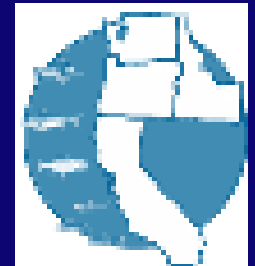




Council Responsibilities and Organization



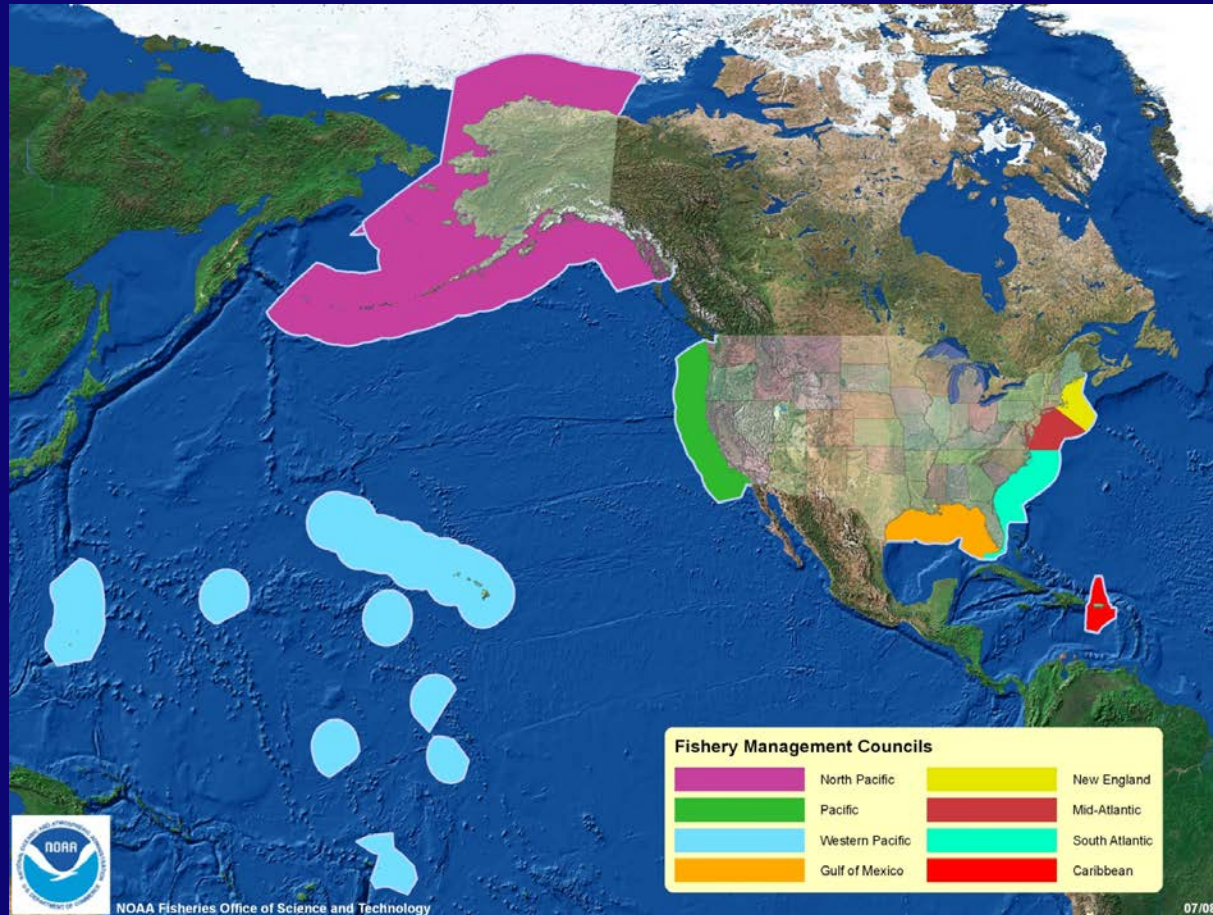
Council Member Orientation
November 1, 2016
Silver Spring, MD



Overview

- Describe the Council responsibilities under MSA
- Identify similarities and differences among Council processes
- Describe how your Council is organized to support FMP development

Councils develop fishery management plans (FMPs) and amendments for the fisheries within their EEZ.



