



# Best Scientific Information Available – Draft Document

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June 2017

# Best Scientific Information Available

## Outline

Objectives

Challenges

General Steps

Request & Status

# OBJECTIVES

## Best Scientific Information Available (BSIA)

- BSIA criteria from NS2 Guidelines
  - Relevance, inclusiveness, objectivity, transparency and openness, timeliness, verification and validation, and peer review, as appropriate

## Our requests

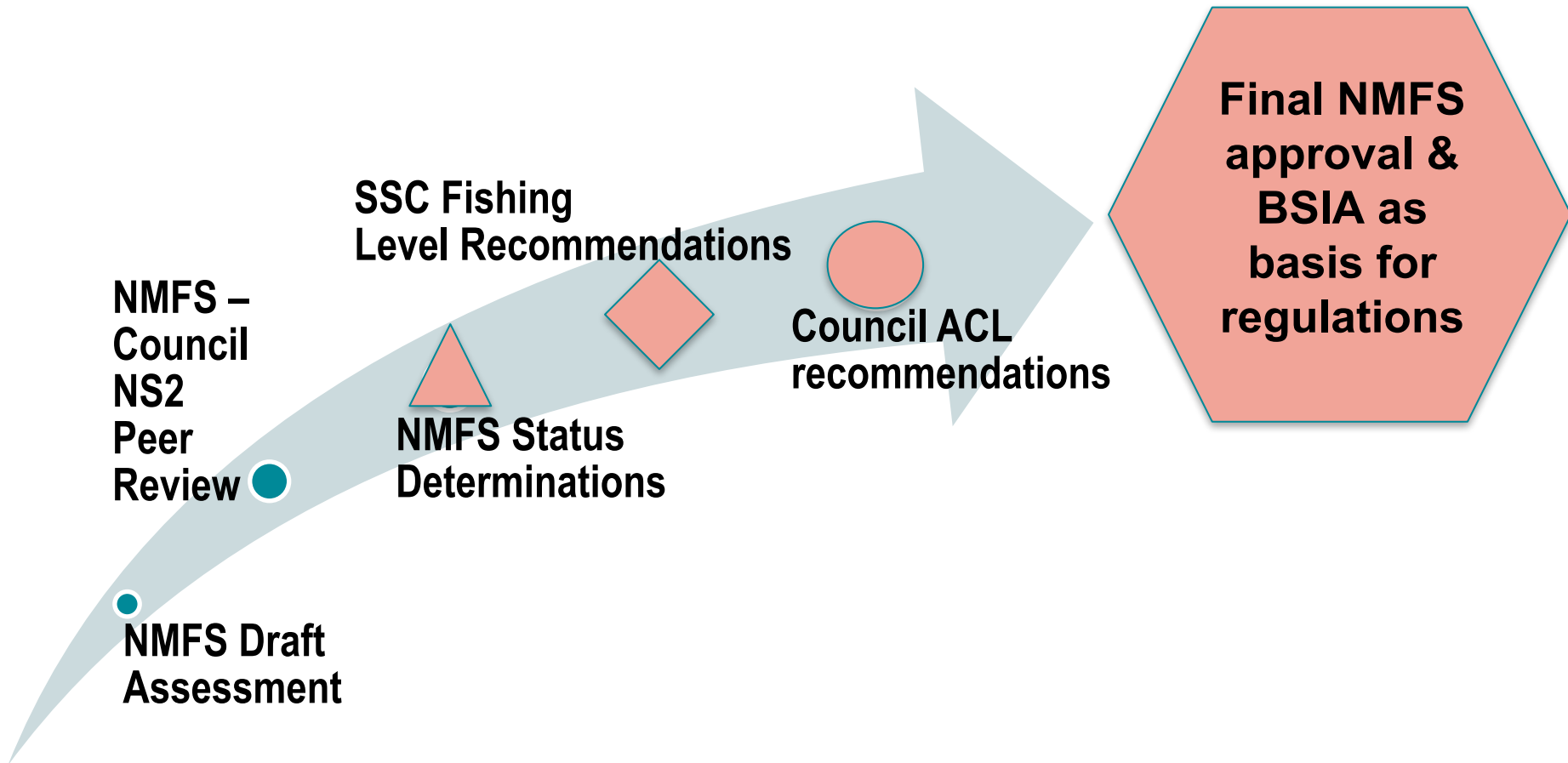
- Short-term: evaluate proposed BSIA process
- Longer-term: document regional process

# OBJECTIVES

## Fishery management must be based on BSIA

- Document aims to:
  - Describe BSIA certification process for stock assessments to support:
    - ▲ Stock status determination
    - ◆ Fishing recommendations (OFL & ABC)
    - Harvest specifications (ACL)
- Identify roles & facilitate **coordination** with SSCs

