

DRAFT

Using Social and Economic Information in Council decision-making

Overview by Councils



8th Workshop of the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee
August 26-28, 2024

Instructions for presentation

- Please draft your presentation, addressing the questions on Slide 3. Feel free to customize the look! Add visuals!
- Presentation length: 5-6 slides total per region, 5 minutes maximum
- Add your slides to this deck. A placeholder is provided for each region. Order is not set in stone.
- In a comment on your first slide, note who the presenter will be.
- Timeline for completion
 - a. July 29 - first full draft complete
 - b. July 29-Aug 2 - review and comment on the slides from other regions
 - c. Aug 5-9 - finalize your region's slides
 - d. Aug 12 - final draft complete

Other information about SCS8

- Draft agenda
 - <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NHI8QBiaLFt8qS4IbrDoAKIQ0D2sIN0s>
- Draft workshop plan describing SCS8 objective, objectives of each subtheme
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pXA4Xq5_IBFonbCaX1GomU5MGcjmZ9w9eixzss8ccBc/edit#heading=h.20cfs18vjzow
 - See bottom of page 2 for description of the social science sub-theme
- Draft ABC control rule round robin presentation
 - https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Ddx71uMvyJu-mtNK8gDOOrDuCMmXYe2Z/edit#slide=id.g2e2498f13bf_0_20

Questions? Please contact Rachel Feeney rfeeney@nefmc.org

Topics to be covered

- Briefly: How are SSCs using their expertise in the social sciences (people and their knowledge)?
 - Separate subpanel? Integrated in full SSC? Both?
 - What disciplines are represented on the SSC (economics, anthropology, etc.)?
 - How can use of the expertise be improved?
- How are SSCs using social and economic information?
 - When in the management process is it being incorporated?
 - What information is available for the SSCs to review (affected environment, full impact analysis, etc)?
 - For what topics is it being used?
 - Inform ABCs (phased in approaches-new flexibility, concerns about catch stability, buffer from OFL)
 - Other applications, e.g., revision of risk policy, considering risk, ACLs?
- Challenges?
 - What are opportunities and barriers to applying social and economic information? (e.g., availability of information, NMFS policies)
 - If necessary data are unavailable, what is needed to obtain it?

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SSC Social Science expertise and structure

- A. The CFMC SSC currently has 2 members (out of 11) with social science expertise:
 - Walter Keithly - Natural Resource/Fisheries Economist
 - Tarsila Seara - Marine Affairs/Social Scientist

- A. No social science subpanel
 - EBFM Technical Advisory Panel emphasizes the importance of social science integration and works closely with SSC.

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Use of Socio-Economic Data/Information - in regular SSC process

- Not regularly/systematically used or analyzed. But examples exist:
 - Mostly SSC recommendations in response to outside studies (e.g., NMFS) or requests from council staff.
 - *Impacts of area closures on industry (limited by lack of VMS coverage).*
 - *Adjustments of fishery closures (following ACL overages) to minimize economic impacts based on industry input.*
 - Some consideration of social aspects and stakeholder input during the SEDAR process and stock assessment data reviewed by SSC.
 - Informal and ad hoc comments and input from DAP chairs at SSC meetings - at times leading to data analyses to support claims.
 - Information regarding quality of reporting of landings data.

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Use of Socio-Economic Data/Information - other applications

- Collaboration with EBFM TAP currently using social sciences data and information to develop a Fishery Ecosystem Plan and Risk Assessment strategy to be reviewed by the SSC.
- *Conceptual model development - SSC involvement and support.*
- Setting research priorities for the council includes consideration of socio-economic studies and data needs/gaps.

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Use of Socio-Economic Data/Information - main challenges/barriers

- **Lack of systematic social science data streams/collection.**
 - Lack of spatial and temporal trends make most existing social science data “useless” in management driven analyses.
 - PRA constraints for new data collection.
- Lack of planning and data integration at the management level.
 - Nature of the management system (overall quota, area/fishery closures).
 - Increased focus on stock assessment analysis in past few years.

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Use of Socio-Economic Data/Information - opportunities

- EBFM efforts in the region.
- High engagement with the industry and willingness to collaborate.
 - *Establish mechanisms for data collection that addresses management needs and engages stakeholders - data as content and process.*
- Ongoing Strategic Planning efforts lead by SERO to guide the improvement of data collection and management in the U.S. Caribbean.
 - Includes working group on social-science data needs.

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Use of Socio-Economic Data/Information - needs

- Funding and capacity.
- Support and legitimization to create necessary socio-economic data streams.
- Institutional transformation to integrate socio-economic data and information in the decision making process.
- Improved communication and collaboration amongst all parties.