



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**

# HMS Management- Based Research Needs and Priorities



HMS Advisory Panel Meeting  
September 2014

# HMS Management-Based Research Needs and Priorities

On July 10, 2014, NMFS published the HMS Management-Based Research Needs and Priorities document (79 FR 39367)

- Communicates key research needs that directly support Atlantic HMS management
- Contains a list of near- and long-term research needs and priorities
- Priorities range from biological/ecological needs to socio-economic needs
- Complements the HMS Research Plan currently in draft



# Background

- 1<sup>st</sup> draft of HMS Research Plan distributed to AP in Fall 2012
- Draft HMS Research Plan did not meet all AP member expectations
- Creation of the NMFS HMS Research Working Group in Spring 2013
  - Considered how to modify HMS Research Plan
  - Investigated ways to elevate HMS research needs
  - Secured funding to continue VIMS shark survey in 2013 and 2014
- In Spring 2014, NMFS identified Council documents that present a high-level summary of ongoing research needs from a management-perspective
- Using these Council documents as a guide, the HMS Management Division discussed this approach with the HMS AP at the April 2014 meeting

# HMS Management-Based Research Needs and Priorities

- NMFS drafted and published the HMS Management-Based Research Needs and Priorities document on July 10; comments were due August 11
- Two minor comments were submitted
  - Study BFT slot limit and move all socioeconomic research to low priority
  - Research is a waste of tax payer money and only serves commercial interests



Comments can be viewed at:  
<http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketBrowser;rpp=25;po=0;dct=PS;D=NOAA-NMFS-2014-0080>

# Possible Discussion Topics

- Suggestions to improve the usefulness of the document?
- Suggestions to increase feedback?
- Other questions or concerns?
- Next steps
  - Finalize document & post to HMS website
  - Continue internal Agency discussions on HMS Research Plan

Document Link:

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/documents/hms\\_research\\_priorities\\_2014.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/documents/hms_research_priorities_2014.pdf)