# National Standard 2: Best Scientific Information Available – BSIA



# BSIA-RELATED CHALLENGES

- Coordination of peer review, status determination, & fishing limit specification
- Decision to use some or all results of an assessment
  - Assessment may represent BSIA for one or more mgmt. decision (overfished/ing, OFL/ABC, ACL)
  - Multiple models may be under consideration
  - SSC may have different perspective than NMFS or peer review on aspects of the assessment

## BSIA-RELATED CHALLENGES

- When in the process BSIA is firmly decided
- SSC role in contributing to NMFS' BSIA determination
- How the BSIA determination is documented

**Goal:** address challenges; establish process that is

- Well understood (who does what, when...)
- Transparent and documented
- Well coordinated

# GENERAL STEPS

**Draft Stock Assessment**



**Regional Peer  
Review (NS2)**



**Final Assessment\***

B2 BSIA Presentation, CWerner - June 2017

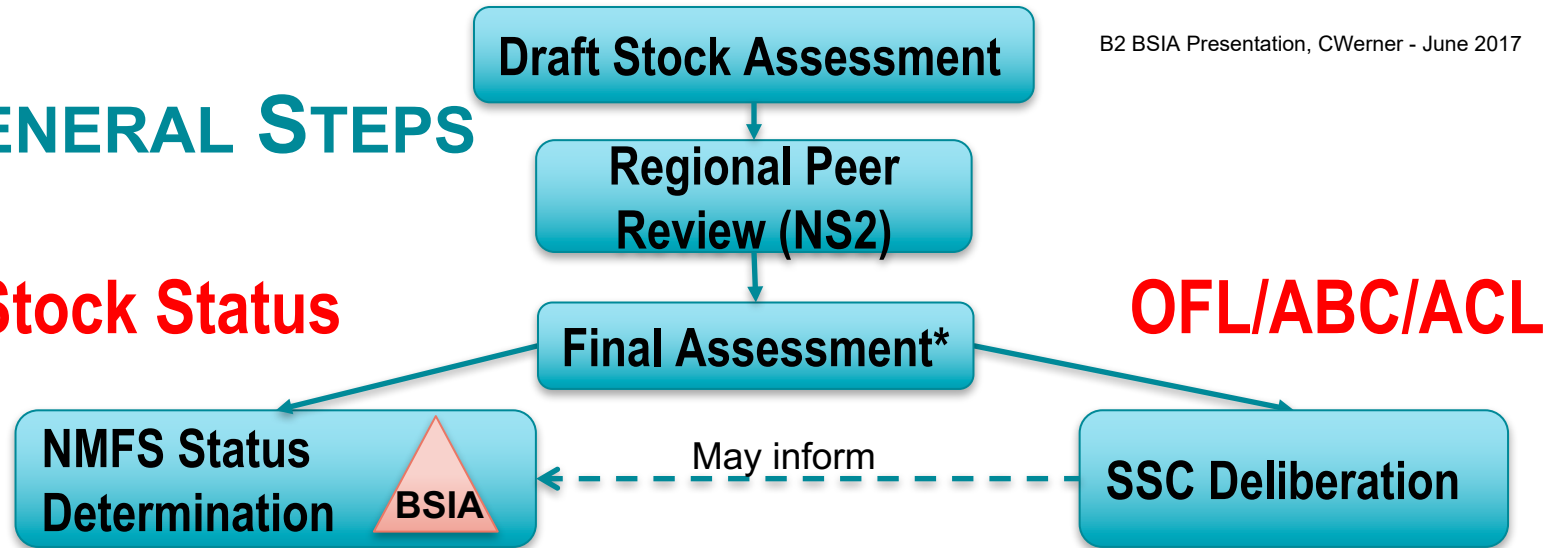
\*Science centers may certify final assessments as BSIA



## GENERAL STEPS

**Stock Status**

**OFL/ABC/ACL**



### 4 aspects evaluated for BSIA

1. Overfishing
2. Overfished
3. Catch level
4. Amendments (SDC, harvest policy, rebuilding plan)

**Ultimately, NMFS makes final BSIA declaration.**

\*Science centers may certify final assessments as BSIA

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**OFL/ABC/ACL**

NMFS Status  
Determination

BSIA

May inform

SSC Deliberation

NMFS SD Notification  
to the Council

SSC Fishing Recomm.  
(OFL & ABC)

BSIA

Council ACL and Proposed  
Mgmt. & Amendments

BSIA

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NMFS Approval with NS  
Certification

Final  
BSIA

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# REQUEST & STATUS

## Request

- Evaluate and discuss proposed process
- Is it feasible? Is current process different?

## Further agency review and revision

- Estimate 1-2 months before next version
- Distribute for Council review
- Request: conduct review and discuss at Council meeting
- Provide 3-4 months for comments

# BEST SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE

## Points of contact

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- Available for discussions & questions (email, phone, in person)

# Thank you!

