Management
Strategy
Evaluation:
Summer Flounder
Recreational
Discards

#### **Kick-off Webinar & Mock Workshop**



Wrap-up & Next Steps

# What makes decisions hard?



Sometimes you don't know all the possible alternatives



The objectives may be complex or contradictory, or in dispute



The system dynamics may be poorly known



Even knowing all the other components, the solution (optimization) may be difficult to figure out

### Our Vision –

A proactive approach to address opportunities and risks

Co-development of fishery management strategies via...

Structured Decision Making & Management Strategy Evaluation...

A participatory, facilitated process to:

- define our **goals** for the process
- define management decisions
- identify **objectives** to consider
- suggest management procedures
- specify model components
- evaluate **trade-offs** between objectives



## My Role –

# Impartial guidance through the evaluation process

- Current work
  - New England groundfish MSE
- Facilitation Experience 10+ years
  - Management of Fraser River sockeye salmon
  - Atlantic salmon hatchery production and release
  - Cormorant management
  - Adaptation of tidal marshes to sea level rise in San Francisco Bay
  - Conservation of New England cottontail and brook floater
  - Evaluating adaptive management of northern prairies
- Structured Decision Making Experience
  - Expert Certification from the National Conservation Training Center
  - Instructor for numerous courses



Why facilitated
Management
Strategy Evaluation
& Structured
Decision Making?

Fallible common practice & Cognitive biases

#### Fallible common practice

- Jumping to Alternatives
- Active Emotional Brains
- Lazy Reasoning Brains
- Humans didn't evolve in bureaucracies
- Miscommunication

## Potential Sources of Cognitive Discomfort

- Statistics
- Economics

#### **Cognitive Biases**

- Anchoring
- Availability
- Representativeness
- Priming
- Simplification
- Rationalization

Why facilitated
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The Process

#### Structured Decision Making

Prediction, Risk, Mulitple Objective, Resource Allocation, Information, Dynamic

Develop Problem Definition

Decision Makers

(with input from all participants)

Management Strategy Evaluation Prediction, Risk

Identify Objectives

Decision Makers, Stakeholders

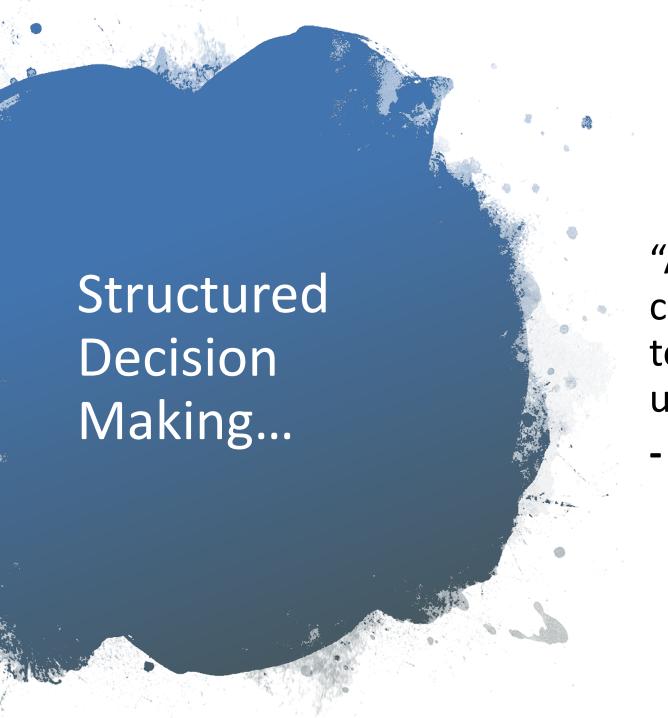
Propose Alternatives
All Participants

Predict Consequences Scientists, Experts

Evaluate Trade-offs Decision Makers, Decision Analysts (with Stakeholder input)

Select Alternative (Decide)

Decision Makers



"A formal application of common sense for situations too complex for the informal use of common sense"

- Ralph Keeney

# Wrap Up & Next Steps

 Will see a follow-up survey asking for feedback on webinar and mock workshop

Seeking interested stakeholders to participate in the summer flounder MSE project

Need consistent commitment throughout process

 Three workshops (format TBD) may begin later in 2020 and into 2021

Anticipated completion early 2022

