



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | P. Weston Townsend, Vice Chairman

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 24, 2022
To: Chris Moore, Executive Director
From: Jason Didden, Staff
Subject: Review of **2022 *Illex*** Specifications

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish (MSB) Monitoring Committee (MC) reviewed the most recent information available to determine whether modification of the 2022 specifications is warranted. An increase to the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) and associated specifications was recommended, as discussed in the SSC and MC reports. Based on recent years, the in-season adjustment process in the MSB Fishery Management Plan (FMP) should be able to accommodate a change for the 2022 *Illex* fishery. 2023 *Illex* Specifications will be considered later in the year pending the results of the research and/or management track assessments for *Illex*.

The following materials are enclosed on this subject:

- 1) March 2022 SSC Report – See Committee Reports Tab
- 2) MSB MC Report
- 3) MSB Advisory Panel Fishery Performance Report
- 4) *Illex* Fishery Information Document, Council Staff (February 2022)
- 5) *Illex* ABC Staff Recommendation Memo to Chris Moore (March 2022)

