REQUEST FOR PEER REVIEWED SCIENCE INFORMATION AND/OR ADVICE

| Title of Request | ID# (for internal use only) |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Request for CSAP review: Arrowtooth Flounder (Coastwide) | |

Branch Contact

| Name | Title |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Neil Davis | Regional Manager, Groundfish |
| Telephone Number (604) 666-9033 | Email neil.davis@dfo-mpo.gc.ca |
| Region | Sector |
| Pacific | 52000 |
| Directorate 52100 | Branch 52150 |

Request Details

Issue requiring science information and/or advice (i.e., "the question" or "the need"). Posed as a question to be answered by Science. What is the current status of Arrowtooth Flounder stocks relative to the DFO Precautionary Approach reference points? Please include a pictorial of the status of Arrowtooth Flounder relative to the PA policy graph.

Is it appropriate to recommend candidate Limit Reference Points (LRP), an Upper Stock Reference Point (USR) and target reference point (TRP) for Arrowtooth Flounder? If so what would the candidate points be (include biological considerations and rationale used to form these recommended candidate points)? Provide a rationale if the LRP, USR and TRP candidates differ from the PA default reference points

Include decision tables which forecast the impact/risk of varying total fishing mortality levels on future population trends. Please also include long-term trajectory graphs.

This request is consistent with the work on the groundfish strategic assessment plan with respect to prioritizing of species assessments.

Rationale or context for the request: What will the information/advice be used for? Who will be the end user(s)? Will it impact other DFO programs or regions?

Arrowtooth Flounder is a significant species within the groundfish trawl and hook and line commercial fisheries. This is also a species identified by the halibut Marine Stewardship Certification process as requiring assessment. Updated harvest advice is required to determine if current harvest levels are sustainable and compliant with the PA. This will help inform management changes.

Once an accepted assessment is completed, the fishery checklist for this species can be created (if it falls within the decision tree that indicates it is a species that requires a checklist). The management portion for this species has been completed and requires the science portion to be updated.

Additional Information (please be as concise as possible)

