



1601 Lower Water Street • Suite 401
Halifax • Nova Scotia • B3J 3P6 • Canada

Telephone: + 1 902 468 5590
Email: info@nafo.int • Web: www.nafo.int

In all correspondence
please refer to:

NAFO/26-093

27 March 2026

TO: Scientific Council Representatives; and
Designated Experts for Stock Assessments

Dear Colleagues,

Subject: Provisional Agenda – *Meeting of the Scientific Council, 29 May–11 June 2026*

In accordance with Rule 4.1 of the *NAFO Rules of Procedure: Scientific Council*, the Provisional Agenda for the **Meeting of the Scientific Council, 29 May – 11 June 2026** is hereby circulated to all Contracting Parties.

Please find enclosed the following:

- General Information (Appendix I)
- Provisional Agenda (Appendix II)
 - requests for advice from the Commission (Annex 1),
 - coastal State request for advice from Denmark (on behalf of Greenland) (Annex 2),
 - coastal State request from Canada (Annex 3).
- Provisional Timetable (Appendix III)
- Experts for Preliminary Assessment of Certain Stocks (Appendix IV)
- Meeting Venue (Appendix V)
- Accommodation and Travel Information (Appendix VI)

All relevant meeting documentation will be accessible on the NAFO Meetings SharePoint (<https://nafoportals.sharepoint.com/sites/meetings-sc-2026-june>) as it becomes available. We kindly ask your assistance in providing this information to the members of your meeting delegation.

Yours sincerely,

Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir
Executive Secretary

BB:dbm

APPENDIX I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Scientific Council Meeting, 29 May–11 June 2026

1. Agenda

In accordance with Rule 4.1 of the *NAFO Rules of Procedure: Scientific Council*, the Provisional Agenda for the **29 May–11 June 2026 Meeting of the Scientific Council** is hereby circulated to all Contracting Parties (Appendix II). This includes the requests for advice from the Commission (Annex 1), Denmark (on behalf of Greenland) (Annex 2) and Canada (Annex 3).

2. Time and Place

- a) The Scientific Council and its Standing Committees will meet at Saint Mary's University, 903 Robie St., Halifax, NS, Canada from 29 May – 11 June 2026. Registration will begin at 0900 hours on 29 May 2026 in the on-site Secretariat office. Provisions will also be made to allow participation by Webex.
- b) The **Executive Committee** will meet at 0900 hours on 29 May 2026. The opening session of the **Scientific Council** will begin at 1000 hours on 29 May 2026.
- c) The Provisional Timetable for the Scientific Council and its Standing Committees is in Appendix III.

3. Documentation

Documentation concerning the June 2026 Meeting is also on the Scientific Council SharePoint site. Please contact the Secretariat if login information is required.

Designated Experts

- a) Further to the Scientific Council nominations at its meetings in 2025, Designated Experts responsible for providing preliminary assessments for certain stocks to STACFIS are listed in Appendix IV.
- b) The Scientific Council has recommended that National Representatives to the Scientific Council take an active role in ensuring that all data (see item 4 below), including the STATLANT 21A reports for 2025, are prepared and submitted to the Secretariat in advance of the meeting. Special attention is required of them to ensure Designated Experts receive the necessary data for assessments and other relevant data by **08 May 2026**.
- c) Designated Experts are requested to forward their **assessment papers to reach the Secretariat before 22 May 2026**, for pre-meeting distribution. These preliminary assessments will be first issued as working papers and then will be revised as necessary before the end of the meeting for issue as formal documents. Papers sent to the Secretariat will be posted on the SC SharePoint site (see above).

Scientific Papers

- a) Scientists submitting papers (Research Documents (SCR Docs), Summary Documents (SCS Docs)), for consideration at the Meeting are **requested to submit their papers in advance for pre-meeting distribution before 22 May 2026**. Title, Author(s) and Abstract (250 words or less) must be submitted in order for documents to be assigned a number. The Scientific Council prescribed format guidelines for preparation of scientific papers (and assessment papers) are given on the SharePoint site. All papers being submitted are requested in electronic form (MS Word compatible format). Documents must be presented to the meeting in person or by a designate.
- b) Author(s) are requested to inform the Secretariat (personally or through the representative) at the time of submission, whether or not STACPUB should consider its suitability for publication in the *Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science* (information for preparing manuscripts for primary publications is given at <https://jnafs.scholasticahq.com/for-authors>).

4. Data Requirements

- a) In accordance with the *Rules of Procedure: Scientific Council* (Rule 4.4), **STATLANT 21A** data from Contracting Parties containing provisional nominal catches in 2025 for all species by Division, are required to reach the Secretariat before the deadline of **01 May 2026**.
- b) In accordance with the *Rules of Procedure: Scientific Council* (Rule 4.4), **STATLANT 21B** data from Contracting Parties containing final nominal catches and fishing effort in 2025 for all species by Division and Month, are required to reach the Secretariat before the deadline of **31 August 2026**.

Designated Experts should recognize that the STATLANT 21B returns for 2025 are not normally available for the June meeting.

This letter also serves as a reminder of other data requirements (NAFO/26-035):

- National Research Reports for 2025.
- Inventories of biological surveys in 2025 and planned for 2026 and early 2027.
- List of Biological sampling data for 2025.
- RV Surveys on a stock by stock basis by Designated Experts.

These should be submitted to reach the Secretariat by **01 May 2026**.