Spiny Lobster



Dolphin/Wahoo



**Coastal Migratory
Pelagics**



Golden Crab



Sargassum



Coral



Shrimp



Snapper/Grouper



Habitat



Ecosystem-Based



SAFMC Plans

US Fisheries Management

- Department of the Interior
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Inland waters
- Fishery Commissions
 - State water management to 3 miles
- Department of Commerce
 - NOAA Fisheries
 - Marine Federal waters (>3mi)



Other Council Responsibilities

- Prepare comments on applications for foreign fishing transmitted to it
- Conduct public hearings as appropriate
- Submit to Secretary requested reports or those deemed necessary by Council
- Revise specifications with respect to OY
- Develop research priorities w/ Council's SSC



Council Membership

- **Voting members**
 - NMFS Regional Administrator
 - State marine fishery management official
 - Individuals appointed by Secretary of Commerce
- **Non-voting members**
 - USFWS Regional Director
 - USCG Regional Commander
 - Executive Director of Marine Fisheries Commissions
 - US Department of State representative

Others at the Table



Non-voting
participants vary by
Council

- Other Council's Liaison
- NOAA General Counsel
- Fisheries Science Center
- NOAA Law Enforcement
- SSC Chair

Voting Members

- **NPFMC – 11 members**
 - 4 officials
 - 7 appointed
- **WPFMC – 13 members**
 - 5 officials
 - 8 appointed
- **PFCMC – 14 members**
 - 5 officials
 - 9 appointed
- **GMFMC – 17 members**
 - 6 officials
 - 11 appointed
- **CFMC – 7 members**
 - 3 officials
 - 4 appointed
- **SAFMC – 13 members**
 - 5 officials
 - 8 appointed
- **MAFMC – 21 members**
 - 8 officials
 - 13 appointed
- **NEFMC – 18 members**
 - 6 officials
 - 12 appointed

Conduits for Public Input

- **Council Membership Composition**
 - Fishing Community (fishermen, processors, group reps.)
 - State Fisheries Officials (represent stakeholder interests in states)
 - Others (scientists, ENGOs, public/seafood consumers)



**Chaos was the law of nature; order was
the dream of man.**

- Henry Adams



Council Members

- Statutory members serve as long as they hold their positions
- Appointed members serve 3-year terms
 - May serve for up to 3 consecutive terms
 - After served 3 terms, may be reappointed after 1 year off the Council



Voting/Business

- Majority of voting members constitutes a "quorum" – no quorum, no business
- Decisions shall be based on those present and voting
- Any voting members may request a roll call vote
- Meetings operate under parliamentary procedures (Robert's rules)

Voting/Business

- General counsel is usually parliamentarian
- Why do we need meeting rules?



Voting/Business

- 1 or more members may hold hearings
- “Hearing officers” hold with staff support



Council Structure



Council Members

- Chair/Vice-Chair
- Executive committee
- Committee Structure (Species, FMP, Topic, etc.)

Council Staff

- Executive Director
- Technical staff
- Administrative staff
- Plan Development/Action/Monitoring Teams

Advisory Groups

- Advisory Panels
- Scientific and Statistical Committee
- Other groups?

Advisory Groups

■ Scientific and Statistical Committee's

- Ongoing scientific advice,
 - Acceptable biological catch (ABCs),
 - Preventing overfishing,
 - MSY,
 - Rebuilding, socioecon., etc.
-
- For stock assessments, regions have other peer review process:
 - SAW/SARC
 - SEDAR
 - STAR



