

Sustainable Fisheries Committee: Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab E

Agenda Item IV: A brief introduction on how management strategy evaluation can address key challenges before the Council

Timeline Status: Presentation and discussion

Council input and next steps: Dr. John Walter (Southeast Fisheries Science Center [SEFSC]) will present an introduction to Management Strategy Evaluations (MSE) and discuss how this process can help address some key challenges. The overview includes examples from the recent ICCAT Bluefin Tuna MSE and ongoing efforts across the Southeast. The Council should review the material, ask questions and provide feedback for consideration of next steps for utilizing MSE's in the Gulf. During the May SSC meeting there will be a whole day devoted to discussion of MSE's. The Committee should pose any questions and raise issues it would like to be addressed during that session. The Ecosystem Technical Committee is scheduled to meet April 19-20th to discuss the Fishery Ecosystem Issues (FEIs) and next steps for the Gulf Fishery Ecosystem Plan. This will also provide an opportunity for feedback and prioritization of the FEIs that may lead to a larger MSE effort in the Gulf.

Agenda Item V: Overview of Potential Options for Regulatory Streamlining

Timeline Status: Discussion

Council input and next steps: Council staff will present a draft white paper on potential options for regulatory streamlining. The document provides a synthesis of recent regulatory actions completed between 2017 and 2021. Time intervals between the initiation of Gulf regulatory actions and the date the corresponding rules rule(s) implementing the actions became effective were considered. The document provides examples of framework actions developed by the Gulf Council that may be utilized in the future for automating catch advice from stock assessments or interim analyses approved by the Council's SSC. The Committee should ask questions and provide feedback to staff for future development if desired.

Agenda Item VI: Factors to Consider for the Inclusion of Species in Federal Management

Timeline Status: Presentation and discussion

Council input and next steps: Council staff will give a presentation on factors to be considered by the Council when evaluating whether the inclusion of a species in Federal management is warranted. Tripletail and African pompano will be used as examples to support the Committee's discussion. The presentation will also highlight steps that could be considered while evaluating the potential inclusion of a species in federal management. The Committee should review the information presented and recommend next steps, as warranted.

Agenda Item VII: SSC Report on Allocation Approaches Presentation

Timeline Status: Discussion

Council input and next steps: Dr. Nance will review SSC comments and recommendations provided in response to Dr. John Ward's presentation on an alternative allocation approach based on a simulation model that could include economic, biological, social, and ecological factors. The Committee should discuss the information presented, ask questions, and could consider the method presented and comments provided during its future allocation deliberations.

Agenda Item VI: Other Business

Timeline Status: Potential Additional items

Council Input and Next Steps: Additional items may be brought up for discussion by the Committee, time permitting. If the Committee wishes to pursue action, then action can be scheduled at a future Council meeting.
