

Points on Sector Discard Calculations

Second Sector Monitoring Workshop, Gloucester, MA. 7/8/09-7/9/09

Summary of some points for how sectors can estimate discards

- We expect to use a rolling average-type discard rate algorithm. Discard rate can change daily. (U.S./Canada program - a 35 day rolling window was adopted)
 - o Smooths out variability in rates over time / across seasons
 - o Optimize to approach as closely as possible the discard estimates of assessments
- If too few observed trips to estimate discard rate, we'll use the sector specific assumed rate or broaden rolling average window to include enough observed trips. TBD.
- NMFS will calculate a daily discard rate by strata and send it out to the sectors for use.
 - o Daily discard rate by sector, stock, gear.
 - o 15 stocks by number of gears
 - o Number of gears TBD – presumably will match assessments strata
 - o Potentially dozens of daily discard rates
 - o Previous daily rates can be updated as observed trips are added and/or updates received.
 - o Estimated discard will need to be recalculated and updated
 - o Summary of calculation will be provided
- Sectors first apply observed discard rate if trip was observed (NEFOP or ASM)
 - o Estimated discard = (Observed stock discarded / observed kept of all species) times dealer-reported total trip landings of all species converted to live weight
 - o Estimated discard applies on date landed of the observed trip.
- Sectors then apply NMFS-provided daily groundfish discard rate to unobserved groundfish trips within strata
 - o Estimated discard = stock's discard rate times dealer-reported total trip landings of all species converted to live weight
 - o Use that day's groundfish discard rate on all unobserved groundfish trips that landed on that same day