

Scoping for Amendment 14 Shark Quota Management



NOAA
FISHERIES

Office of
Sustainable
Fisheries

Highly Migratory Species Management Division

Summer 2019

Outline



Background

Objectives

Management
Options

Next Steps

Acronyms

- ABC - Acceptable biological catch
- ACL- Annual catch limit
- ACT- Annual catch target
- AM - Accountability measure
- B_{MSST} - Minimum stock size threshold
- B_{OY} - Biomass at optimum yield
- F - Fishing mortality
- F_{MSY} - Fishing mortality at maximum sustainable yield
- F_{OY} - Fishing mortality at optimum yield
- MFMT- Maximum fishing mortality threshold
- MSY - Maximum sustainable yield
- PSE - Percent standard error
- SDC - Status determination criteria
- TAC - Total allowable catch
- OFL - Overfishing limit
- OY - Optimum yield

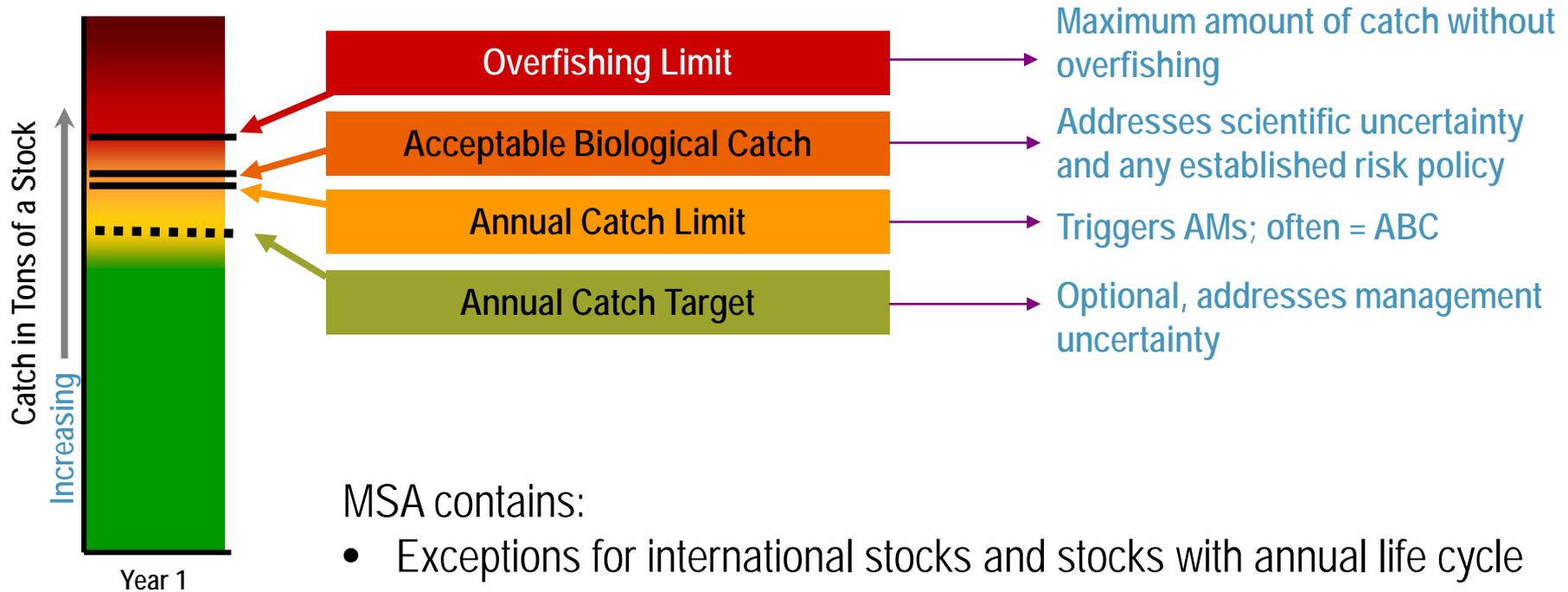
Background



National Standard 1 (NS1) Guidelines

- NS1 requires that management measures:
 - Prevent overfishing
 - Achieve OY, on a continuing basis
- NS1 guidelines provide guidance on how to achieve these requirements
- NS1 guidelines revised in 2016 to allow for increased management flexibility as a result of lessons learned through the implementation of ACLs and AMs
- Generally, $OFL > ABC > ACL$ (may consider $OFL=ABC=ACL$ if sufficient analysis and justification on preventing overfishing)