Similarly, environmental data to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Oceans Science Branch, Marine Environmental Data Section (MEDS), formerly the Integrated Science Data Management (ISDM), to facilitate the work of the Standing Committee of Fisheries and Environment (STACFEN) should be submitted directly to MEDS (NAFO/26-032).

5. Representatives, Alternates, Experts and Advisers

In accordance with Rule 1 of the *Rules of Procedure: Scientific Council*, each Contracting Party shall notify the Executive Secretary of the names of its representatives, alternates, experts and advisers who will attend the meeting, before the commencement of the meeting.

6. Location

Information on the location (CLARI Hub (AT340), Atrium Building, Saint Mary's University, 903 Robie St., Halifax, NS, Canada) is given in Appendix V with additional travel information provided in Appendix VI.

APPENDIX II: PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Scientific Council Meeting, 29 May – 11 June 2026

- I. Opening (Scientific Council Chair: Diana González-Troncoso)
 1. Appointment of Rapporteur
 2. Presentation and Report of Proxy Votes
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Attendance of Observers
 5. Appointment of Designated Experts
 6. Plan of Work
 7. Housekeeping issues

- II. Review of Scientific Council Recommendations in 2025

- III. Fisheries Environment (STACFEN Chair: VACANT. A Chair must be nominated before the commencement of the meeting for the Committee to convene)
 1. Opening
 2. Appointment of Rapporteur
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Review of Recommendations in 2025
 5. Invited speakers
 6. Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Oceans Science Branch, Marine Environmental Data Section (MEDS) Report for 2025
 7. Review of the physical, biological and chemical environment in the NAFO Convention Area during 2025
 8. Formulation of recommendations based on environmental conditions during 2025
 9. Other Matters
 10. Adjournment

- IV. Publications (STACPUB Chair: Rick Rideout)
 1. Opening
 2. Appointment of Rapporteur
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Review of Recommendations in 2025
 5. Review of Publications
 - a) Annual Summary
 - i) Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science (JNAFS)
 - ii) Scientific Council Studies
 - iii) Scientific Council Reports
 6. Other Matters
 7. Adjournment

- V. Research Coordination (STACREC Chair: Mark Simpson)
 1. Opening
 2. Appointment of Rapporteur
 3. Review of Recommendations in 2025
 4. Invited speaker (Dr. Casper Berg)
 5. Fishery Statistics
 - a) Progress report on Secretariat activities in 2025/2026
 - i) Presentation of catch estimates from the CESAG, daily catch reports and STATLANT 21A and 21B
 - ii) Review of STATLANT 21B submission form
 6. Research Activities
 - a) Biological sampling

- i) Report on activities in 2025/2026
 - ii) Report by National Representatives on commercial sampling conducted
 - iii) Report on data availability for stock assessments (by Designated Experts)
 - b) Biological surveys
 - i) Review of survey activities in 2025 and early 2026 (by National Representatives and Designated Experts)
 - ii) Surveys planned for 2026 and early 2027
 - c) Tagging activities
 - d) Other research activities
 - 7. Review of SCR and SCS Documents
 - 8. Other Matters
 - a) Silver hake
 - 9. Adjournment
- VI. Fisheries Science (STACFIS Chair: José De Oliveira)
- I. Opening
 - II. General Review of Catches and Fishing Activity
 - III. Stock Assessments
 - 1. Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*) in SA 0+1 offshore (monitor)
 - 2. Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*) Div. 1A inshore Divs. 1BC inshore, Div. 1D inshore and Divs. 1EF inshore (full assessment)
 - 3. Demersal redfish and deep-sea redfish (*Sebastes* spp.) in SA 1 (full assessment)
 - 4. Wolffish in SA 1 (full assessment)
 - 5. Golden redfish (*Sebastes norvegicus* aka *S. marinus*) in Div. 3M (monitor)
 - 6. Cod (*Gadus morhua*) in Div. 3M (full assessment)
 - 7. Redfish (*Sebastes mentella* and *Sebastes fasciatus*) in Div. 3M (full assessment)
 - 8. American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*) in Div. 3M (full assessment)
 - 9. Cod (*Gadus morhua*) in Divs. 3NO (monitor)
 - 10. Redfish (*Sebastes mentella* and *Sebastes fasciatus*) in Divs. 3LN (full assessment)
 - 11. American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*) in Divs. 3LNO (full assessment)
 - 12. Yellowtail flounder (*Limanda ferruginea*) in Divs. 3LNO (monitor)
 - 13. Witch flounder (*Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*) in Divs. 3NO (full assessment)
 - 14. Capelin (*Mallotus villosus*) in Divs. 3NO (monitor)
 - 15. Redfish (*Sebastes mentella* and *Sebastes fasciatus*) in Div. 3O (monitor)
 - 16. Thorny skate (*Amblyraja radiata*) in Divs. 3LNO and Subdiv. 3Ps (full assessment)
 - 17. White hake (*Urophycis tenuis*) in Divs. 3NO and Subdiv. 3Ps (monitor)
 - 18. Roughhead grenadier (*Macrourus berglax*) in SA 2 and 3 (monitor)
 - 19. Greenland halibut (*Reinhardtius hippoglossoides*) in SA 2 + Divs. 3KLMNO (in MSE process: monitor, COM requests #2 and #4)
 - 20. Northern shortfin squid (*Illex illecebrosus*) in SA 3+4 (monitor)
 - 21. Splendid alfonsino (*Beryx splendens*) in SA 6 (monitor)
 - IV. Other Matters
 - a) FIRMS Classification for NAFO Stocks
 - b) Vacant Designated Experts. How to proceed with full assessments/monitoring with DE vacancies.
 - c) Interim Monitoring Reports (IMRs)
 - d) Leaf Plot Script
 - e) Other Business
 - V. Adjournment

