Progress Report on Planning the Next National Meeting of the Council Coordination Committee's Scientific Coordination Subcommittee

Members of the Council Coordination Committee's Scientific Coordination Subcommittee (SCS) have met via a series of webinars to plan the next national SCS meeting. The meeting is scheduled to occur on January 17-19, 2018 at the Kona Kai Resort in San Diego, California. The SCS Planning Committee have made progress and offer a proposed agenda focused on three subthemes involving the use of management strategy evaluations (MSEs) to inform management decisions made by the Regional Fishery Management Councils. The three subthemes are 1) Use of MSEs in evaluating and modifying harvest control rules, 2) Use of MSEs in estimating and accommodating uncertainty, and 3) Use of MSEs in adjusting harvest control rules (HCRs) in changing environments / non-static maximum sustainable yield (MSY). Four experts in the development of MSEs will be invited to give presentations at the SCS meeting. The SCS Planning Committee will decide soon on the final list of candidate speakers to support the 2018 SCS meeting.

Candidate Speakers Who Have Confirmed Their Availability

Doug Butterworth, Emeritus Professor at University of Cape Town, South Africa
Ian Cartwright, Commissioner of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, Tasmania, Australia
Sean Cox, Associate Professor at Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, Canada
Dan Holland, National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Seattle, Washington
Kirsten Holsman, National Marine Fisheries Service Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle, Washington
Michael Jones, Professor at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan
Thomas Miller, Professor at the University of Maryland, Solomons, Maryland
Éva Plagányi, Principal Research Scientist at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), St. Lucia, Queensland, Australia
André Punt, Professor at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
Désirée Tommasi, Postdoctoral Research Associate at Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey
John Weidenmann, Assistant Research Professor at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey
Michael Wilberg, Associate Professor at the University of Maryland, Solomons, Maryland

Proposed Agenda

Wednesday, January 17

Welcome, Introductions, Meeting Logistics	8:00-8:30 a.m.
Discussion: meeting expectations and over-arching questions	8:30-9:00 a.m.

1. Use of MSEs in evaluating and modifying harvest control rules (start)

Speakers: 1 biologist, 1 social scientist/economist 9:00-10:20 a.m.

30 min each + 10 min each for questions

break 10:20-10:30 a.m.

1.1 Example applications from each region: recent past, ongoing, and foreseen in the near future; lessons learned 10:30-12:30 p.m.

lunch 12:30-2:00 p.m.

1.2 Clarifying objectives, incorporating stakeholder input, and social/economic evaluation 2:00-3:50 p.m.

break 3:50-4:00 p.m.

Day 1 Synthesis: Findings, recommendations, and outstanding questions 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 18

Recap of Day 1 8:00-8:30 a.m.

1. Use of MSEs in evaluating and modifying harvest control rules (continued)

1.3 Role of MSEs in informing and advancing ecosystem-based fisheries management 8:30-10:20 a.m.

break 10:20-10:30 a.m.

1.4 Multi-year status determinations, assessment frequency, setting ABCs between or without assessments, and phase-in of ABC changes 10:30-12:00 p.m.

lunch 12:00-1:30 p.m.

2. Estimating and accommodating uncertainty (start)

Speaker: 30 min talk + 10 min questions 1:30-2:10 p.m.

2.1 Model selection and multi-model inference (*with midway break*) 2:10-4:00 p.m.

Day 2 Synthesis: Findings, recommendations, and outstanding questions 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Friday, January 19

Recap of Day 2 8:00-8:30 a.m.

2. Estimating and accommodating uncertainty (continued)

2.2 Risk assessment methods (quantitative and qualitative) for evaluating uncertainty in OFLs, stock biomass, and F 8:30-9:50 a.m.

break 9:50-10:00 a.m.

2.3 SSC communication of uncertainty and risk in management decision-making 10:00-11:00 a.m.

3. Adjusting HCRs in changing environments / non-static MSY

Speaker: 30 min talk + 10 min questions 11:00-11:40 a.m.

lunch 11:40-1:00 p.m.

3.1 Modifying HCRs and MSY to adapt to regime shifts and long-term drift in stock productivity 1:00-2:00 p.m.

3.2 Incorporating short-term perturbations in stock productivity into HCRs and rebuilding plans 2:00-3:00 p.m.

break 3:00-3:15 p.m.

3.3 Using MSE to evaluate HCRs that are either robust to or adaptive to changes in stock productivity 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Day 3 Synthesis: Findings, recommendations, outstanding questions, and report writing duties and suggestions for next meeting 4:15-5:30 p.m.