail flounder, which will be prepared by Canadian and USA members of the Transboundary Assessment Working Group in early April. Results will be reported to the respective management agencies of both countries.

Terms of reference, a working agenda, a list of invitees, and information on accommodations are attached. We have arranged for a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn, 291 Jones Road, Falmouth, MA, Tel. (508) 540-2000. (See Attachment). If you wish to book elsewhere I recommend that you do so soon as Falmouth tends to get busy even in early spring.

The meeting will be held in the Aquarium Conference Room, Woods Hole Laboratory, 166 Water Street. If you need directions check with the receptionist in the main building. We would like to begin the meeting promptly at 8:30 am, Wednesday, April 26, so please plan accordingly.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (508) 495-2312; or the Division Secretary, Ms. Fran Lanzano (508) 495-2268. I look forward to seeing you in Woods Hole.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Clark
Research Biologist

Attachments

cc: Michael Sissenwine
John Boreman



TRANSBOUNDARY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
THIRD MEETING
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 26-28, 2000

AGENDA

April 26th - Wednesday

0830 - 0900 Welcome and Introduction
0900 - 0930 TAWG Report
0930 - 1200 Cod 5Zjm
1200 - 1300 Lunch
1300 - 1530 Cod 5Z
1530 - 1700 Haddock 5Zjm

April 27th - Thursday

0830 - 0930 Haddock 5Zjm (cont'd)
0930 - 1200 Haddock 5Z
1200 - 1300 Lunch
~~1300 - 1530 Yellowtail 5Z~~
1530 - 1700 Report Preparation and Review

April 28th - Friday

0830 - 1200 Report Preparation and Review
1200 - 1300 Lunch
1300 - ? Report Preparation and Review

TRANSBOUNDARY RESOURCE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
THIRD MEETING
WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 26-28, 2000

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Eastern Georges Bank Cod (5Zjm)

Eastern Georges Bank Haddock (5Zjm)

Georges Bank Yellowtail (5Zjmnh)

- Report on the status of the stocks, updating results for the latest information from fisheries and research surveys and characterize the uncertainty of estimates.
- For a range of yield quotas in 2000, evaluate the consequences on exploitation rate in 2000 and on spawning stock biomass (or its proxy) in 2001.
- Estimate the risk that the 2000 fishing mortality rate would exceed $F_{0.1}$ and that the spawning stock biomass in 2001 would not achieve a 0%, 10% and 20% increase compared to 2000, for a range of yield quotas in 2000.
- Evaluate additional measures of stock status, and consider their interpretation.
- Report on progress against research recommendations made at the 1999 TRAC.

Georges Bank Cod (5Z)

Georges Bank Haddock (5Z)

- Update resource status through 1999 and characterize the variability of estimates of stock size and fishing mortality rates.