

DRAFT Terms of Reference for Red Hake Stock Structure Research Track
(version: 5/28/19)

1. Review and summarize all relevant literature on the existing stock structure of red hake in the northwest Atlantic.
2. Identify and evaluate any new and/or existing data relevant to the stock structure of red hake including but not limited to the specie's life history (i.e. spawning, distribution, abundance, growth, maturity and natural mortality) morphometrics, genetics.
3. Recommend the most likely biological stock structure among a set of alternatives from TOR2. Consider the current management unit as null hypothesis.
4. Explore the existing assessment model framework based on TOR 3 to apply in a subsequent management track. Propose alternative stock assessment modeling framework to be explored, developed and monitored for peer review in future management track.
5. Identify gaps in the existing research with respect to red hake stock structure. Develop a prioritized list of research recommendations to address these gaps. Comment on the feasibility and time horizon of the proposed research recommendations.