Dear Participant:

You are cordially invited to attend the June 2004 meeting of the Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee (TRAC), to be held in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada during 14 - 17 June 2005. This is one of a series of meetings initiated in 1998 to provide joint peer review of assessments for resources shared by both Canada and the USA. At this meeting, the TRAC will consider assessments for Eastern Georges Bank cod, haddock, and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder. Results will be reported to management agencies.

Terms of reference, a draft agenda and a list of invitees are attached.

The meeting will be held in the Hachey Conference Centre, Biological Station, St. Andrews. If you need directions, check with the receptionist in the main building. We would like to begin the meeting promptly at 08:30 am, Tuesday, June 14th, so please plan accordingly.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience if you will be attending, (902 426-7070 or myrav@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca). If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (902-426-7070). I look forward to seeing you in St. Andrews.

Sincerely / Au plaisir

R.N. O'Boyle

Attachments / Pièces jointes (3)

cc: W. Overholtz
    Michael Sinclair
Agenda

Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee
Hachey Conference Center, St. Andrews, NB
14 – 17 June 2005

14 June 2005 – Tuesday
08:30 – 09:00 Welcome and Introduction (Chair)
09:00 – 10:00 Methodology to Estimate Total Catch in US Fishery (?)
10:00 – 12:00 Discard Estimates in Canadian Fishery (?)

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 15:00 Eastern Georges Bank cod (O’Brien, Hunt)
15:00 – 17:00 Eastern Georges Bank haddock (Brodziak, Van Eeckhaute)

15 June 2005 – Wednesday
08:30 – 10:30 Georges Bank yellowtail flounder (Legault, Stone)
10:30 – 11:30 Report from Ageing Workshop (Van Eeckhaute)
11:30 – 12:00 Comparative fishing in Canada (Hunt)

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 14:00 Report Preparation
14:00 – 15:00 Report Preparation
15:00 – 17:00 Report Preparation

16 June 2005 – Thursday
08:30 – 12:00 Report Review

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 17:00 Report Review

17 June 2005 – Friday
08:30 – 12:00 Report Review
12:00 Adjournment
Invitees
Transboundary Resources Assessment Committee
Biological Station
St. Andrew’s, NB, Canada
14-17 June 2005

Invité(e)s
Comité d’évaluation des ressources transfrontalières
Station biologique de St. Andrews
St. Andrews (N.-B.) Canada
Du 14 au 17 juin 2005

Chairs / Présidents
R. O’Boyle
W. Overholtz

DFO Maritimes / Région des Maritimes, MPO
Science staff (through notification of Managers) / Personnel scientifique (par avis aux gestionnaires)
C. Annand
J. Hansen

NMFS Northeast Center / Northeast Center, NMFS
Science staff (through notification of Managers) / Personnel scientifique (par avis aux gestionnaires)
T. Warren

Invited Reviewers / Examinateurs invités
TBD

Advisory / Industry / Other (Canada / Organismes consultatifs / Industrie / Autres (Canada)
C. Reardon, NS/N.É
R. Cronk, NB/N.-B.
B. Giroux (SFMGFA)
C. d’Entremont (Inshore Fisheries Ltd.)
T. Nickerson (SFIFA)
J. Maxwell (SFIFA)
C. Penney (Clearwater)
C. Gregan (Seafreeze)
R. Stirling (SPANS / Association des producteurs de fruits de mer de la Nouvelle-Écosse)
B. Berry (Yarmouth County Community Board)
D. Morrow (South Western NS Fish Packers)
P. Van Buskirk (SWFRA)

Advisory / Industry / Other (US / Organismes consultatifs / Industrie / Autres (É.-U.)
* to be added / à ajouter
For the following resources:

- Eastern Georges Bank cod
- Eastern Georges Bank haddock
- Georges Bank yellowtail flounder

- Apply the benchmark assessments to report on the status of the stocks, updating results for the latest information from fisheries, including discard estimates, and research surveys and characterize the uncertainty of estimates.

- Document the size and age compositions of catches (both landings and discards) in the USA and Canadian fisheries. Describe how landings and discards in these fisheries are sampled for size/age composition, and summarize the amount of sampling (number of samples, number of length and age measurements), stratified as appropriate (e.g., gear type, calendar month/quarter, market category, etc). Compare the USA and Canadian size/age compositions, identify any differences, and discuss possible reasons for these differences.

- For a range of values for total catch in 2006, estimate the risk that
  - the 2006 fishing mortality rate would exceed 0.18 (cod), 0.26 (haddock) and 0.25 (yellowtail flounder) respectively; in the case of yellowtail flounder, if the benchmark assessment review indicates a change in the fishing mortality reference, the risk of exceeding that revised estimate should be provided as well
  - the biomass at the beginning of 2007 would not achieve a 0%, 10% or 20% increase compared to the beginning of 2006

- Conduct medium term forecasts assuming that the stocks are exploited at constant fishing mortalities of 0.18 (cod), 0.26 (haddock) and 0.25 (yellowtail flounder; if the benchmark assessment review indicates a change in the fishing mortality reference, the forecasts using that revised estimate should be provided as well) during 2006-2009, and provide the catches and beginning year biomasses (total and spawning stock) in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009, and also the beginning year biomasses in 2010.

- Review the methodology used by the NMFS Fisheries Statistics Office to determine total catch from USA fisheries and, if necessary, make recommendations for improvements in the methodology to be used in the following fishing year. Review estimates of discards from Canadian fisheries.

- Other matters.