

MRIP Transition Team: Atlantic and Gulf Subgroup

FINAL Summary

January 30, 2015

Anson, Bagwill, Bell, Carmichael, Errigo, Kelly, Knowlton, Lee, Methot, Rago, Strelcheck, Tromble, Turner, Van Voorhees, Wright

This week's conference call was brief, with the group reviewing the previous meeting's notes. The group was emailed a draft outline for the Transition Plan report for review. Chris Wright gave an overview of the outline (see below) as well as clarification to a few sections. The group gave suggestions to provide 'lessons learned' from all of the previous MRIP calibrations and improvements, not just for the current re-calibration of the Access Point Angler Intercept Survey. Additionally, once there is a draft report, it was suggested that we reevaluate the order of each section. It was also expressed that some members still feel that it is necessary to give a consensus opinion for which method to move forward with, not just report the percent support for each. However, Van Voorhees noted that it may not be possible to have a clear consensus, however ideal. Lastly, when finalizing this report, the group will need to determine if there is a need to include a budget for face-to-face meetings or external consultant support. The goal is to have a draft report to the group for initial review in two weeks.

Van Voorhees proposed that for the February 6 call that we divide into two groups to outline a stock assessment schedule/timeline and a management actions schedule/timeline; with the appropriate members dividing based on their expertise. All agreed that this was a good idea. Additionally, the two groups will also prioritize the species list for stock assessment timing and this will be combined during the February 13 meeting when the whole group reconvenes. The ranking of stocks will be on a 1-3 scale (1=High, 2=Moderate, 3=Low). Andy Strelcheck will be leading the management discussion and Paul Rago will lead the stock assessment discussion.

DRAFT REPORT

Transition Plan for the Marine Recreational Information Program Fishing Effort Survey

- I. Executive Summary
- II. Introduction and Purpose
- III. Description of Methods
 1. One year calibration with fine tuning in second and potentially third year
 2. Two year calibration with fine tuning in third year
 3. High-level timeline for both options
 4. Percent support for each option
 5. Decision points
- IV. Potential Stock Assessment Impacts and schedule
 1. Foresee four scenarios: 1) easy addition and general update assessment after one year, 2) triage of high impact species, 3) regional split in timeline, or 4) two years or longer to calibrate
- V. Potential Management Impacts and schedule
- VI. Identification of unknowns at this time
- VII. Lessons Learned from Improved Catch Survey Implementation
- VIII. Appendices
 1. Pros and Cons Table
 2. Key Stocks Table – prioritized
 3. Communications Strategy
 4. Gantt Charts with descriptive timeline
 - a. Benchmark
 - b. Calibration development and review
 - c. Stock assessments
 - d. Setting of projections/ACLs
 - e. Approval and review process for Transition Plan, calibration method
 5. Description of potential simulations