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World's Oceans

March 9, 2026

Joanne Garrah
Assistant Deputy Minister, Ecosystems and Oceans Science
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E6

RE: Atlantic Mackerel Stock Assessment Clarifications

Dear Joanne Garrah,

At the Atlantic Mackerel Advisory Committee (AMAC) meeting that took place on February 25th we learned that the Minister of Fisheries has initiated a last-minute, off-year stock assessment for Atlantic Mackerel. We respectfully ask for answers to the following questions on the assessment:

1. Can you confirm that this off-year assessment will adhere to all standard CSAS process and procedures and will remain open to external scientists and peer review?
2. Can you confirm that the new assessment results will be available to members of the Atlantic Mackerel Advisory Committee prior to a Ministerial decision on the upcoming season?

Thank you for considering our requests. We look forward to engaging in the Atlantic Mackerel Stock Assessment process as CSAS participants.

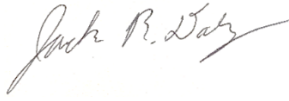
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katie Schleit'.

Katie Schleit
Fisheries Director
Oceans North

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Holly Isnor'.

Holly Isnor
Fisheries Program Manager
Ecology Action Centre



Jack Daly

Marine Scientist
Oceana Canada

CC:

Doug Wentzell, *Regional Director General Maritimes Region*

Adam Burns, *Assistant Deputy Minister Fisheries and Harbour Management*

Corinne Pomerleau, *Acting Regional Director of Science*

Todd Williams, *Senior Director, Resource Management – Operations*

Timothy Hayman, *Regional Senior Fisheries Management Officer*

Caroline Lehoux, *Aquatic Science Biologist*