



Review and consideration of future SSC membership

Annapolis, MD
December 10, 2019

Quick Overview

- Membership up to 20 members composed of state, federal, academics and independent experts with scientific/technical expertise in biology, statistics, economics, social and relevant disciplines
 - Currently 16 members all reappointed in 2019
- Strategic and comprehensive approach to new members
 - Align membership and expertise with future Council needs and issues



SSC Composition and Expertise

	NE	MA	SA	Gulf	Pac	N. Pac	W. Pac	Carib
State	1	0	5	3	3	4	3	0
Federal	2	2	6	3	11	6	7	5
Academia	8	12	7	10	3	7	6	5
Other	6	2	0	3	1	2	2	0
Total	17	16	18	19	18	19	18	10

	NE	MA	SA	Gulf	Pac	N. Pac	W. Pac	Carib
Assessment/Stats	9	5	8	3	7	5	4	1
Social Science	4	2	3	3	3	4	3	2
Management	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Biology/Ecology	4	9	7	8	7	6	10	2
Other	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	0
Total	17	16	18	17	18	19	18	5

Future Council needs

- 2020 – 2024 Strategic Plan
 - Science and Ecosystem goals
- EAFM guidance document/ecosystem issues
 - Ecosystem considerations and climate-driven implications increase scientific uncertainty and complexity for SSC consideration
 - Implementing and addressing ecosystem initiatives and issues
- NRCC stock assessment process
 - More frequent assessments, peer reviews, ABC recommendations
 - Science and support for research track assessments
- Social and economic considerations
 - Allocation, ecosystem trade-offs, limited-access fisheries, other ocean uses

Conclusions and Staff Recommendations

- Stock Assessment
 - Additional member with quantitative assessment expertise
- Ecosystem, Climate, and Distribution Shifts
 - Additional fisheries biologist/ecologist – genetics, stock structure, ecosystem dynamics/modeling, MSE
 - Additional economist/social scientist – ecosystem modeling, demand modeling to evaluate trade-offs, community structure, rec fishing, fleet dynamics
- Social and Economic Science
 - Additional economist or social scientist – allocation, limited access, offshore wind, management/regulatory implications

Conclusions and Staff Recommendations

- Define role and identify need of social science membership
 - For example
 - Socioeconomic ToR as part of ABC ToRs
 - Input on certain/limited Council actions and activities
- Utilization of SSC liaison, when appropriate
 - Member from other SSC with expertise on topic considered by MAFMC SSC
 - Cross-communication, particularly with Atlantic coast SSCs, on shared issues and common interest

Meeting Outcomes and Next Steps

- Today, identify membership needs and areas of expertise
- Early 2020, nominations for new members that fit those needs and expertise
- Council review nominations and new membership at February meeting
- New members join SSC for March SSC meeting