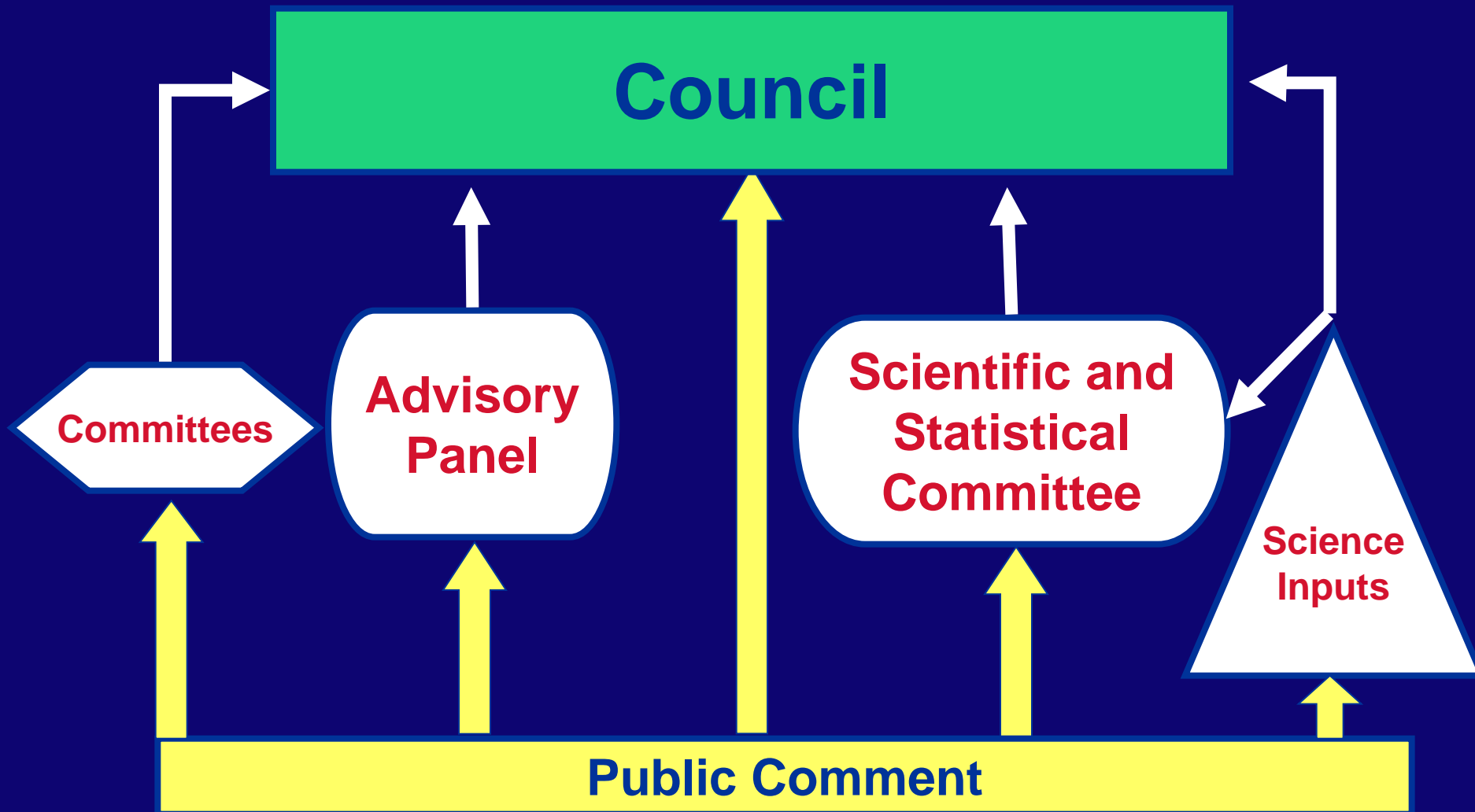
Advisory Panel



- Industry advisory panel
- Organized very differently across Council's
- Means to facilitate stakeholder input into FMPs and other actions



Council Structure



Council Structure

- See handouts on Council structures (Fisheries Forum credit)



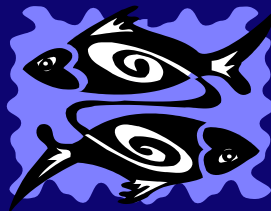
Public Meetings - Public Process



- Public Meetings
- Noticed in FR and on web
- Public Record - recorded and/or transcribed
- Accessible (online?)

Federal Advisory Committee Act

- Councils, their Committees and Advisors are exempt from FACA
- The FACA applies whenever an agency:
 - seeks consensus advice
 - from a group that includes at least one person who is not a regular Federal employee, and
 - obtains input for its own operations or activities.



Take-homes

- Each Council structure is developed to support stakeholder input/participation
- Intended to allow flexibility in organization to address needs/differences in each region
- Unified by MSA and national guidance
- Ongoing dialog between NMFS and Councils
 - Council Coordination Committee

My Suggestions

- Read-up!
- Use your staffs as a resource
- Don't be afraid to ask
- Find a more seasoned Council member to sit with

