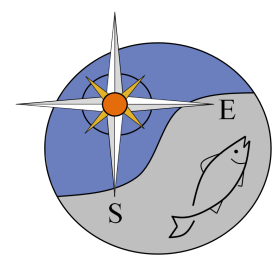


Overview of the SEDAR Process

GMFMC SSC Meeting
August 2021
Julie A. Neer

sedarweb.org





SEDAR Goals

- Robust and **transparent** assessments
- Stakeholder involvement in the assessment process
- Reliable and scientifically rigorous assessments
- Independent peer review of assessment products
- **Timely** assessment products
- **Thorough** documentation of methods and data
- Appropriate consistency in documentation, assessment approaches, and treatment of uncertainties



Limited Resources Challenge

TRANSPARENT

Research Track

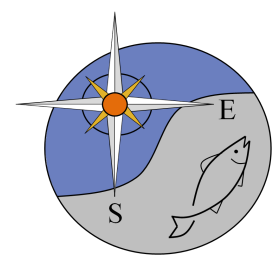
Pick
any 2

THOROUGH

TIMELY

**Operational
Assessments**



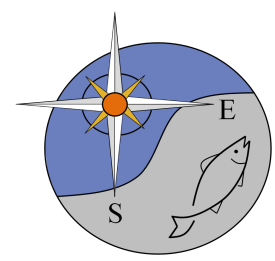


Research Track

Research Track (THOROUGH and TRANSPARENT)

- Develop a tool: models & methods
- Test hypotheses, explore new ideas for stocks
- Implement new methods and new data streams across stocks
- No status or fishing levels provided
 - **Removes reliance on most recent data**
- Not open-ended
 - Assessments can't become research projects
- Allow project team flexibility to develop a feasible plan
- SSC involved in all stages of the process





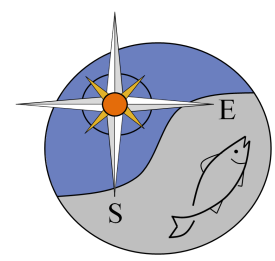
SEDAR is a sequential recommendation-making process

Most Research Tracks consist of four stages:

- Stock Identification
- Data review and preparation
- Assessment modeling
- Review

An Assessment Development Team (ADT) is convened for each Research Track

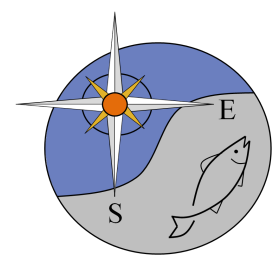




Assessment Development Team

- Group of individuals appointed by the Cooperator
- Attend Data and Assessment workshops
- Participate in consensus decision making
- Contribute analyses as needed (based on expertise, especially if added to the working group to help with a specific analytical area)
- Contribute to report preparation
- Present to RW as needed



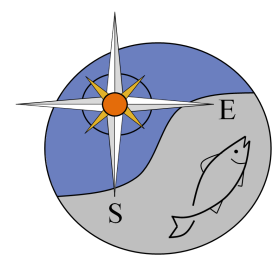


Research Track Stock ID

Stock ID Process

- First step in Research Track
- Terms of Reference
- Stock ID Panel consists of Council and NMFS appointed personnel
 - Likely includes SSC, State, and University representatives
 - Panel often subdivided into Working Groups depending on expertise and interest
- Data Scoping Webinar, several Plenary Webinars to review Working Group recommendations
- Panel tasked to provide Stock ID recommendation for upcoming Research Track

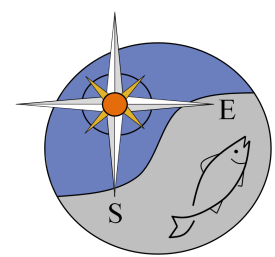




Research Track Data Process

- Known data sets may be considered for inclusion
- Usually include: Life History information, Landings statistics, and Indices of abundance
- DW work groups make recommendations, prepare report sections and documentation
- Decisions made in full plenary, with Assessment Development Panel members responsible for developing consensus recommendations as needed

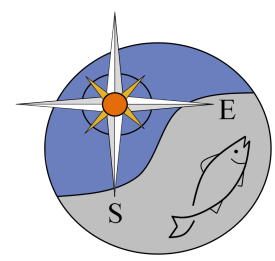




Research Track Assessment Process

- Key task is to develop assessment model
- Analytic team works with ADT to determine a base configuration
- May examine hypothesis using data prepared during the Data Process
- Characterize and evaluate uncertainty
- Document methods, configurations, initial results
- Report produced by analytic team, with help of the ADT as needed
- No management advice is produced



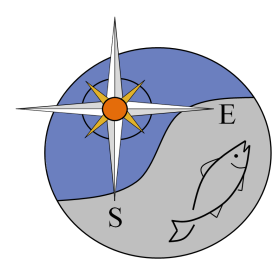


Research Track Review Process

- **Goals:**

- Evaluate the quality and applicability of:
 - Input data
 - Modeling techniques
 - Model assumptions and uncertainty
 - Parameter values
- Recommend most appropriate model scenario
- Research recommendations
- No discussion of management implications
- Address and evaluate the assessment provided



