Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

NTAP overview

Members

Operations

Questions



Purpose

- Started in 2015
- Joint Council Advisory Panel
- 3 primary objectives:
 - 1. Understanding the existing NOAA/NEFSC trawl survey gear performance and methodology.
 - 2. Evaluating the potential to complement or supplement this and other regional research surveys.
 - Improving understanding and acceptance of NOAA/NEFSC trawl survey data quality and results

NEFSC Bottom Trawl Survey

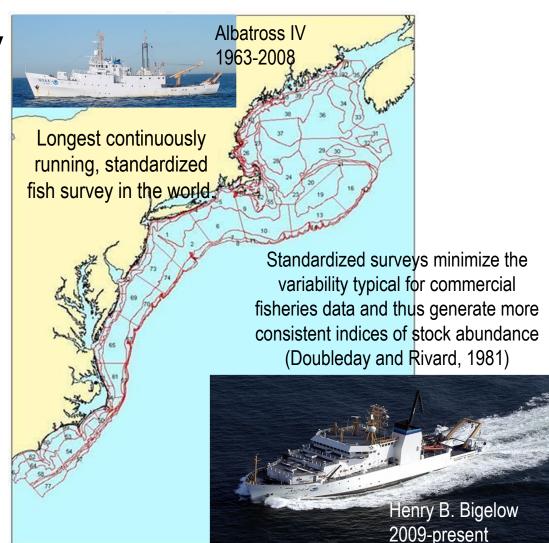
Objectives:

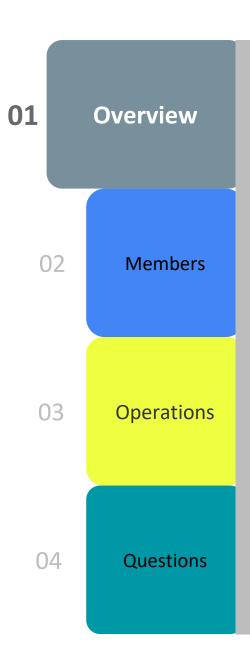
- Monitor trends in abundance, distribution, and life history for demersal fish (informs stock assessments)
- Monitor ecosystem changes (informs status of ecosystem reports, stock assessments and climate assessments)

Survey design: Stratified random

- strata were determined by depth and region
- ~370 station locations randomly selected per season, fall & spring
- # per stratum based on stratum size and variability of catch

	1963-2008	2009-present
Vessel	Albatross IV	Henry B. Bigelow
Net	Yankee #36 trawl (9.1 m/30 ft bridles)	four-seam, 3-bridle bottom trawl (36.6 m/120 ft bridles)
Sweep	Roller	Rockhopper
Doors	450 kg/990 lb Euronet Polyvalent	550 kg/1200 lb Poly-ice oval





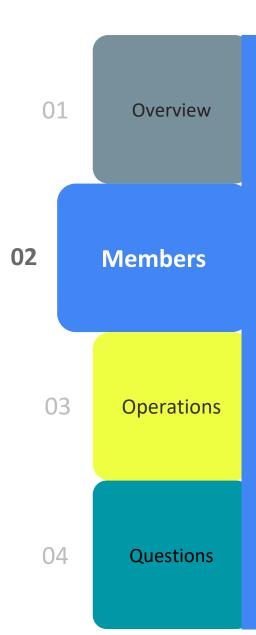
Organization

- 2 co-chairs 1 each from each Council that determine agendas and report back to their respective Coundil
- MAFMC NTAP Coordinator handles communications, meeting minutes, website
- NEFSC Lead works with coordinator and cochairs to follow the charter, plan meetings, prepare information for meetings
- Working Groups a subgroup of NTAP members working on a specific topic
- NEFSC NTAP Team a team of NEFSC scientists that support NTAP



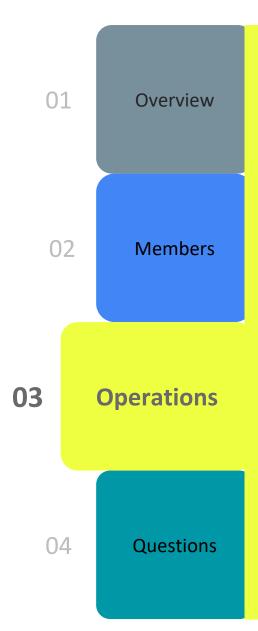
Members

- 20 members
- NEFMC and MAFMC, industry stakeholders, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), nonfederal scientists, and NEFSC, as described in the charter
- Each Council appoints an equal number of members



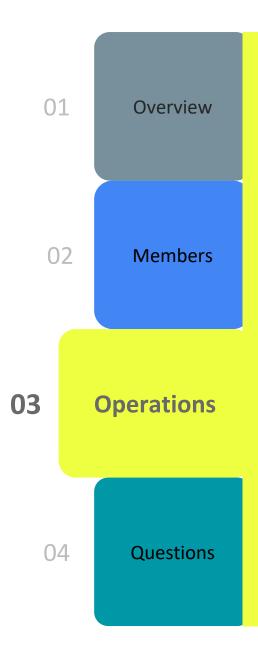
Members

- Appointments are for 1 year
- Members attend at least 3 meetings per year (WG and/or full panels meetings) - in person and via WebEx
 - Costs for attending meetings are covered by MAFMC
- Members should be familiar with email, scheduling, and video conferencing



Operations

- 2-3 Full panel meetings per year. In-person preferred, locations vary throughout the region.
 - Meetings announced in Federal Register
- 3-6 Working group meetings, typically via WebEx
 - Meetings not publicly announced
- Scheduled using polling software like Doodle
- Monthly email updates
- 2 websites: MAFMC maintains the primary operations website; NEFSC maintains a website more focused on science products
- Decisions made by consensus



Operations

- Co-chairs report recommendations to the Councils
- Recommendations also inform NEFSC directly at the meeting
- NTAP develops its own publications -reports and peer-reviewed publications. Members assist with advising and conducting research, drafting research communications, and/or editing communications.

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Key Resources

- NTAP charter
- NTAP website
- NEFSC NTAP website
- Operations Manual and Orientation Document
- MAFMC (Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council). 2021. <u>Statement of</u>
 <u>Organization Practices and Procedures</u> (SOPP) rev. Feb 2021 and other <u>Council</u>
 Policies.
- MAFMC (Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council). Travel Website and 2019
 Guidelines. https://www.mafmc.org/travel
- NEFMC (New England Fisheries Management Council). 2020. <u>Statement of Organization Practices and Procedures</u> (SOPP) rev. 2015 and <u>Operations</u>
 Handbook rev. Feb 2020.
- NEFMC (New England Fisheries Management Council). 2022. <u>Advisory Panel Operations Handbook</u> rev. Feb 2022.
- NOAA Scientific Integrity Policy. 2021. <u>NOAA Administration Order 202-735D.2</u>
- Tables describing which stock assessments use the Rockhopper Catch Efficiency Study resultsare published by the NEFSC NTAP team and posted online: ;there is also a <u>dashboard</u> for NTAP members
- Marine Resource Education Program
- <u>NEFSC Trawl Survey protocols</u> (Politis et al., 2014)
- Overview of the stock assessment process
 - o An <u>overview of how the survey is used in assessments</u> was presented to the NTAP in 2015 by Michael Martin

Upcoming activities

Dec 18 - industry-based survey draft 2 released to NTAP, comments due Jan 7

Feb 8 - NTAP meeting in Alexandria, VA

Spring - complete the Bigelow Contingencies Plan - includes 2-3 working group meetings and document review

Restrictor rope study peer review paper being drafted