VII. Management Advice and Responses to Special Requests (See Annex 1)

1. Commission (Annex 1)

a) Request for Advice on TACs and Other Management Measures (request #1, Annex 1)

For 2027

- cod in Div. 3M

For 2027 and 2028

- redfish in Div. 3M

- thorny skate in Divs. 3LNO

- witch flounder in Divs. 3NO

- redfish in Divs. 3LN

- northern shrimp in 3M

- American plaice in Divs. 3LNO

For 2027, 2028 and 2029

- American plaice in Div. 3M

b) Monitoring of Stocks for which Multi-year Advice was provided in 2023-2025 or by interim monitoring only (request #1)

- yellowtail flounder in Divs. 3LNO

- cod in Divs. 3NO

- capelin in Divs. 3NO

- alfonsino stocks in Subarea 6

- roughhead grenadier in Subareas 2 and 3

- white hake in Divs. 3NO

- redfish in Div. 3O

- northern shortfin squid in Subareas 3+4

c) Special Requests for Management Advice

i) The Commission requests the Scientific Council to monitor the status of Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 + Divisions 3KLMNO annually to compute the TAC using the agreed Management Procedure and determine whether exceptional circumstances are occurring. If exceptional circumstances are occurring, the exceptional circumstances protocol will provide guidance on what steps should be taken (request #2).

ii) The Commission requests that Scientific Council, in addition to the 2026 3LN redfish stock assessment, continue to advance work on the 3LN redfish MSE processes during 2025-2026 (request #3).

iii) As practicable and taking into account Scientific Council capacity constraints, develop stock summary sheets for NAFO managed stocks that are evaluated using MSE processes (request #4).

iv) In relation to the Ecosystem Roadmap as a whole, the Commission requests the Scientific Council, with input from the WG-EAFFM, to continue work on the development of a reference document detailing the ecosystem roadmap, for completion by the 2026 Annual Meeting (request # 5).

v) In relation to the habitat impact assessment component of the Roadmap (VME and SAI analyses), the Commission requests that Scientific Council to:

a) Continue to progress work on the centralized data repository using ArcGIS online to host the data and data-products for scientific advice, in conjunction with the NAFO Secretariat (request #6a).

- b) Work towards the reassessment of VMEs and impact of bottom fisheries on VMEs for 2027; including potential management options in the reassessment of bottom fisheries (request #6b).
 - c) Develop materials on the potential of submitting NAFO coral bottom fishing closed areas as OECMs for discussion at the 2026 WG-EAFFM meeting (request #6c).
 - vi) The Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue to develop reference points to facilitate the implementation of the Revised NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework, for stocks that currently do not have them (request #7).
 - vii) In relation to its workload, the Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue to update the 3-5 year work plan, which reflects requests arising from the 2025 Annual Meeting, other multi-year stock assessments and other scientific inquiries already planned for the near future and, as much as possible, monitor and estimate future workload (request #8).
 - viii) The Commission requests the Scientific Council to explore the development of a sampling plan to conduct selectivity trials in the cod fishery in 3M. The objective is to collect data to test the effectiveness and impact of using sorting grids to improve the selectivity of cod and other species (request #9).
 - ix) The Commission requests the Scientific Council, as workload allows, in consultation with the NAFO Secretariat, to draft a scoping document for a potential in-person meeting to explore approaches for further integrating information related to climate change throughout Scientific Council operations. This scoping document should identify the scientific expertise needed both within and outside Scientific Council and potential financial and workload implications (request #10).
 - x) Considering a new science and management framework for Northern shrimp in Divisions 2J3KLNO (SSAR) developed and peer-reviewed by Canada, which includes NAFO divisions 3LNO, the Commission tasks the Scientific Council to assess and consider the operational model underlining the MSE developed for the SSAR stock of shrimp by Canada. This assessment will be presented to the Commission at the 2026 Annual Meeting to inform management decisions (request #11).
 - xi) The Commission requests the Scientific Council to consider a plan for carrying out benchmark assessments and include this in the 3-5 year work plan (request #12).
2. Coastal States
- a) Request by Denmark (Greenland) for Advice on Management in 2026 (Annex 2)
 - Greenland halibut SA 1 (inshore)
 - wolffish in SA 1
 - demersal redfish and deep-sea redfish (*Sebastes* spp.) in SA 1
 - East Greenland Northern shrimp
 - West Greenland Northern shrimp
 - b) Request by Canada for Advice on Management in 2026
 - Northern shrimp in SA 1 and Div. 0A
 - c) Request by Canada and Greenland for Monitoring of Stocks for which Multi-year Advice was provided in 2024 or 2025 (Annex 2, Annex 3)
 - Greenland halibut, offshore

VIII. Review of Future Meetings Arrangements

1. Scientific Council and STACFIS Shrimp Assessment Meeting, 15-17 September 2026
2. Scientific Council, 21-25 September 2026
3. WG-ESA, 10-19 November 2026
4. Scientific Council, June 2027

