

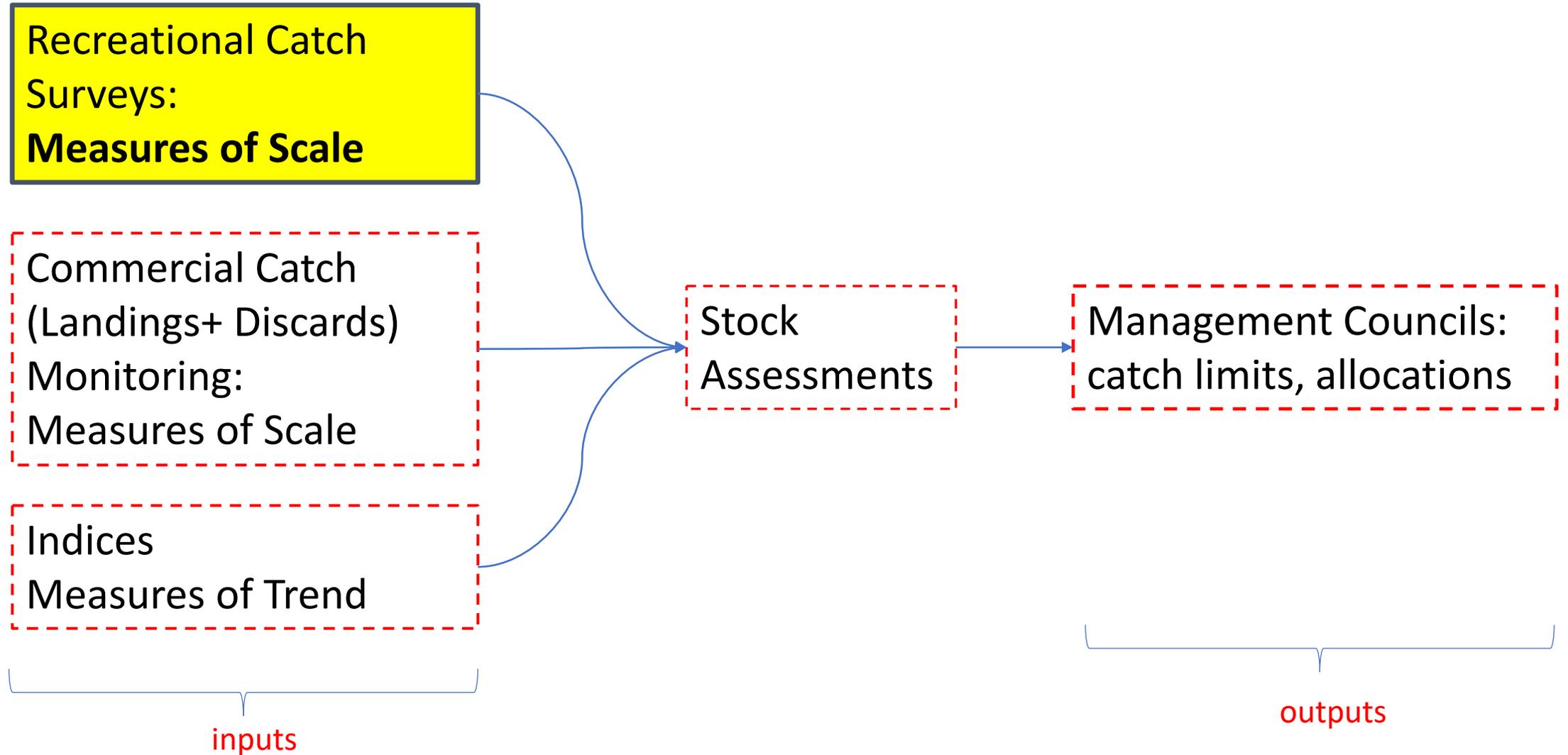
# Workshop on Transition to Use of State Survey Catch Estimates in Gulf of Mexico Fisheries

