Outline

- Purpose and Need
- Research Steering Committee’s Organization
- Research Steering Committee’s Responsibilities
- Research Participants
- Research Review Process
- Questions and Answers
Purpose and Need

- Provide assistance to the Council:
  - Identify and prioritize research needs in the region
  - Integrate research needs of fishery managers with the current and future research efforts
  - Ensure that relevant research results are utilized by the management process
- Improve relationships with the fishing industry and scientific and management groups
  - Emphasis on cooperative / collaborative research
  - Foster better understanding and trust of research results used in management decisions
RSC Organization

- Comprised of at least 12 members
  - 4 voting Council members, 1 NEFSC staff, 1 GARFO staff, 2 fishery scientists, four fishermen, 2 reserved positions from the conservation community and academia
- Two-year terms are renewable
- Experience and expertise in fishing, fisheries science and research, and/or fisheries policy
RSC Responsibilities

- Review preliminary and final reports on completed research projects
- Establish a peer review, or alternate review process for research reports, if necessary
- Annual review of research priorities
- Inform Council on research-related issues relevant to a specific FMP, or other resource management issues (i.e. habitat)
- Review concept papers and final research proposals submitted in response to NMFS’ RFPs
- Identify sources of funding for cooperative research projects
Research Participants

- Northeast Consortium
  - Univ. of NH, Univ. Maine, MIT, WHOI
- NMFS Northeast Cooperative Research Program
- RSA Programs
- Collaborations
  - Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation
  - Gulf of Maine Research Institute
  - Virginia Institute of Marine Science
- Fishing vessels participating through EFPs and LOAs
RSC Research Review Process

1. Project Final Report
2. Technical Review
3. RSC Review
4. RSC Recommendation to Council
5. ExComm / Council Approval
6. Use of data/findings by OSC, PDT, AP, SSC, Council
7. Agency Reg
8. Council Approval
9. Management Action (FW, Amend)
Review Criteria / Comments

- Sufficiently rigorous technical review?
- Accomplish stated goals and objectives?
- Project data/deliverables available for use by the PDTs, SSC?
- Project results applicable to management?
- Address needed mgmt. measure or offer an innovative solution?
- Support past work and/or provide new information?
- Further work needed to validate results?
- Suggestions for further investigation?
- Broader field testing through EFPs?
- What group is the appropriate end-user?
- Caveats about use of the information?
Questions?

Contact Information
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Thank You
Request for Proposal
Groundfish Collaborative Research

- Deadline for proposals: **October 24, 2014**
- Proposals will be evaluated based on relevance to:
  - Investigate strategies to access closed areas to target haddock without adverse effects to GOM cod, GOM and GB yellowtail, GOM and GB windowpane. Also reduce adverse impacts to habitat.
  - Gear engineering research to **minimize flatfish bycatch**
  - Quantify recreational **haddock discard mortality rate**
  - Investigate methods to avoid **bycatch of flatfish**
- Proposals accepted from fishing industry, managers, scientists
- For more info, contact Chris Glass (603) 862-0122, or email chris.glass@unh.edu
Outline

- Purpose and Need
- Research Steering Committee’s Organization
- Research Steering Committee’s Responsibilities
- Research Participants
- Cooperative Research Projects
- Research Proposals: evaluation criteria
- RFP for groundfish cooperative research
- Questions and Answers
Cooperative Research Projects

- **Long-term:**
  - Fishery-dependent surveys
  - Study Fleet (Fishery-dependent)
  - Cod tagging program

- **Short-term**
  - Funded annually through grants and contracts
  - Use of fishing gear technology to study commercial stocks, habitat, and bycatch species
Research Proposals
Evaluation Criteria

- Appropriate scientific method
- Probability of research success
- Experience of Principal Investigators
- Level of industry collaboration
- Applicability to fisheries management decision
- Cost efficiency
RSC Research Review Process

Project Final Report

Technical Review

Agency Reg

Agency EFP / Sector Exemp.

RSC Review

RSC Recommendation to Council

ExComm / Council Approval

Use of data/findings by OSC, PDT, AP, SSC, Council

Management Action (FW, Amend)

Council Approval

Council Approval

Council Approval (FW, Amend)