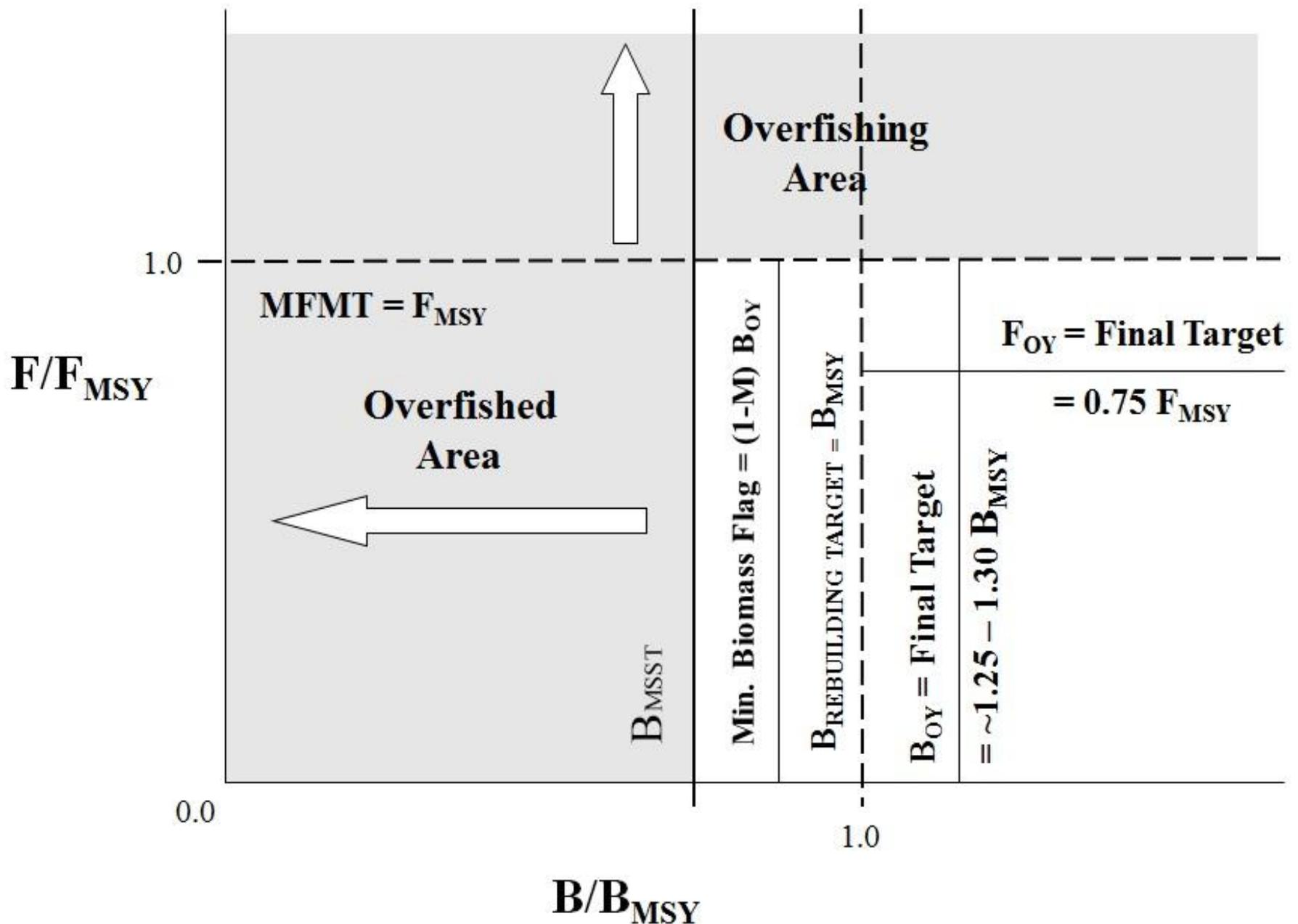
ACL Framework



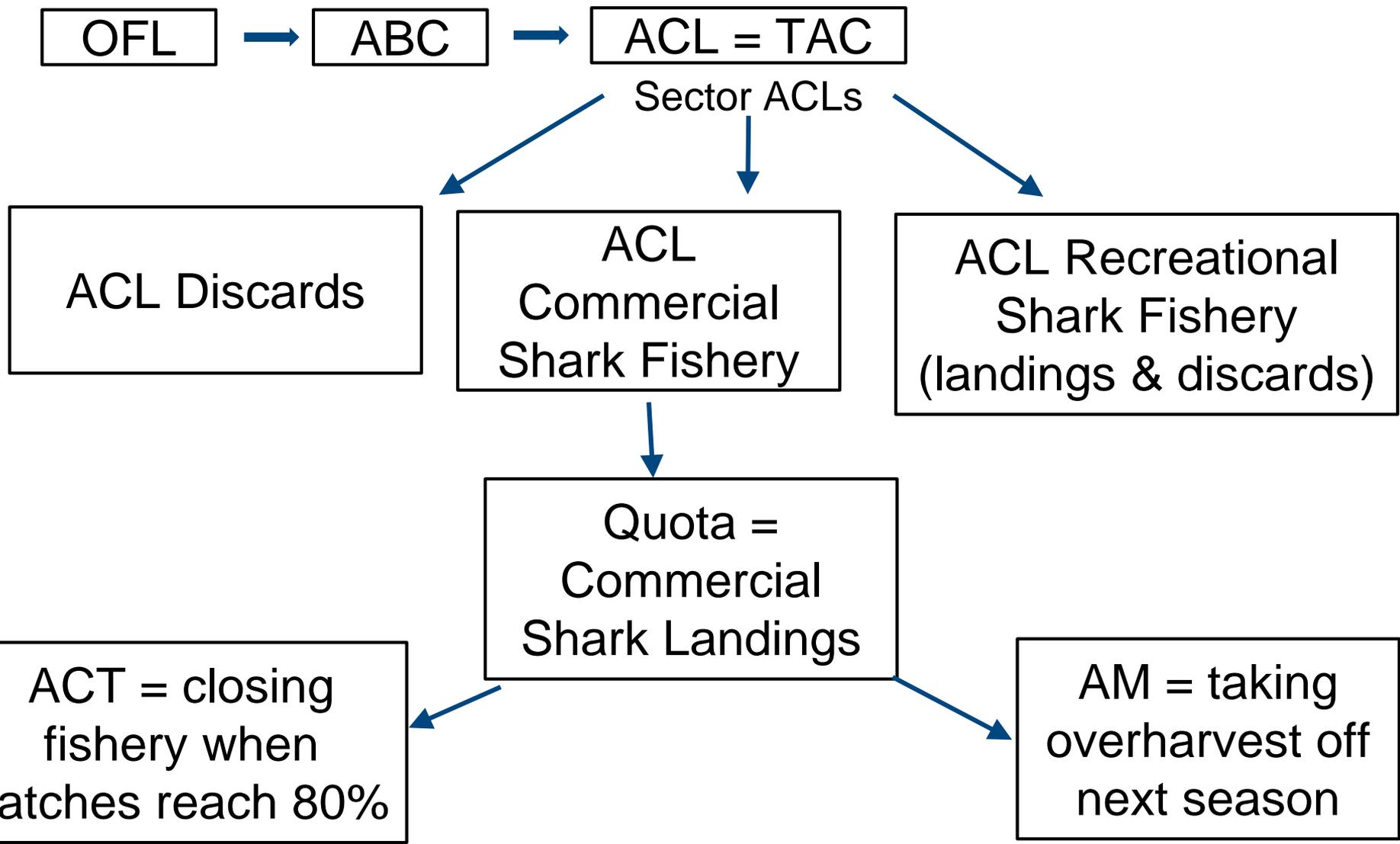
History of HMS SDCs and ACLs

- The 1999 FMP for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks and the 1999 Billfish FMP Amendment 1 defined the SDCs
- The 2006 Consolidated Atlantic HMS FMP incorporated the SDCs without changes
- Amendment 3 established ACL mechanism for federally managed sharks
- Amendment 5b clarified that the ACL for prohibited shark species = 0

Current HMS SDCs



TAC/ACL Mechanism for Non-Prohibited Sharks





Objectives

Purpose and Need (Preliminary)

1. Shark harvest has historically been variable; need to review the process for setting HMS ABCs as related to OFL and ACLs to determine if changes are needed; potential AM modifications
2. The 2016 NS1 guidelines provided guidance on phase-ins, carry-overs, and overfishing determinations; need to review current HMS process to determine if HMS should incorporate these changes

