MSB Specs

- Need new ABCs for Mackerel
- Need to review/affirm squid/butterfish ABCs
Fishery Performance Report A

- MSB effort and landings are driven by a complex matrix including market forces, environmental conditions, variable abundance/availability, regulations, spiny dogfish, weather, and the availability of other fishing options.

- Landings not a good proxy for stock status.
Fishery Performance Report B

- Concerns exist about best approach for forage, inability of fishery to catch quota, size distribution, localized concentrated catch, habitat impacts, and bycatch

- More precaution is warranted
Mackerel

- Kiersten addressed benchmark
- AP on mackerel...
Mackerel - AP

- Herring regs. and other regs. limit mackerel catch at/in times & places
- Availability was much better in 2018 across wide area and impacted fishing on herring/squid in some areas
  - Multiple size groups
- Interest in rebuilding to a higher biomass than the assessment BRPs
- Concern about projections
Mackerel 2017/2018

The directed fishery for Atlantic mackerel will close when 95% of the quota is projected to be harvested.

Quota: 20,231,822 lbs
95% of quota

RH/S Cap shut mackerel a bit early...
Current risk policy instructs SSC to return lower of P* or catch with rebuilding F

Council considering modifying risk policy to use 5 or 7 year rebuilding plan, specific to this mackerel action

Will decide on risk policy change in August...to get specs in place in early 2019 asking for contingent ABCs
Mackerel – Contingency #1

- Council sticks with current risk policy
- SSC proceeds with P* selection as usual and Council uses
- Staff used current understanding of 9-factor C.V. approach to recommend ABC...
  - Typical, 100% C.V.
  - Incomplete understanding (individual and overall)
Mackerel – Contingency #2

- Council amends risk policy to use projections associated with 5-year rebuilding
- $F = 0.237$ projected to rebuild the stock in 5 years
- Risk addressed through considering time of rebuilding period
  - Time as buffer
Mackerel – Contingency #3

- Council amends risk policy to use projections associated with 7-year rebuilding
- $F = 0.252$ projected to rebuild the stock in 7 years
- Risk addressed through considering time of rebuilding period
  - Time as buffer
Mackerel

- ID P* ABC
- ID 5/7 year rebuilding options catches (=rebuilding ABCs)
Questions/Discussion