



Program Reviews: Improving Our Science

NOAA
FISHERIES

Office of
Science and
Technology



January 2014

NOAA Fisheries Science Program Review

Sound science is critical for managing the nation's fisheries and protected species. To maintain world-class science, NOAA Fisheries:

- Started a systematic 6-yr peer review cycle in 2012
- In FY12 developed Strategic Science Plans for each Fisheries Science Center and the Office of Science and Technology
- During FY13-17 will annually conduct external peer reviews of each Center and OST's science programs

NOAA Fisheries Science Program Reviews

- Peer review provides:
 - Scientific exchange
 - Feedback
 - Standardization and advancement of science
 - Guidance for science investment
- Peer reviewers are:
 - Independent experts in the topic area
 - Unassociated with the science center
 - Free of conflicts of interest
- Reviews provide time for public comment



NOAA Fisheries Science Program Reviews

Steps in the Review Process

1. National Terms of reference for each year's review developed by the NOAA Fisheries Science Board
2. Terms of reference tailored to each Science Center's specific areas
3. Expert reviewers proposed, approved by NOAA Fisheries AA
4. Week-long review conducted
5. Panel oral report out at end of review
6. Reviewers provide written reports detailing observations and recommendations
7. Science Directors respond to reviewer recommendations
8. National report developed, providing a synthesis across all reviews
9. Follow-up on actions to address recommendations

NOAA Fisheries Science Program Review

First 6-year cycle of annual reviews cover these topics:

- Year 1 - Strategic planning (FY12)
- Year 2- Data collection and management under MSA (FY13)
- Year 3 - Stock assessment methods under MSA (FY14)
- Year 4 - Protected resource science
- Year 5 - Climate and ecosystem science
- Year 6 - Economics and social science



NOAA Fisheries Science Program Reviews 2014

Tentative Schedule:

- AFSC: Mar 24-28 (Seattle)
- PIFSC: May 19-23 (Honolulu)
- NEFSC: May 19-23 (Woods Hole)
- NWFSC: June 9-13 (Seattle)
- SEFSC: July 8-11 (Miami)
- SWFSC: July 28 - 31 (La Jolla)
- S&T: Sept TBD (Silver Spring)



More Information at:

<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/science-program-review/>