5. Scientific Council and STACFIS Shrimp Assessment Meeting, 2027
6. Scientific Council, September 2027
7. WG-ESA, November 2027
8. NAFO/ICES Joint Groups
 - a) NIPAG
 - b) WG-DEC
 - c) WG-HARP

IX. Arrangements for Special Sessions

1. Topics for future special sessions
2. Recently attended special sessions

X. Meeting Reports

1. Working Group on Ecosystem Science and Assessment (WG-ESA), 4-12 November 2025
2. Report from ICES-NAFO Working Group on Deepwater Ecosystems (WG-DEC), 23-27 March 2026
3. NAFO Joint Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Risk-Based Management Strategies (WG-RBMS), 09 April 2026
4. Meetings attended by the Secretariat

XI. Review of Scientific Council Working Procedures/Protocol

1. General Plan of Work for September 2026 Annual Meeting

XII. Other Matters

1. Designated experts
2. Election of Chairs
3. Budget items
4. Rules of procedure
5. Performance review
6. ETP species
7. Issues with the table in Annex A
8. NAFO Traffic Light
9. Other Business

XIII. Adoption of Committee Reports

1. STACFEN (if convened)
2. STACREC
3. STACPUB
4. STACFIS

XIV. Scientific Council Recommendations to Commission

XV. Adoption of Scientific Council Report

XVI. Adjournment

ANNEX 1. COMMISSION'S REQUEST FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON MANAGEMENT IN 2027 AND BEYOND OF CERTAIN STOCKS IN SUBAREAS 2, 3 AND 4 AND OTHER MATTERS (NAFO SCS Doc. 26/01)

(from NAFO/COM Doc. 25-13)

Following a request from the Scientific Council, the Commission agreed that items 1 and 2 should be the priority for the June 2026 Scientific Council meeting subject to resources.

1. The Commission requests that the Scientific Council provide advice for the management of the fish stocks below according to the assessment frequency presented below. In line with the Revised NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework (COM Doc. 25-16) the Commission should be informed by the range of options and associated risks provided by the Scientific Council. The Commission will decide upon the acceptable risk level in the context of the entirety of the Scientific Council advice for each stock guided and as foreseen by the NAFO Precautionary Approach. The Commission acknowledges that full assessment cannot be run when a DE is not nominated for a stock.

Advice should be provided using the guidance provided in **Annex A**, or using the predetermined

Yearly basis	Two-year basis	Three-year basis	Interim Monitoring Only
Cod in Division 3M	Redfish in Division 3M Thorny skate in Divisions 3LNO Witch flounder in Divisions 3NO Redfish in Divisions 3LN Yellowtail flounder in Divisions 3LNO Northern shrimp in Division 3M White hake in Divisions 3NO American plaice in Divisions 3LNO	American plaice in Division 3M Northern shortfin squid in Subareas 3+4 Redfish in Division 3O Cod in Divisions 3NO	Subarea 6 Alfonsino Subareas 2-3 Roughhead Grenadier Capelin in Divisions 3NO

Management Procedure in the cases where they exist (currently Greenland halibut 2+3KLMNO). For Division 3M shrimp supplementary advice in terms of fishing-days could also be considered as appropriate. To implement this schedule of assessments, the Scientific Council is requested to conduct a full assessment of these stocks as follows:

- In 2026, advice should be provided for 2027 for: Cod in Division 3M
- In 2026, advice should be provided for 2027 and 2028 for: Redfish in Division 3M, Thorny skate in Divisions 3LNO, Witch flounder in Divisions 3NO, Redfish in Divisions 3LN, Northern shrimp in Division 3M, American plaice in 3LNO.
 - With respect to Northern shrimp in Division 3M, Scientific Council is requested to provide its advice to the Commission prior to the 2026 Annual Meeting based on the survey data up to and including 2026.
- In 2026, advice should be provided for 2027, 2028 and 2029 for: American plaice in Division 3M

The Commission also requests the Scientific Council to continue to monitor the status of all other stocks annually and, should a significant change be observed in stock status (e.g. from surveys) or in bycatch in other fisheries, provide updated advice as appropriate.

2. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to monitor the status of Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 + Divisions 3KLMNO annually to compute the TAC using the agreed Management Procedure and

determine whether exceptional circumstances are occurring. If exceptional circumstances are occurring, the exceptional circumstances protocol will provide guidance on what steps should be taken.

