



## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**[RTID 0648-XD661]**

#### **Research Track Assessment for Applied State Space Modeling**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS will convene the Research Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting for the purpose of reviewing Applied State Space Modeling. The Research Track Assessment Peer Review is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting results to assessment scientists and fisheries managers. Materials are prepared by the research track working group and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts from the Center of Independent Experts. The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the process.

**DATES:** The public portion of the Research Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting will be held from February 12, 2024, through February 15, 2024. The meeting will conclude on February 15, 2024, at 4 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Please see

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in person and virtually. The in person meeting will be held in the S.H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543 and virtually using this Google Meet link:

*<https://meet.google.com/fhd-msfm-pzz>.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Michele Traver, 508-495-2195,

*michele.traver@noaa.gov.*

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For further information, please visit the NEFSC website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/fishery-stock-assessments-new-england-and-mid-atlantic>. For additional information about research track assessment peer review, please visit the NEFSC webpage at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/event/applied-state-space-modeling-2023-research-track-peer-review>.

### **Daily Meeting Agenda – Research Track Peer Review Meeting**

The agenda is subject to change; all times are approximate and may be changed at the discretion of the Peer Review Chair.

*Monday, February 12, 2024*

Time	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
9 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics Introductions/Agenda/ Conduct of Meeting	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Kristan Blackhart, Population Dynamics (PopDy) Branch Chief Yong Chen, Panel Chair	
9:15 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Introduction/ Executive Summary	Tim Miller, Working Group (WG) chair	Review current use of state-space models in management, WG findings and recommendations
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Terms of Reference (TOR) #5: Gulf of Maine (GOM) haddock	Charles Perretti	Working Paper (WP) 5.1: Simple transition from Age-Structured Assessment Program (ASAP) to Woods Hole Assessment Model (WHAM)
11 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Break		
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	TOR #5: George's Bank (GB) winter flounder	Alex Hansell	WP 5.2: Simple transition from ASAP to WHAM

12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch		
1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	TOR #5: Redfish	Brian Linton	WP 5.3: Simple transition from ASAP to WHAM
2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	TOR #5: Mackerel	Kiersten Curti, Alex Hansell	WP 5.4: Simple transition from ASAP to WHAM
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Break		
3:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
4 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
4:15 p.m.	Adjourn		

*Tuesday, February 13, 2024*

Time	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
9 a.m. - 9:05 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics/ Agenda	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Yong Chen, Panel Chair	
9:05 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	TOR #1	Tim Miller (WG Chair)	Miller <i>et al.</i> WP1
10:45 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Break		
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.	TOR #1	Cheng Li	Li <i>et al.</i> WP
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Lunch		
1 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	TOR #2	Tim Miller (WG Chair)	Miller <i>et al.</i> WP1
2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Break		
2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	TOR #2	Greg Britten, Liz Brooks	Britten <i>et al.</i> WP

Time	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
3:45 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Public Comment		
4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Discussion/Review/Summary	Review Panel	
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn		

*Wednesday, February 14, 2024*

Time	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
9 a.m. - 9:05 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics/Agenda	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Yong Chen, Panel Chair	
9:05 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	TOR #3: Environmental effects on recruitment	Greg Britten, Liz Brooks	Miller <i>et al.</i> WP2
10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Break		
10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.	TOR #3: Intro/Environmental effects on natural mortality	Tim Miller (WG Chair)	Britten <i>et al.</i> WP
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Lunch		
1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	TOR #3: Environmental effects on survey catchability	Amanda Hart, Alex Hansell	Hart <i>et al.</i> WP
2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	TOR #3: Reference points in stochastic populations	Tim Miller (WG Chair)	Miller WP
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Break		
3:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Discussion/Summary	Review Panel	
4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	TOR #4	Tim Miller (WG Chair)	
4:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	

4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.	Discussion/Review/Summary	Review Panel	
5:15 p.m.	Adjourn		

*Thursday, February 15, 2024*

Time	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
9 a.m. - 9:05 a.m.	Logistics	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead Yong Chen, Panel Chair	
9:05 a.m. - 10 a.m.	Overview of panel findings	Review Panel	
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Report writing		
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Lunch		
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Report writing		
4 p.m.	Adjourn		

The meeting is open to the public; however, during the “Report Writing” session on Friday, February 15, 2024, the public should not engage in discussion with the Peer Review Panel.

### **Special Accommodations**

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Special requests should be directed to Michele Traver, via email (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section).

Dated: January 17, 2024.

---

**Everett Wayne Baxter,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,*

*National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2024-01150 Filed: 1/22/2024 8:45 am; Publication Date: 1/23/2024]