

# SCS8 Workshop, August 26-28, 2024

Seaport Hotel, Boston, MA

Meeting Planning Document

**Working DRAFT**

**SCS8 Theme:** “Applying ABC control rules in a changing environment”

## SCS8 Objective

- Provide actionable guidance on how to best support Councils in the management of fisheries, particularly on the use of ABC control rules, given the changing environment.

## Meeting Structure

- The workshop will be in-person. A listen-only webinar option will be offered for plenary sessions, which will also be audio recorded.
- The subtheme sessions could start with a keynote, then case study presentations, small group discussion, then full group report out and synthesis.

## DRAFT AGENDA

**Monday, August 26**

*MORNING (9:00-noon, 3 hours)*

### Welcome/opening remarks (35 min)

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

Welcome

9:10 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Opening Remarks – NOAA Fisheries, NEFMC, SCS chair

### Context Setting: Current approaches to defining ABC control rules and challenges in their application

#### **Topics to be covered**

- Overview of the ABC control rules SSCs currently applied now (Typology, pre-work request).
- Identify how rules integrate ecosystem and social science considerations. Discuss current challenges SSCs face when applying ABC control rules in the context of ecosystem change.
- What are pathways for revising ABC control rules, and what flexibility is there for modification/change?
- What is possible under MSA for the inclusion of social science information in

defining ABCs and in the tactical application of control rules?

**Format**

9:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.	Introduction
9:40 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Overview of the Councils' current ABC control rules
10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	What latitude and pathways are possible within the National Standards for applying social and economic information to the setting of ABCs.
10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Refreshment Break
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Facilitated discussion

*LUNCH (noon-1:00 pm, 1 hour)*

*AFTERNOON (1:00 - 5:00 pm, 4 hours)*

**Sub-Theme 1: Advances in ecosystem science and assessment to inform ABC control rules in a dynamic environment**

**Topics to be covered**

- Actionable ecosystem reports: defining trends, regime shifts, and fish productivity and distribution changes for use in assessment and management
- Advances in analytical assessments that incorporate climate information and time varying stock dynamics.
- Advances in data limited approaches and how we account for dynamic changes in these types of models (single species, stock complexes).

**Format**

1:00 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.	Introduction
1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Keynote: Climate Ecosystem & Fisheries Initiative CEFI/ACLIM
1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Case - Operationalizing the use of ecosystem information in Mid-Atlantic science and management decisions
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Case - Integration of climate information into stock assessment and management; Northeast Climate Integrated Modeling Initiative (NCLIM)
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Case - Spatiotemporal dynamics of reef fishes in the Atlantic Ocean of Southeastern U.S. coast
2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Refreshment Break
2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Breakout group discussions
4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Plenary: Report out and discussion
4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Wrap up: Summary of Day 1 and Day 2 Expectations

**Tuesday, August 27**  
*MORNING (9:00-noon, 3 hours)*

**Welcome/opening remarks**

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- Overview/logistics by Chair/facilitator

**Sub-Theme 2: Application of social science to achieve management goals under dynamic conditions.**

**Topics to be covered**

- Advances in social science: what social and economic information is available to SSCs and how is this information used in decision making?
- How are SSC's using their expertise in the social sciences? How can this be improved?
- Other uses of this information: indirect applications, e.g., revision of risk policy, etc., to inform ABCs (phased in approaches-new flexibility, concerns about catch stability)? ACLs? If required data is unavailable, what is needed to obtain it? How to address in risk consideration? Defining buffer between OFL and ABC.
- Potential value and economic impacts of use of time-averaged Fs

**Format**

8:40 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	Introduction
8:50 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Review of how Councils are using socio-economic data/indicators
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Case - WPFMC'S SEEM Indicators, collecting fishermen's observations
9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Case - Using Quota Prices to Inform Fisheries Management in Gulf of Mexico
10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Case - Socioeconomic impacts of extreme recruitment events, given product market conditions
10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Refreshment Break
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Breakout group discussions
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Plenary: Report out and discussion
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch

*LUNCH (noon-1:00 pm, 1 hour)*

*AFTERNOON (1:00 - 5:00 pm, 4 hours)*

### Sub-Theme 3: Adaptation of reference points, control rules, and rebuilding plans to changing environment

#### **Topics to be covered**

- When to revise reference points in the face of change (triggers, criteria)
- How to define reference points in a dynamic environment (prevailing conditions, dynamic reference points)
- Stock definitions (spatial definitions) and status determinations (Changing status and unknown status)
- Testing robustness of ABC control rules to environmental change (MSE)
- Use of empirical reference points and indicators in the absence of analytical assessments (management of data limited stocks)
- Assumptions and consistency across short-term and long-term projections

#### **Format**

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Introduction
1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Keynote - Harvest strategies for climate-resilient fisheries
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.	Case - Temperature-dependent recruitment and dynamic harvest-control rules for Bering Sea walleye pollock. This case study has been developed as part of ACLIM2.
1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Case - Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic winter flounder reference point revisions & ABC consequences
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Refreshment break
2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Case - Sardine harvest control rules under climate change (Future Seas)
2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Case - Low recruitment in SE fisheries and impacts on rebuilding scenarios and catch level recommendations
3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Case - Reconsidering use of the P* ABC control rule by the GOMFMC
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Case - Use of empirical approaches (e.g., LEK) to set reference points and ABC
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Breakout group discussions
4:30 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.	Plenary: Report out and discussion
4:50 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Closing Day 2 and Day 3 Expectations

**Wednesday, August 28**  
*MORNING (9:00-noon, 3 hours)*

**Format**

9:00 a.m. - 9:10 a.m.	Welcome & Overview of Day 3
9:10 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Closing Keynote?
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Identify key actionable outcomes from subthemes
10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Refreshment break
10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Synthesis - Identifying actionable outcomes and next steps; Pathway for actions to move forward; Expectations after the meeting and follow up work

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