3. The Commission requests that Scientific Council, in addition to the 2026 3LN redfish stock assessment, continue to advance work on the 3LN redfish MSE processes during 2025-2026.
4. As practicable and taking into account Scientific Council capacity constraints, develop stock summary sheets for NAFO managed stocks that are evaluated using MSE processes.
5. In relation to the Ecosystem Roadmap as a whole, the Commission requests the Scientific Council, with input from the WG-EAFFM, to continue work on the development of a reference document detailing the ecosystem roadmap, for completion by the 2026 Annual Meeting.
6. In relation to the habitat impact assessment component of the Roadmap (VME and SAI analyses), the Commission requests that Scientific Council to:
 - a. Continue to progress work on the centralized data repository using ArcGIS online to host the data and data-products for scientific advice, in conjunction with the NAFO Secretariat.
 - b. Work towards the reassessment of VMEs and impact of bottom fisheries on VMEs for 2027; including potential management options in the reassessment of bottom fisheries.
 - c. Develop materials on the potential of submitting NAFO coral bottom fishing closed areas as OECMs for discussion at the 2026 WG-EAFFM meeting.
7. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue to develop reference points to facilitate the implementation of the Revised NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework, for stocks that currently do not have them.
8. In relation to its workload, the Commission requests the Scientific Council to continue to update the 3-5 year work plan, which reflects requests arising from the 2025 Annual Meeting, other multi-year stock assessments and other scientific inquiries already planned for the near future and, as much as possible, monitor and estimate future workload.
9. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to explore the development of a sampling plan to conduct selectivity trials in the cod fishery in 3M. The objective is to collect data to test the effectiveness and impact of using sorting grids to improve the selectivity of cod and other species.
10. The Commission requests the Scientific Council, as workload allows, in consultation with the NAFO Secretariat, to draft a scoping document for a potential in-person meeting to explore approaches for further integrating information related to climate change throughout Scientific Council operations. This scoping document should identify the scientific expertise needed both within and outside Scientific Council and potential financial and workload implications.
11. Considering a new science and management framework for Northern shrimp in Divisions 2J3KLNO (SSAR) developed and peer-reviewed by Canada, which includes NAFO divisions 3LNO, the Commission tasks the Scientific Council to assess and consider the operational model underlining the MSE developed for the SSAR stock of shrimp by Canada. This assessment will be presented to the Commission at the 2026 Annual Meeting to inform management decisions.
12. The Commission requests the Scientific Council to consider a plan for carrying out benchmark assessments and include this in the 3-5 year work plan.

ANNEX A: Guidance for providing advice on Stocks Assessed

The Commission requests the Scientific Council to consider the following in assessing and projecting future stock levels for those stocks listed above. These evaluations should provide the information necessary for the Commission to consider the balance between risks and yield levels, in determining its management of these stocks:

Stochastic short-term projections (3 years) should be performed with the F levels that are included in the risk table from the Revised PA Framework (Table 1 below), based on the point estimate of biomass. The first year of the projection should assume a catch equal to the agreed TAC for that year. In instances where Scientific Council expects catches to be significantly different from the agreed TAC, an additional projection could be provided based on the best available catch estimation.

In relation to Tier 1 of the Roadmap Scientific Council should provide annually catch information in relation to 2TCI, including recent cumulative catch levels and a scoping of expected cumulative catch levels. Ecosystem summary sheets should be monitored annually and updated on a five-year cycle.

For stocks assessed with a production model, the advice should include updated time series or plots of:

- Catch and TAC of recent years
- Catch to relative biomass
- Relative Biomass
- Relative Fishing mortality
- Stock trajectory against precautionary approach reference points

For stock assessed with an age-structured model, information should be provided on stock size, spawning stock sizes, recruitment prospects, historical fishing mortality. Graphs and/or tables should be provided for all of the following for the longest time-period possible:

- historical yield and fishing mortality;
- spawning stock biomass and recruitment levels;
- Stock trajectory against precautionary approach reference points

For stocks for which only general biological and/or catch data are available, few standard criteria exist on which to base advice. The stock status should be evaluated in the context of management requirements for long-term sustainability and the advice provided should be consistent with the precautionary approach.

The following graphs should be presented for the longest time-period possible:

- catch and TAC of recent years
- length distributions
- time trends of survey abundance estimates
- an age or size range chosen to represent the spawning population
- an age or size-range chosen to represent the exploited population
- recruitment proxy or index for an age or size-range chosen to represent the recruiting population.
- fishing mortality proxy, such as the ratio of reported commercial catches to a measure of the exploited population.
- stock trajectory against precautionary approach reference points

In all cases any additional information the Scientific Council deems appropriate should be provided.

Table 1. The Revised NAFO Precautionary Approach Framework risk table.

y current year (year in which the assessment is made, data until year y-1)

	Yield			P(F>F _{lim})			P(B<B _{lim})				P(F>F _{target})			P(B<B _{trigger})				P(By+3 > By)	(By+3-By)/By
	Yield y (50%)	Yield y+1 (50%)	Yield y+2 (50%)	y	y+1	y+2	y	y+1	y+2	y+3	y	y+1	y+2	y	y+1	y+2	y+3		
Critical Zone																			
F=0	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F=X% current*	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F current	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cautious Zone																			
F lower edge leaf	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F midrib leaf	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F upper edge leaf	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Healthy Zone																			
F=0.75F _{msy}	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F _{target} =0.85F _{msy}	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
F _{lim} =F _{msy}	t	t	t	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

*X% may vary stock by stock. In the future, this framework may be modified to include F bycatch. The number of years in the risk projections table will be the same as the years of advice.

**ANNEX 2. DENMARK (ON BEHALF OF GREENLAND) REQUESTS FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON
MANAGEMENT IN 2026 AND BEYOND OF CERTAIN STOCKS IN SUBAREA 0 AND 1**
(from SCS Doc. 26/03)

Denmark (on behalf of Greenland) Coastal State Request for Scientific Advice – 2027

Denmark (on behalf of Greenland) (hereafter Greenland) hereby request scientific advice on management in 2027 of certain stocks in NAFO Subareas 0 and 1. Greenland requests the Scientific Council for advice on the following species:

1. Golden Redfish and Demersal Deep-Sea Redfish

Advice on Golden redfish (*Sebastes norvegicus*) and demersal deep-sea redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Subarea 1 was given in June 2023 for 2024 and beyond. The Scientific Council is requested to provide catch advice for 2027 to 2029.

