



# Northern Cod Working Group

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November 16, 2023



# Outcomes of Northern cod Assessment Framework

- Assessment Framework (CSAS) held October 16-20, 2023
  - The Limit Reference Point (LRP) was updated following model revisions
  - The LRP was set at 40% BMSY in accordance with Precautionary Approach guidelines.
  - Under this new framework, the spawning stock biomass was estimated at 1.16 times the LRP in 2021, with a 71% probability of being above the LRP.
  - The 2024 stock assessment will determine the current stock status.

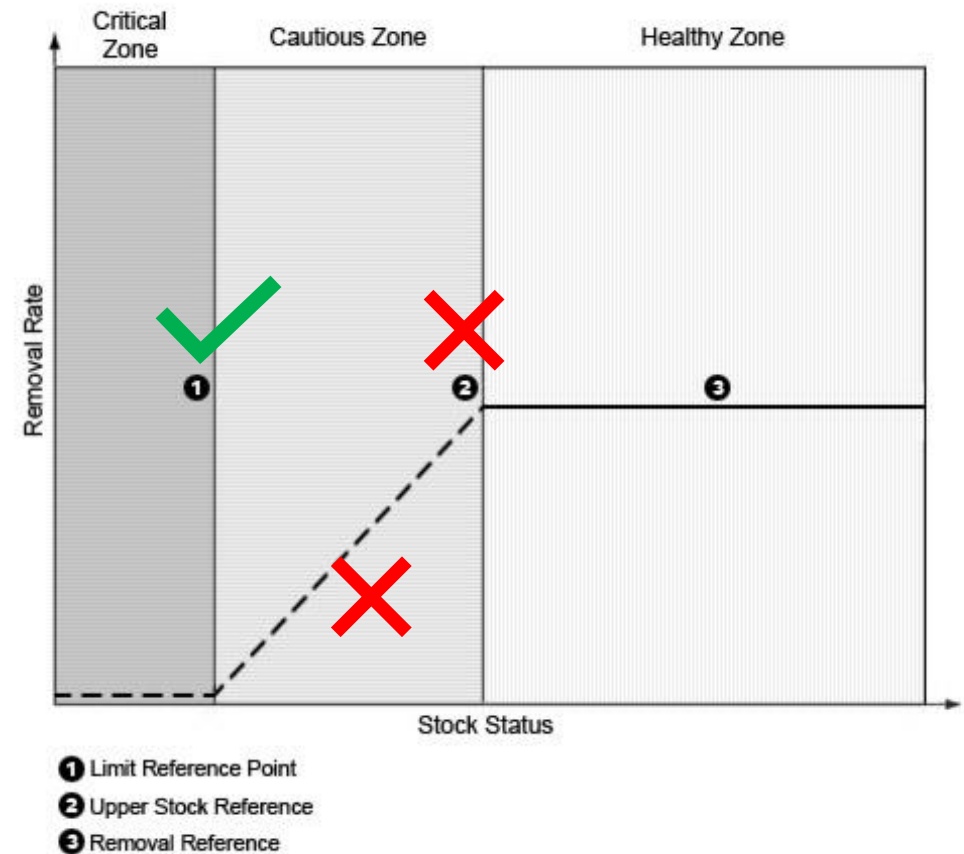
# Status of Rebuilding Plan Requirements for Northern cod

- A RP is required under the Fish Stocks Provisions when a prescribed stock is at or below its LRP.
- The Rebuilding Plan Guidelines consider a stock to be at or below its LRP "*...if the terminal year stock status indicator is estimated to be at or below the LRP with a greater than 50% probability...*"
  - In 2021, Northern cod was below the LRP with a 29% probability

# Next steps for the Working Group

- Working Group to discuss potential components of a PA Framework:

1. Management Objectives
2. Harvest Decision Rule
3. Upper Stock Reference





# Next Steps

- Timing of next meeting TBD
- Next meeting will convene Working Group and seek input on:
  1. Management Objectives
  2. Upper Stock Reference
  3. Harvest Decision Rule