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FC Request to Scientific Council

Scientific Council is requested to review and comment on the set of plausible operating models to be used in the evaluation of harvest control rules for Greenland halibut in Subarea 2 + Div. 3KLMNO by the FC WG. Two assessment methods are under consideration for conditioning operating models, SCAA and XSA. The operating models conditioned on SCAA should be reviewed by SC to determine their plausibility. A set of operating models conditioned on XSA have already been agreed by SC as plausible representations of the real system (NAFO SCR 09/37). If there are any changes or additions to these XSA-based operating models, SC should also review these.

All the operating models will be based on the same input data as the current base XSA model (CAV – current assessment view).

The use of SCAA in the MSE should be reviewed by the SC. The run referenced as “SCAA w. XSA data” in Figure 7 of SCR Doc 09/25 which used almost identical inputs to the current base XSA model, and the associated documents provide all specifications of the approach. For review purposes, these documents together with two further variants of the SCAA2 run will be provided. Both these variants will use exactly the same inputs to the current base XSA model, with one estimating the slope of selectivity at large age and the other setting this slope to be flat. Requests for possible further analyses regarding SCAA will be developed, if necessary, at the May meeting of the Working Group.

Recognizing the SC work schedule, SC is requested to conduct this review as soon as possible.