2. Atlantic Wolffish and Spotted Wolffish

Advice on Atlantic Wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*) and Spotted Wolffish (*Anarhichas minor*) in Subarea 1 was given in June 2023 for 2024-2026. The Scientific Council is requested to provide catch advice for 2027 to 2029.

3. Greenland Halibut, Offshore

Advice on Greenland halibut, Offshore in Subareas 0 and 1 was given in 2025 for 2026 and 2027. The Scientific Council is requested to continue its monitoring of the stock and provide updated advice in the event of significant changes in stock levels.

In addition, Greenland specifically requests the catch scenarios for 35.328 tonnes (F_{MSY} 2026) and F_{target} be updated for 2027-2029, with associated probability that biomass in the end of 2027-2029 is lower than 1) $B_{trigger}$ and 2) B_{lim} , i.e. $p(B < B_{trigger})$ and $p(B < B_{lim})$.

4. Greenland Halibut, Inshore, West Greenland

Advice on the inshore stocks of Greenland halibut in Subarea 1 was given in 2024 for 2025-2026. The Scientific Council is requested to provide advice on catch levels for Subarea 1 in division 1A, inshore (Disko Bay, Uummannaq and Upernavik) for 2027 and 2028

5. Northern Shrimp, West Greenland

Greenland requests the Scientific Council to provide, before November 2026, advice on the scientific basis for management of Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Subareas 0 and 1 in 2027. The advice should be in line with Greenland's stated management objective of maintaining a mortality risk of no more than 35% of exceeding Z_{msy} in the first-year prediction, and to provide a catch option table ranging with 5,000 t increments. Future catch options should be provided for as many years as data allows for. Results should include risk analysis of biomass falling below B_{msy} , $B_{trigger}$ and B_{lim} .

6. Northern Shrimp, East Greenland

Scientific Council is, requested to provide advice on the scientific basis for management of Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Denmark Strait and adjacent waters east of southern Greenland in 2027 for as many years ahead as data allows. Scientific Council is requested to give a catch advice at a level corresponding to F_{target} . Results should include a catch option table ranging with 500 t increments, including risk analysis of fishing mortality falling below F_{msy} , F_{target} and biomass below B_{msy} , $B_{trigger}$ and B_{lim} .

ANNEX 3. REQUESTS FROM CANADA FOR COASTAL STATE ADVICE IN 2027
(from SCS Doc. 26/02)

Canada would like to submit its request to the Scientific Council for advice on the following two species:

1. Greenland halibut (Subarea 0 + 1 (offshore))

Canada requests that the Scientific Council monitor the status of Greenland halibut (Subarea 0 + 1 (offshore)), and, should a significant change be observed (e.g., based on results from surveys or commercial catch data), provide updated advice as appropriate, in the same format that was done in 2025 (i.e., updating the risk table in the new NAFO PA framework). A significant change would be considered the realized catch data far exceeding the set TAC level despite normal fishing effort or if the survey index is far below the projected index

2. Northern shrimp (Subarea 1 and Division 0A)

Canada requests that the Scientific Council consider the following options in assessing and projecting future stock levels for Northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in Subarea 1 and Division 0A:

The status of the stock should be determined and risk-based advice provided for catch options corresponding to Z_{msy} in 5,000t increments with forecasts for 2027 to 2029 (inclusive). These options should be evaluated in relation to Canada's Harvest Strategy (2022 revised version attached) and NAFO's Revised Precautionary Approach Framework.

Presentation of the results should include graphs and/or tables related to the following:

- Historical and current yield, biomass relative to B_{msy} , total mortality relative to Z_{msy} , and recruitment (or proxy) levels for the longest time period possible;
- Total mortality (Z) and fishable biomass for a range of projected catch options (as noted above) for the years 2027 to 2029. Projections should include both catch options and a range of effective cod predation biomass levels considered appropriate by the Scientific Council. Results should include risk analyses of falling below: B_{msy} , 80% B_{msy} and B_{lim} (30% B_{msy}), and of being above Z_{msy} based on the 3-year projections, consistent with the Harvest Decision Rules in Canada's Harvest Strategy; and
- Total area fished for the longest time period possible.

Please provide the advice relative to Canada's Harvest Strategy as part of the formal advice (i.e., grey box in the advice summary sheet).

APPENDIX III: PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**Scientific Council Meeting, 29 May – 11 June 2026**

Date	Time	Schedule
29 May (Friday)	0900	Registration, network connection
	0900-0930	SC Executive
	1000-1030	SC Opening
	1030-1200	STACFIS (Catch WG report, status of documentation, interim monitoring reports)
	1200-1330	Break
	1330-1600	STACPUB
	1600-1800	SC/STACFIS
30 May (Saturday)	0900-1800	STACFEN
31 May (Sunday)	No meetings	
01 June (Monday)	0900-1200	STACREC
	1330-1800	STACFIS/SC
02 June (Tuesday)	0900-1800	STACFIS/SC
03 June (Wednesday)	0900-1800	STACFIS/SC
04 June (Thursday)	0900-1800	STACFIS/SC
05 June (Friday)	0900-1800	STACFIS/SC
06 June (Saturday)	0900-1800	STACFIS Reports
07 June (Sunday)	No meetings	
08 June (Monday)	0830-0900	Scientific Council Executive
	0900-1800	Scientific Council (Standing Committee Reports)
09 June (Tuesday)	0900-1800	Scientific Council
10 June (Wednesday)	0900-1800	Scientific Council
11 June (Thursday)	0900-1200	Scientific Council (advice and adoption of reports)