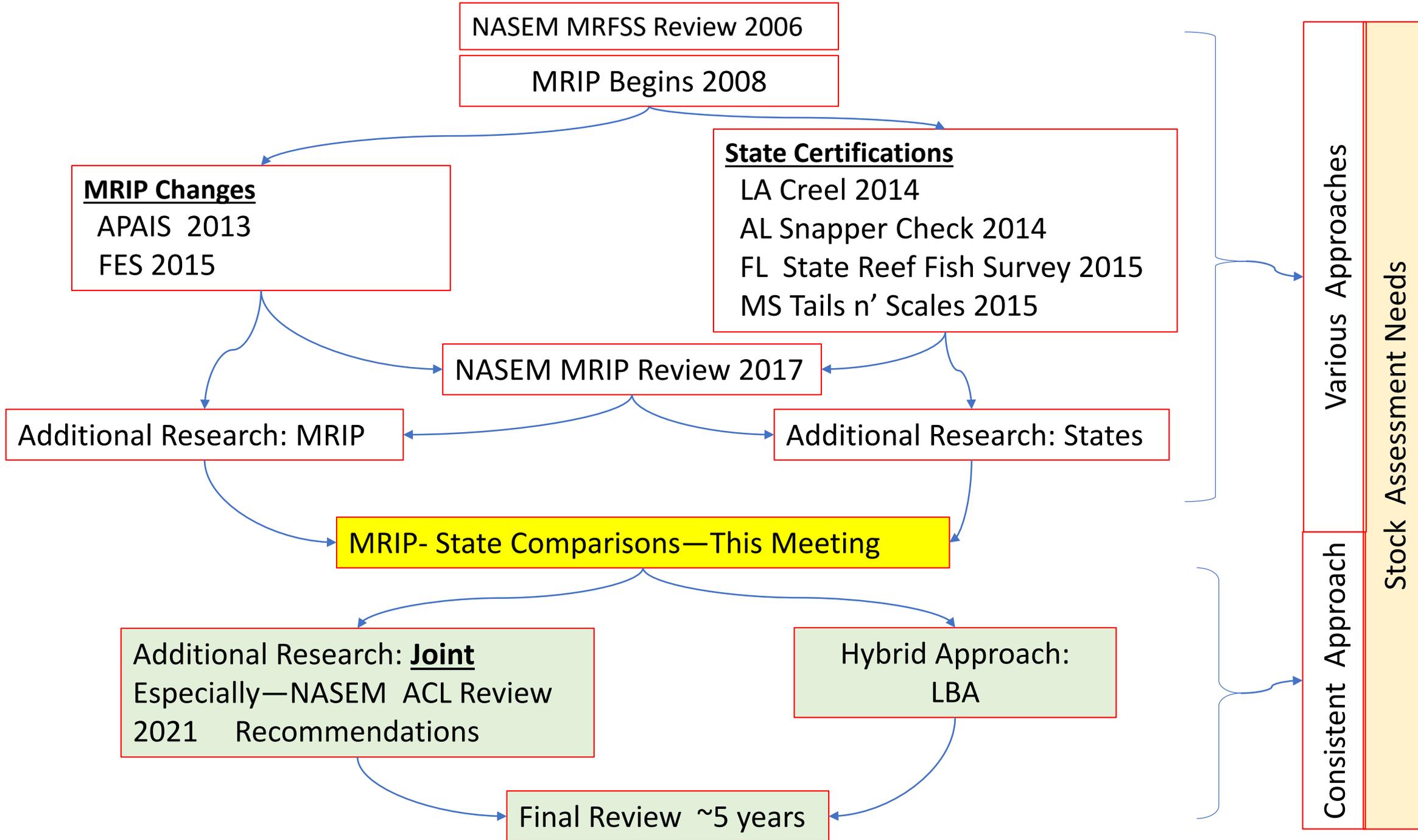
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Via Webinar

Feb 23-25, 2022

# *How we got to now: the Basics*





***Truth is a remarkable thing. We cannot miss knowing some of it. But we cannot know it entirely.***

— Aristotle, *Metaphysics*

*Loose translation of inscription on the frieze of the National Academy of Sciences building in Washington DC.*

*Full text below:*

“The investigation of truth is in one way hard and in another way easy. An indication of this is found in the fact that no one is able to attain the truth entirely, while on the other hand no one fails entirely, but everyone says something true about the nature of things, and by the union of all a considerable amount is amassed.”

# *Overarching Goal*

- Agree on the elements of a transition plan that will achieve five long term goals
  - Identify needed design changes for all programs
  - Incorporate state data into federal science and management
  - Develop a standardized database
  - Develop guidelines for Best Scientific Information Available (BSIA)
  - Maintain Communications

## *The Challenge, more succinctly—*

- “life does not stand still while the specialists put their minds in order”
  - Michael Graham, 1950 address to the United Nations
  - Page 26 of Beverton and Holt, 1957, On the Dynamics of Exploited Fish Populations

# *Goal 1: Identify needed design changes for all programs*

- Adopt a research and analysis plan to understand factors causing differing catch estimates among surveys
- Adopt Terms of Reference for Congressionally directed, independent peer review
  - This will be commissioned AFTER the research and analysis plan has been implemented
  - Likely timeline ~5 years

## *Goal 2. Incorporate state data into federal science and management*

- Decide on a calibration approach to
  - Inform new stock assessments in 2022
  - **Establish consistent methodology for all assessed species**
  - Inform longer term assessments
- Describe and evaluate a hybrid approach that create two parallel tracks
  1. Initiate transition in short term
  2. Conduct necessary research that will improve use of federal and state data

## *Goal 3. Develop a standardized database*

- Determine technical and funding requirements
- Assign specific roles and responsibilities among all partners
- Identify needed updates to data flows for stock assessments

## *Goal 4. Develop guidelines for Best Scientific Information Available (BSIA)*

- Review data requirements for National Standard 2.
- bsi**A**

## *Goal 5: Maintain Communications*

- Agree on goals and components of a communications plan to be adopted after the workshop

# *Workshop Agenda*

- Day 1
  - Transition Plan Content
  - Review of Requirements for stock assessment and management
  - Survey Research Roadmap
- Day 2
  - Continue Roadmap—focus on non-sampling errors
  - Calibration proposals and discussion
  - Data management issues
  - Components of Transition Plan
- Day 3
  - Components of Transition Plan (continued)
  - Communications Plan
  - Wrap-Up

## *Some Key Questions for the Next Few Days*

- Consistency vs Accuracy: which is the greater virtue?
- What must be sacrificed to meet immediate needs for resource management?
- How can recommendations of NASEM review of ACLs (2021) be incorporated?
- What can be learned from the union of multiple studies?
  - “...but everyone says something true about the nature of things, and by the union of all a considerable amount is amassed.” Aristotle, again.