

Science, Service, Stewardship



Prospectus for National Science Workshop on Implementation of Annual Catch Limits

Richard Methot
NMFS Office of Science and Technology

**NOAA
FISHERIES
SERVICE**



Issues For NOAA and the Councils

- I. Forecast ABC to prevent overfishing (OF)**
- II. Importance of scientific uncertainty in the forecasts**
- III. Quantitative approach is goal, but what about data-poor fisheries?**
- IV. Role of peer reviews and SSCs in assuring that best science is used**
- V. Preventing OF while achieving OY is a trade-off**
- VI. Stock assessments are single-species tactical; but whole ecosystem affects each stock and is affected by each fishery**
- VII. Roles of cooperative research and catch monitoring in implementing efficient and effective programs**



Current Workshop Hierarchy

Managing our Nation's Fisheries

- Large scale, formal, strategic
- Two pre-MSRA; time for a third

National SSC Workshops (2008, 2009, 2010, ongoing)

- Small scale, regional comparison approach, focus on immediate implementation issues
- Complemented by regional workshops

ACL Science Workshop (2011)

- Intermediate scale, forward-looking to 3-7 years
- Prospectus presented here



Proposed Workshop Topics

- **Data needs for conducting assessments. Priorities for new funding.**
- **How to calculate, communicate and respond to uncertainty in assessment results**
- **How to better bring socio-economic and ecosystem considerations into optimum yield specification**
- **Approaches to managing fisheries for the data-poor and/or minor stocks**
- **Using cooperative research to augment the needed assessment data**
- **Efficient and effective relationships among Science Centers, SSCs, and peer review systems in providing and assuring the best scientific information available. Trade-off between frequent updates and in-depth benchmarks.**
- **Improving fishery monitoring programs to assure that stock assessments, ACL monitoring, and catch share programs have the data they need**



Participation

15 NMFS (about 2 per Science Center plus HQ offices)

15 Council (about 2 per Council). Typically SSC chair plus one.

15 external scientists – to be selected from nominees provided by Councils, Commissions and others

Plus registered public audience



Workshop Venue and Format

Feb 15-17, 2011; Crowne Plaza Hotel at Silver Spring, MD

For each topic:

- Trigger questions to be developed**
- 2-3 speakers provide intro**
- Open discussion among workshop participants**
- Scheduled open mic session for audience input**

Summary conclusions will be recorded

Workshop report will be published