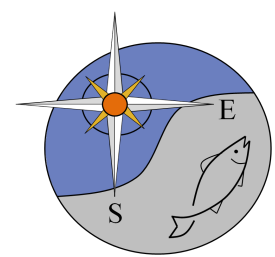


Operational Assessments

Operational Assessment (THOROUGH & TIMELY)

- Update the accepted research-track assessment with the latest data
- Provide the management information
- Status and fishing levels provided
- Default approach for follow-up assessment
- SSC members may participate in Topical Working Groups, if needed
- Review conducted by SSC

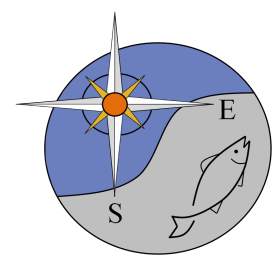




SEFSC Intent for Operational Assessments (OA)

- Operational assessments are based on previous benchmark or research-track assessments that have already undergone independent peer review.
- Therefore, unless there is a justified reason for making changes to the model or data, OAs should normally be limited to updating the existing assessment framework with the most recent data and only minor modifications in the framework and supporting information.
- Scope of OAs defined by Statement of Work



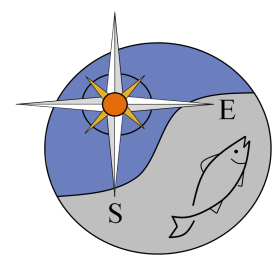


OA Topical Working Groups

Topical Working Groups (TWG) are groups assembled to discuss and make recommendations on specific topics identified in the Statements of Work (SoW)

- Comprised of members of the SSC, stakeholders, and other technical experts
- May meet via webinars or in-person workshops; process recommendation should be included in the SoW

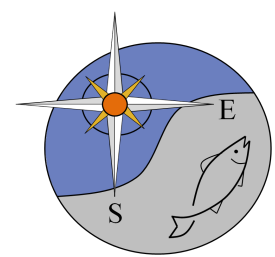




OA Topical Working Groups

- May utilize a Planning Team-style approach to facilitate some of their discussion
- Will produce a written report (SEDAR Working Paper) documenting their discussions and recommendations
- TWGs will be organized within the SEDAR Process, as that process it is already set up to handle Cooperator appointments, notices, meeting and webinar logistics, etc.

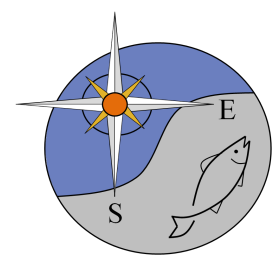




OA Topical Working Groups

- Timing of the TWG needs to be such that the report documenting the discussions and recommendations is available in time for the analytic teams to incorporate the information into the assessment.
- Not all Operational Assessment will have TWGs

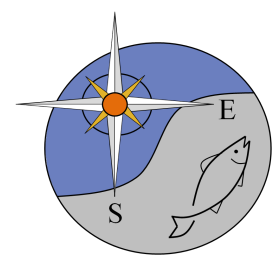




SSC Roles in Operational Assessments

- **Provide Guidance on Issues for Consideration in the Statement of Work**
- **Participate in the Topical Working Groups**
- **Review the Assessment Report**





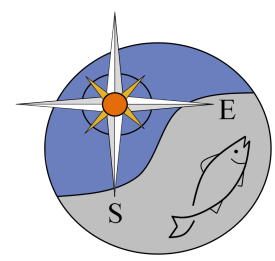
SSC Roles in Operational Assessments

Provide Guidance on Issues for Consideration in the Statement of Work

Clear and detailed SoWs are required for OAs

- Defines scope of assessment
- Clarifies expectations
- Critical for scheduling





SSC Roles in Operational Assessments

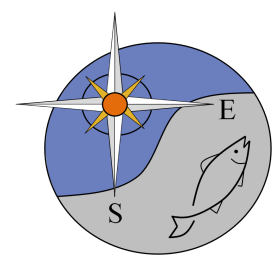
Provide Guidance on Issues for Consideration in the Statement of Work

Identify possible issues that need a TWG

- What new information is available?
- Suggestions on who should participate?

Recommend topics that the SSC would like examined
but do not require a TWG





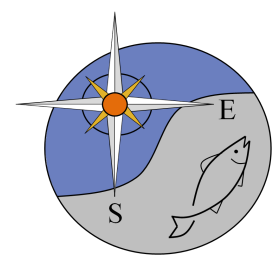
SSC Roles in Operational Assessments

Provide Guidance on Issues for Consideration in the Statement of Work

Possible items may include:

- new data sets to be considered
- new modeling techniques that have been used in other assessments which may be useful for the assessment under consideration
- request for further analysis that the SSC or review panel found lacking during the last assessment





SSC Roles in Operational Assessments

- **Review the Assessment Report**



Thank you

Questions?

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