

2J + 3KL Witch Flounder Stock Assessment

Meeting details

Scope

Regional

Region(s)

Newfoundland and Labrador Region

Date(s)

May 19 - 22, 2026

Location

St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

Meeting type

Hybrid

Meeting chair(s)

- Dwyer, Karen

Contact

[Contact the CSAS office](#) 

▼ Terms of reference

Context

The Resource Management sector of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) has requested detailed science advice on the status of 2J3KL Witch Flounder to inform fisheries management decisions for this stock. A [Rebuilding Plan](#) has been in place for this stock since 2022. The status of Witch Flounder in NAFO Div. 2J3KL was last assessed in May 2022 (DFO 2023).

Objectives

Provide advice on:

- Stock status and trends, including the historical and recent trajectory of both stock and fishing indicators. Include stock size relative to the Limit Reference Point and Upper Stock Reference Point.
- The development of a surplus production model as an alternative method for providing advice for this stock.
- Ecosystem and climate change considerations affecting the stock including relevant summaries of oceanographic conditions, biological community structure and trends, and pertinent knowledge of ecological interactions (e.g., predator, prey) and stressors (e.g., anthropogenic impacts).
- Harvest rates consistent with the Harvest Strategy and Decision Rules defined in the stock's Rebuilding Plan.

Expected Publications

- Fisheries Science Advisory Report
- Research Document(s)

Expected Participation

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) (Ecosystems and Oceans Science, Resource Management sectors)
- Provincial Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Indigenous Groups
- Academia
- Fishing Industry

- Fishing Industry
- Non-Government Organizations

References

- DFO. 2023. [Stock Assessment of Witch Flounder \(*Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*\) in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL](#). DFO Can. Sci. Advis. Sec. Sci. Advis. Rep. 2023/012.

Outputs

Science Advisory Report

- Science Advisory Report (Expected)

Research Document

- Research Document (Expected)

Date modified: 2026-04-29