


Science, Service, Stewardship




TRAC Status Reports

Eastern Georges Bank Cod and Haddock
and
Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder

<http://www.mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/science/trac/trs.html>

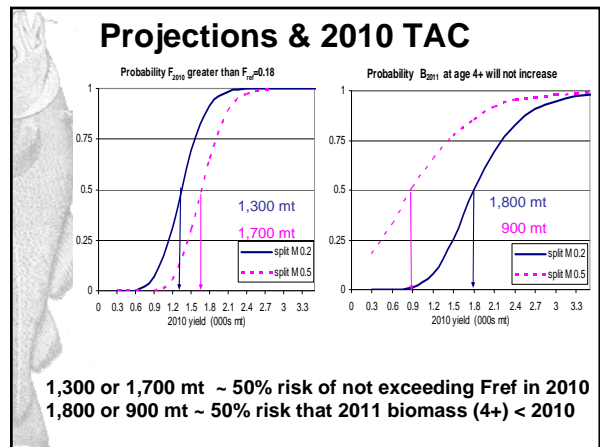
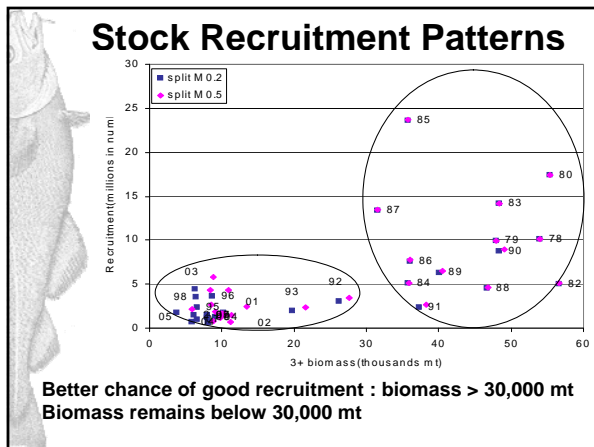
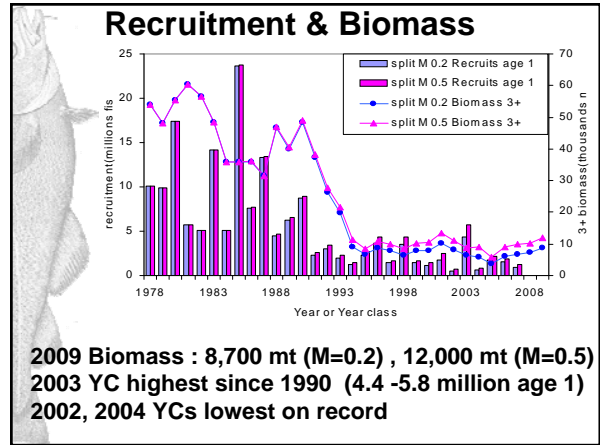
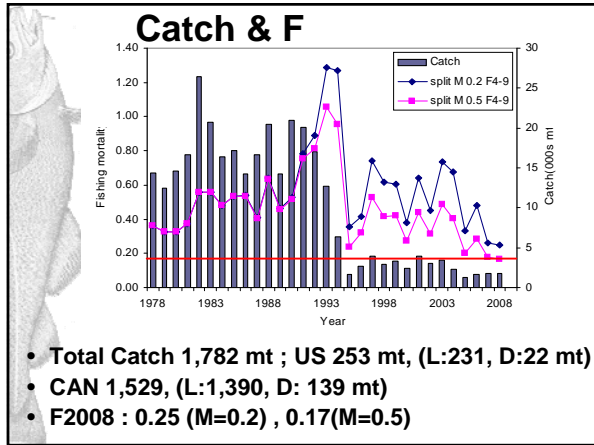
NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE

Presentation to the
New England Fishery Management Council
23 September 2009
Plymouth, MA



Eastern Georges Bank Atlantic Cod

Loretta O'Brien
NEFSC



EGB Cod Summary

- F reduced in 2008
- 3+ Biomass increased in 2008
- Recent recruitment generally poor
- Biomass remains low since 1994
- Fishing below Fref will maintain a higher biomass

Eastern Georges Bank Haddock

Liz Brooks
NEFSC

Catch & F

- Catch: US 1,181 mt, CAN 14,950 mt, Total 15,995
- F has been mostly < Fref since 1995; F2008 = 0.09

Surveys

- Since 2005, age 3+ biomass increasing sharply due to 2003 yr-class

R & SSB

- Exceptional 2003 year class
- Above average 2005 year class (25 million)
- Average recruitment is ~ 11 million since 1990; 2007 yc slightly above, 2008 yc slightly below average

Forecasts

- 2009 catch assumed = 33,000 t
- 2010 F = Fref = 0.26 produces catch ≈ 28,000 mt (neutral risk)

Haddock Summary

- US catch has been well below quota, and F has been below Fref
- Total biomass highest on record
- Catches will still be dependent on 2003 year class for several years (comprises 80% of 2010 catch)

Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder

Chris Legault
NEFSC

Catch & F

- Catch: US 1,118 mt, CAN 158, Total 1,275
- F has been high (>1) but F2008 = 0.09 or 0.08, below Fref = 0.25

Surveys

- DFO 2008 and 2009 single large tows (7.5 & 5.2 mt) – Two VPA formulations: Including and Excluding
- US Spring 2009 (Bigelow) conversions not available

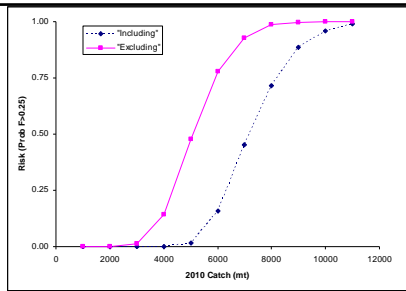
Adult Biomass (Age 3+ Jan-1)

- Highest values since 1973
- Due to strong 2005 year class

R & SSB

- Strong 2005 year class
- Above average 2006 year class
- Weak 2007 year class

Forecasts



Catch in 2010 (mt)

	Fref	Freb75 Updated	Freb75 GARM
Excluding	5,000	450	2,300
Including	7,000	2,600	3,300

Yellowtail Summary



- Catch low in 2008
 - Will be low in 2009 as well (2,100 mt quota)
- F down (below Fref in 2008)
- B and SSB up
 - Strong 2005 year class
 - SSB 41-53% of US rebuilding target (43,200 mt)
- 2007 year class a concern
- Additional uncertainty
 - DFO survey large tows
 - Missing 2009 US Spring index (Bigelow)
- Catch advice depends on the rules