Objectives for Amendment 14

1. Consider the need to revise the ABC control rule to ensure harvest does not exceed the OFL or equivalent measurement/proxy
2. Evaluate the process for establishing ACLs for all non-prohibited shark species within the HMS management unit
3. Evaluate the process for determining acceptable levels for rebuilding success
4. Consider a process for addressing the distribution of under- and over-utilized sector ACLs for shark species within the HMS management unit
5. Consider increasing management flexibility to account for changes in harvest of sharks by sector

To meet the Amendment 14 objectives, we anticipate focusing on:

- ❑ ABC Control Rules
- ❑ Phase-in ABC Provisions
- ❑ TACs and ACLs
- ❑ Carry-over ABC Provisions
- ❑ Multi-year Overfishing Determinations

Potential Management Options



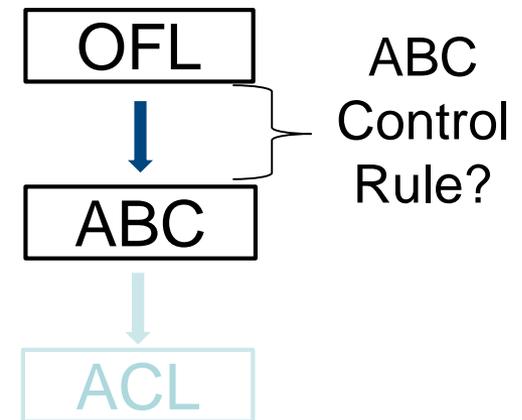
ABC Control Rule

ABC: a level of a stock or stock complex's annual catch, which is based on an ABC control rule that accounts for the scientific uncertainty in the estimate of OFL, any other scientific uncertainty, and any established risk policy.

Control Rule: is a policy for establishing a limit or target catch level that is based on the best scientific information available

ABC Control Rule Options

1. No Action; $OFL = ABC = TAC = \text{Sum of Sector ACLs}$
2. Create a standard ABC Control Rule for Atlantic shark species and/or management groups, if warranted (e.g., $ABC = X\% \text{ of OFL}$)
3. Create a tiered ABC Control Rule (e.g. assessed vs. unassessed) or based on the confidence in the stock vulnerability
4. Develop a peer review process for determining the ABC Control Rule



Phase-in ABC Provisions

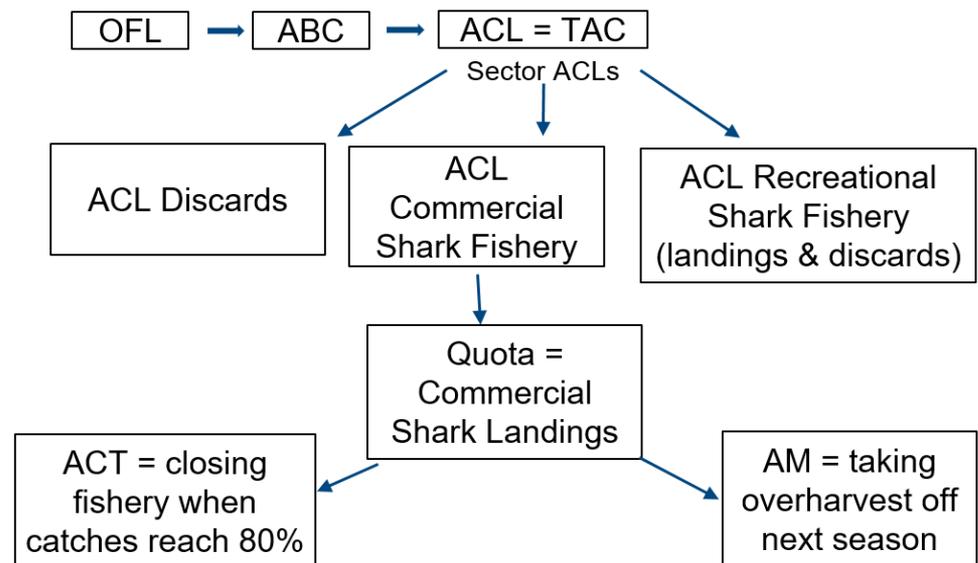
- Allows for gradual phase-in of changes to ABC over period of time to help stabilize catch levels
- Acknowledges concern with large changes in catch limits due to new scientific information
- Cannot exceed 3 years

Phase-in ABC Control Options

1. No Action: Do not use phase-in ABC control rule for HMS stocks
2. Use phase-in approach for any reductions in ABC
3. Use phase-in ABC control rule unless the stock is in an overfished or overfishing status
4. Flexibility to use a phase-in ABC control rule, unless the stock is in both an overfished and overfishing status

