



**MID-ATLANTIC**  
FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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ccc12

# Fourth National SSC Workshop

October 4-6, 2011  
Williamsburg, VA

# National SSC IV

- CCC recommended and NMFS approved funding for National SSC IV in January 2011
- Topics to be addressed included EBFM issues and incorporation of social sciences in traditional single species and EBFM
- MAFMC hosted meeting October 4-6, 2011 at Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg, VA

# National SSC IV

- Program Steering Committee was formed along with two program subcommittees to plan National SSC IV agenda
- Dr. John Boreman Chaired Steering Committee and served as workshop chair
- Drs. Jason Link and David Tomberlin chaired the Ecosystems and Social Sciences Program Subcommittees

# National SSC IV: Day 1

- Keynote speaker Dr. Tony Smith, CSIRO Australia – Aussie experiences in EBFM
- SSC Chair Reports and NMFS S&T Assessment Activity Update
- Dr. Lee Anderson - keynote address on role of social science within SSC
- Dr. Brian Wells – keynote on NOAA efforts on Integrated Ecosystem Assessments

*National SSC IV: Day 2*

# Social Sciences Breakout Topics

- Role of social science in SSC process
- Catch shares
- Procedural and data issues

*National SSC IV: Day 2*

# Ecosystems Breakout Topics

- System level OY considerations
- Forage species issues
- Development of EBFM goals and objectives

*Day 3 Social Science Report*

## **Role of Social Science in SSC**

- Development of EBFM goals and objectives may be a point of entry into SSC process
- Wide range of engagement of social scientists in SSCs processes (full engagement to little or none)
- Councils and SSCs need to develop social science Terms of Reference

## *Day 3 Social Science Report*

# Catch Shares

- Catch shares may be a vehicle to achieve community objectives
- Councils need to define community objectives for catch shares (CS) to be successful
  - explicit objectives can inform the design of a CS program
- Existing data may be insufficient for capturing community level impacts

*Day 3 Social Science Report*  
**Data and Procedural Issues**

- Clear need for additional social and economic data
- SSC social scientists should be more engaged in review of Council documents (FMPs, Amendments, FWs; EIS and EA analyses)

## *Day 3 Social Science Report* **Recommendations**

- Develop SS white papers
- Include SS in Council five-year research plans
- Conduct peer review of SS models
- Provide SS training for new council members
- Include SS sections in SAFE documents
- Include social and economic effects on fishing effort when developing ABCs (AP Reports)
- Form working group to build upon National SSC IV discussions

*Day 3 Ecosystems Report*  
**System Level OY**

- System level MSY generally less than the sum of single species MSYs (implies more precautionary F policies may be necessary)
- Need to define “system” carefully
- Better information needed on interactions among species and trophic levels

## *Day 3 Ecosystems Report*

# Forage Species

- Clear need to define forage species; regional approach preferred with some degree of national consistency
- Ways to address include OFL/OY buffers, B thresholds, spatial management, set asides
- Review approaches to estimating biomass of forage as a group for a system
- Explore estimation of forage demand by predators

## *Day 3 Ecosystems Report*

# Goals and Objectives

- Engage Councils concerning goals and objectives; scoping/stakeholder input critical
- Carefully develop transition strategies
- In some regions, need to demonstrate why EBFM is an improvement over current approach

*Day 3 Ecosystems Report*

# Ecosystem Modeling and Management Strategy Evaluation

- Major national investment in ecosystem modeling and MSE analysis is warranted
- Cost effective means of exploring ecosystem structure, function and variability and expected responses to perturbation

*National SSC Workshops*  
**Future Topics**

- Transition strategies to incorporate ecosystem considerations into US federal fisheries management
- Best practices for incorporation of social science into SSC and Council processes including communications
- Develop program for next workshop based on outcome of MONF III scheduled for May 2013

# National SSC IV Report

- Mahalo nui loa. Ninau?