

Use of Sweep Efficiency Research Data in 2021 Stock Assessments

	Stock	Level of Assessment Review	Lead Assessment Scientist	Description (Use of Catch Efficiency)
1	Summer Flounder	1	Mark Terceiro	average BIG sweep efficiency at length based on the 2015-2017 sweep studies (overall $q = \sim 0.5$), b) individual tow wingspreads, and c) annual total survey strata area. All three of these factors are used to raise the sweep efficiency and individual tow wingspread adjusted survey indices to absolute Swept Area Numbers (SWAN).
2	Bluefish	1	Tony Wood	NA
3	Black Sea Bass	2	Kiersten Curti	NA
4	Golden Tilefish	2	Paul Nitschke	NA
5	Scup	2	Mark Terceiro	NA
6	Atlantic Mackerel	2	Kiersten Curti	NA
7	Georges Bank Cod	2	Kathy Sosebee	NA
8	Gulf of Maine Cod	3	Charles Perretti	NA

NA = the chainsweep study results do not apply to these species/stocks. Either they were not sampled in the study or they are not benthic.

Assessment Review Levels

- 1 Direct Delivery: A level 1 management track assessment is essential a simple update the previously approved assessment with new data. This level of assessment update will be delivered directly from the NEFSC to the appropriate Council or Commission technical body (e.g., SSC) and will not undergo peer review beyond that conducted by those technical bodies.
- 2 Expedited Review: A level 2 management track assessment can involve a little more flexibility for deviations from the previously accepted assessment, but that flexibility is limited to allow for efficient peer review of multiple assessments in one peer review meeting, similar to what previously had been carried out for the groundfish operational assessments for the NEFMC. Level 2 assessments will undergo a formal, but expedited (1-2 hour maximum), peer review by a small panel of SSC members from the relevant Council(s), along with additional external experts if desired, before submission to the appropriate Council or Commission body.
- 3 More Formal Peer Review: A level 3 management track assessment will permit more extensive changes than a level 2 assessments and therefore requires a more extensive peer review (one-half to a one full day). The flexibility in level 3 provides an opportunity to make progress within the management track toward the Next Generation Assessments envisioned in the Stock Assessment Improvement Plan, by including more detailed spatial, temporal, environmental and species interactions within existing model frameworks.