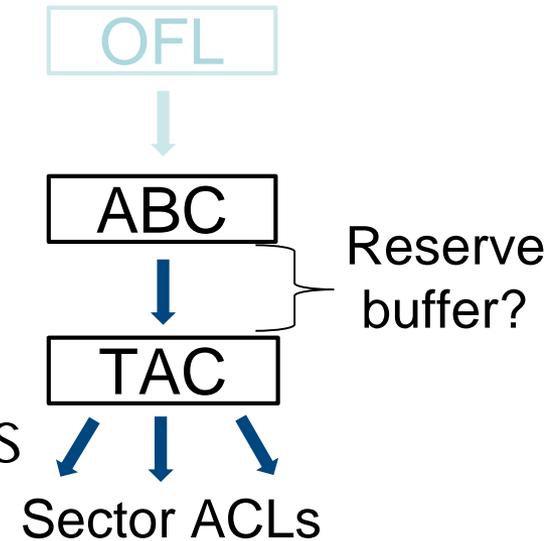
Establishing Shark TACs and ACLs

1. The current mechanism for establishing Shark TACs and ACLs was established in 2010
2. Changes to this mechanism may be necessary to facilitate implementation of any ABC control rule
3. Changes may be necessary for better management of shark TACs and ACLs



Shark TAC and ACL Options

1. No action. No change to current mechanism
2. Actively manage sector ACLs (recreational, commercial, discard, scientific research)
3. Establish a "reserve" sector ACL
4. Establish ACL for each management group as a whole, without focus on individual species
5. Create species-specific ACLs, without gear or species linkage considerations



Carry-over Options

1. No Action: Allow up to 50% carry-over of commercial landings sector ACL if stock is not overfished, not experiencing overfishing, or not an unknown status
2. Distribute any unused ACL to the sector where the underharvest occurs
3. Distribute any unused portion of ACLs across all sectors based on the regulatory proportion of the sector ACL distribution
4. Allow for carry-over of any underharvest, as long as the overall ACL remains below the ABC.
5. Allow for carry-over of underharvest but limit the carry-over to a percentage of the overall ACL.

Multi-Year Overfishing Options

1. No Action: Do not allow for multi-year overfishing SDC; overfishing when $F > MFMT = FMSY$
2. Change stock status based on fishing mortality estimates either annually or on a multiyear basis
3. Compare a 3-year average of total harvest to the OFL to determine overfishing status
4. Use a method, such as a PSE meta analysis, to account for variance in catch estimates (like the recreational sector), compare that 3-year average to the OFL to determine overfishing status
5. Use a comparison of 3-year average catch to OFL when declaring overfishing has ended

Request for Public Comments

Comment period closes on:
July 31, 2019

Please submit comments to:

<http://www.regulations.gov>

Keyword - "NOAA-NMFS-2019-0040"

Comments can also be submitted via mail: Attn: Ian Miller
NMFS SF1, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Please identify comments with NOAA-NMFS-2018-0011

For more information go to the [HMS website](#) or contact Ian Miller ian.miller@noaa.gov or Guý DuBeck Guy.DuBeck@noaa.gov or Karyl Brewster-Geisz Karyl.Brewster-Geisz@noaa.gov at (301) 427-8503.

Scoping Meetings / Webinars

Venue	Date and Time	Location
AP Meeting	May 21	Silver Spring, Maryland
Conference call / Webinar	May 28 – 1 to 3 pm	To participate in the conference call, call: 888-324-8014 Passcode: 5920937 To participate in the webinar, RSVP at: https://noaanmfs-events1.webex.com/noaanmfs-events1/onstage/g.php?MTID=e90547c85b1c1d30c8adedba286178d7d , A confirmation email with webinar log-in information will be sent after RSVP is registered.
Scoping Meeting	June 24 – 5 to 8 pm	St. Petersburg, FL
Scoping Meeting	June 25 – 5 to 8 pm	Ft. Pierce, FL *
Scoping Meeting	July 10 – 5 to 8 pm	Manteo, NC *
Scoping Meeting	July 25 – 5 to 8 pm	Houma, LA *

*Combined scoping meeting with Amendment 13 and Spatial Management

NMFS plans to present to four Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Councils (the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils) during the public comment period.

Next Steps



July 31, 2019: Comment Period Ends for Scoping
Early 2020: Proposed Amendment 14
Late 2020/Early 2021: Final Amendment 14

Questions?



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