APPENDIX IV: EXPERTS FOR PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF CERTAIN STOCKS

Designated Experts for 2026:

From the Science Branch, Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada

Cod in Divs. 3NO	Rick Rideout	rick.rideout@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
American Plaice in Divs. 3LNO	Laura Wheeland	laura.wheeland@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Witch flounder in Divs. 3NO	Katherine Skanes	katherine.skane@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Yellowtail flounder in Divs. 3LNO	Laura Wheeland	laura.wheeland@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Greenland halibut in SA 2+3KLMNO	Paul Regular	paul.regular@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Northern shrimp in Divs. 3LNO	Nicolas Le Corre	nicolas.lecorre@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

From the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Greenland halibut in SA 0+1 (offshore)	Kevin Hedges	kevin.hedges@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
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From the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Redfish Div. 30	Danny Ings	danny.ings@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
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From the Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Vigo (Pontevedra), Spain

Roughhead grenadier in SA 2+3	Fernando Gonzalez-Costas	fernando.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es
Splendid alfonso in Subarea 6	Fernando Gonzalez-Costas	fernando.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es
Cod in Div. 3M	Irene Garrido Fernández	irene.garrido@ieo.csic.es
Northern Shrimp in Div. 3M	Jose Miguel Casas Sanchez	mikel.casas@ieo.csic.es
Ecosystem Designated Expert 3M	Diana Gonzalez-Troncoso	diana.gonzalez@ieo.csic.es

From the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Biológicos (INRB/IPMA), Lisbon, Portugal

American plaice in Div. 3M	Ricardo Alpoim	ralpoim@ipma.pt
Golden redfish in Div. 3M	Ricardo Alpoim	ralpoim@ipma.pt
Redfish in Div. 3M	Ricardo Alpoim	ralpoim@ipma.pt
Redfish Divs. 3LN	Patricia Gonçalves	patricia@ipma.pt

From the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources, Nuuk, Greenland

Demersal Redfish in SA1	Rasmus Nygaard	rany@natur.gl
Wolfish in SA1	Rasmus Nygaard	rany@natur.gl
Greenland halibut in Div. 1 inshore	Rasmus Nygaard	rany@natur.gl
Northern shrimp in SA 0+1	AnnDorte Burmeister	anndorte@natur.gl
Northern shrimp in Denmark Strait	Tanja B. Buch	TaBb@natur.gl

From Knipovich Polar Research Institute of Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (PINRO), Russian Federation

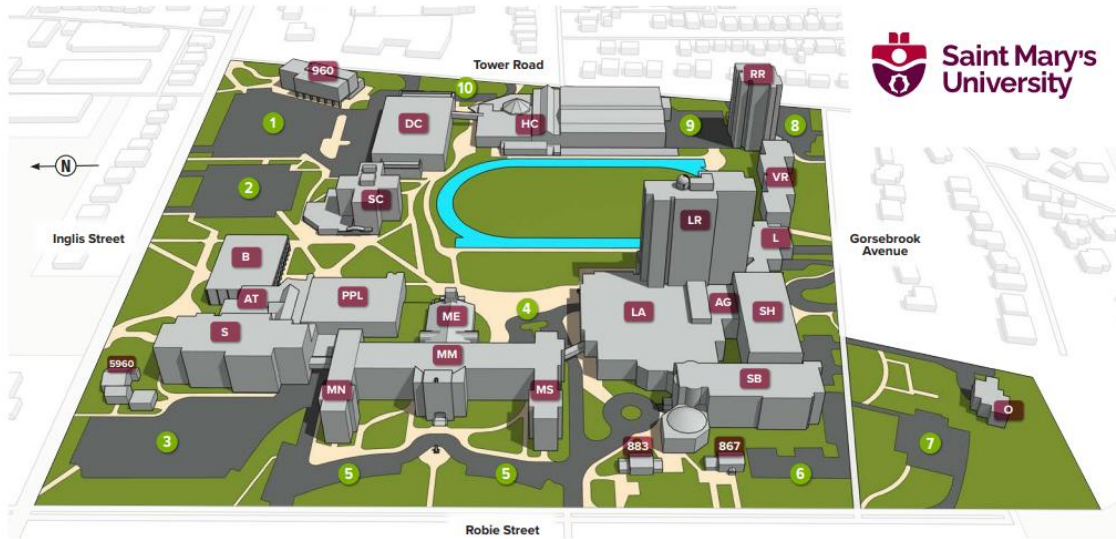
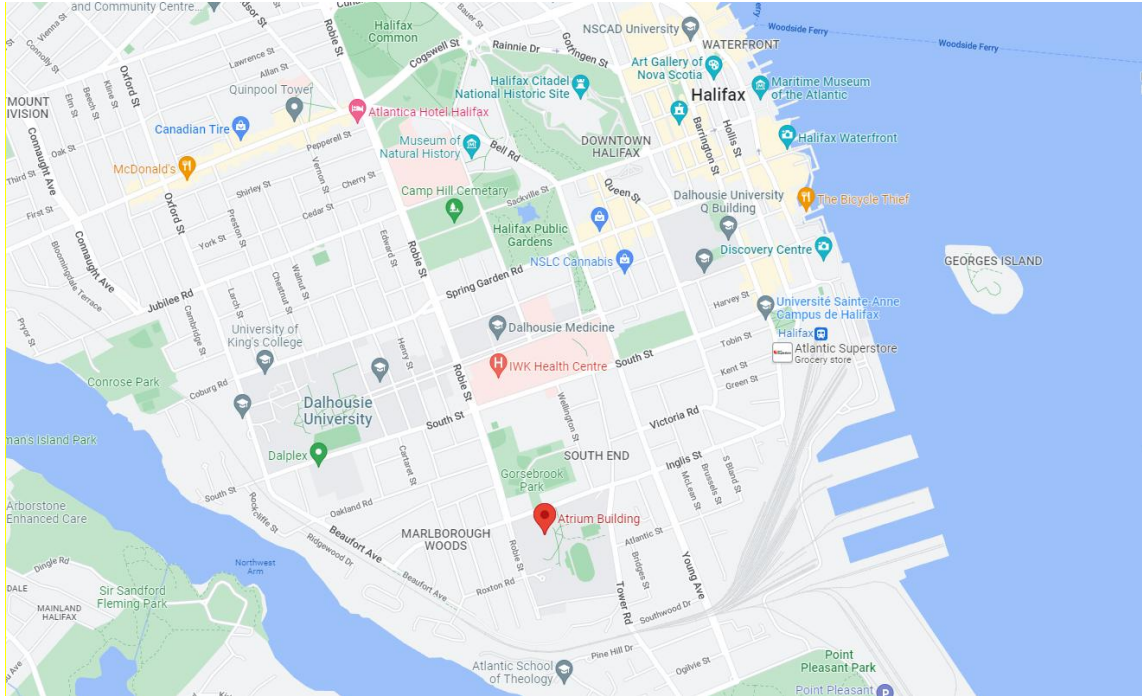
Capelin in Divs. 3NO	Konstantin Fomin	fomin@pinro.ru
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Designated Expert Vacancies

