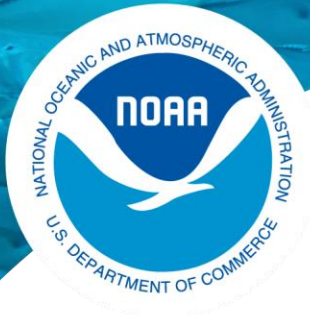


# Program Reviews: Improving NOAA Fisheries Science



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

Office of  
Science and  
Technology



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# NOAA Fisheries Science Program Review

- First 6-year cycle of annual reviews cover these topics:
  - Year 1 - Strategic planning (FY12)
  - Year 2 - Data collection and management under MSA (FY13)
  - Year 3 - Stock assessment methods under MSA (FY14)
  - Year 4 – Protected species science (FY15)
  - Year 5 – Climate-ecosystem science
  - Year 6 - Economics and social science



**2013 - 2014 Program Reviews:**

**Stock Assessment Data Collection and  
Management**

**Stock Assessment Programs**

# Stock Assessment Program Reviews

## Reviews held in FY13 and FY14

FMC	FY13	FY14	Location
SEFSC	3-5 June	8-12 July	Miami, FL
PIFSC	25-27 June	19-22 May	Honolulu, HI
SWFSC	29 July – 1 Aug	28 July – 2 Aug	La Jolla, CA
NEFSC	5-9 Aug	19-22 May	Woods Hole, MA
AFSC	26-30 Aug	24-28 March	Seattle, WA
OST	9-12 Sept	9-12 Sept	Portland, OR Silver Spring, MD
NWFSC	17-20 Sept	10-13 June	Seattle, WA

All reviews were open to the public

# Stock Assessment Program Reviews

- FY13 and FY14 results online:
  - Reviewers reports,
  - Chair's summary reports,
  - Center Director responses
  - National response

**Science Center websites and**

**[www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/science-program-review/index](http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/science-program-review/index)**

# Stock Assessment Program Reviews

## Overarching themes addressed at national level

Data Collection and Management (FY13)	Stock Assessment Programs (FY14)
Comprehensive data management and informatics systems	Stock assessment prioritization
Statistical survey and sampling design	Standardize, streamline and simplify stock assessment process to increase throughput
Strategic planning	Use management strategy evaluation (simulation testing) to explore potential changes to stock assessments
Staffing shortfalls	Retain and increase workforce capacity

# Data Collection Program Reviews (2013)

## KEY 2013 actions at national level

Data Collection and Management (FY13)	Actions
Comprehensive data management and informatics systems	Fund implementation – funds provided for 3 FTE per Center
Statistical survey and sampling design	NOAA Fisheries will host a national workshop in FY 2015 that will focus in part on the development of national protocols to determine the number of samples needed for mandated stock assessments
Strategic planning - for annual stock assessment priorities, schedules and staffing needs	Regional operating agreements put in place with all Councils/RO/SC; RO/SC charged with developing regional strategies
Staffing shortfalls	OST and each Science Center developed staffing plans - special attention to data-associated staffing needs.

# Stock Assessment Program Reviews (2014)

## KEY 2014 actions at national level

Stock Assessment Programs (FY14)	Actions
Stock assessment prioritization	Test prioritization system and finalize protocol (mid 2015)  Support and guide regional coordinating committees in applying the prioritization process (2016).
Standardize, streamline and simplify stock assessment process to increase throughput	Convene national working group to improve the stock assessment process (2016)
Use management strategy evaluation (simulation testing) to explore potential changes to stock assessments	Develop MSE expertise (hires and training) such that at least one Subject Matter Expert is available at each Center (2016)
Retain and increase workforce capacity	Provide funds to hire one to two new “stock assessment” scientists per Center (2015)



# 2015 Program Reviews:

**NOAA Fisheries**

**Protected Species Science Programs**



# 2015 Program Reviews

- Topic will be protected species science used for assessments
- Terms of reference posted online
- Reviews will follow similar formats to FY13-14 (e.g., independent panel, 3-5 days long, same reporting)
- Reviews will again be open to the public

# 2015 Program Reviews

## Schedule:

- AFSC: Mar 16-20 (Seattle, WA)
- NEFSC: April TBD (Woods Hole, MA)
- West Coast Salmon: May 4-8 (TBD)
- PIFSC: July 27-31 (Honolulu, HI)
- West Coast Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles: July 27 - 31 (TBD)
- SEFSC: Aug 24-29 (Miami, FL)