Northern Shortfin Squid in SA 3 & 4	VACANT
Thorny skate in Divs. 3LNO	VACANT
White hake in Divs. 3NO	VACANT
Ecosystem Designated Expert 3LNO	VACANT

APPENDIX V: MEETING VENUE

Map of Halifax showing Meeting Venue
CLARI Hub (AT340), Atrium Building, Saint Mary's University,
903 Robie Street, Halifax, NS, Canada, B3H 3C3



Buildings

AG	Art Gallery
AT	Atrium
B	Burke Building
DC	The Dauphinee Centre
HC	Homburg Centre for Health & Wellness
L	Link Building
LA	Loyola Academic Complex
LR	Loyola Residence
ME	McNally East
MM	McNally Main
MN	McNally North
MS	McNally South

O	The Oaks
PPL	Patrick Power Library
RR	Rice Residence
S	Science Building
SB	Sobey Building
SC	O'Donnell Hennessey Student Centre
SH	Sobey's Inspiration Hub
VR	Vanier Residence
867	867 Robie Street
883	883 Robie Street
960	960 Tower Road
5960	5960 Inglis Street

Parking

1. Arena: General, Meters, Accessible
2. Inglis Street: General, Pay & Display
3. Science: General, Meters, Faculty, Accessible
4. McNally East: Meters, Accessible
5. McNally Main: Faculty, Accessible
6. Sobey/Gorsebrook: General, Faculty, Accessible
7. Oaks: General
8. Rice: General, Meters, Accessible
9. Homburg Members Parking Only
10. Tower Road: Meters, Accessible

APPENDIX VI. ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

Meeting Venue

The meeting will be held at:

CLARI Hub (AT340), Atrium Building,
Saint Mary's University,
903 Robie Street,
Halifax, NS, Canada, B3H 3C3

Hotel Accommodations

Saint Mary's University provides modern, comfortable and affordable residence beds to conference delegates and tourists from May 23 to August 5. This summer, we are pleased to offer single and double dorm-style rooms in our Loyola Residence building, a 22-storey high-rise. You may also book a full 5-bedroom unit at a discounted rate.

You can find more information about SMU accommodations on the University [website](#).

Reservations

Reservations are to be made by participants directly with the University. Reservations can be made by telephone or email; please notify them you are with NAFO when booking:

Toll-Free: 1-888-347-5555 (Canada and US only)
Email: stay@smu.ca

Alternative Accommodations

There are a variety of hotels in close vicinity to the meeting venue including:

Hotel
Atlantica Hotel Halifax - https://www.atlantichotelhalifax.com/ 1980 Robie Street, Halifax, NS B3H 3G5
The Lord Nelson - http://www.lordnelsonhotel.ca/ 1515 South Park Street, Halifax, NS B3J 2L2
The Westin - http://www.thewestinnovascotian.com 1181 Hollis Street, Halifax, NS B3H 2P6

Many people choose to stay in the downtown core of Halifax closer to a greater selection of restaurants and entertainment. You can find a list of accommodations and visitor information on our [website](#).

For those participants choosing not to stay at the meeting venue, Saint Mary's University is conveniently located on several major bus routes.

On-campus dining options

Saint Mary's University has a variety of dining option. A full list of on campus dining options including open times and menus can be found [here](#).

Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

Most travellers need a visa or an [Electronic Travel Authorization \(eTA\)](#) to fly to, or transit through, a Canadian airport. The eTA can be completed online and costs CAD \$7.00. You can find more information about applying for an eTA [here](#).