



NOAA
FISHERIES

Bycatch Update

Council Coordination Committee

February 28, 2017

Outline

- Bycatch Reduction Strategy
- SBRM Final Rule

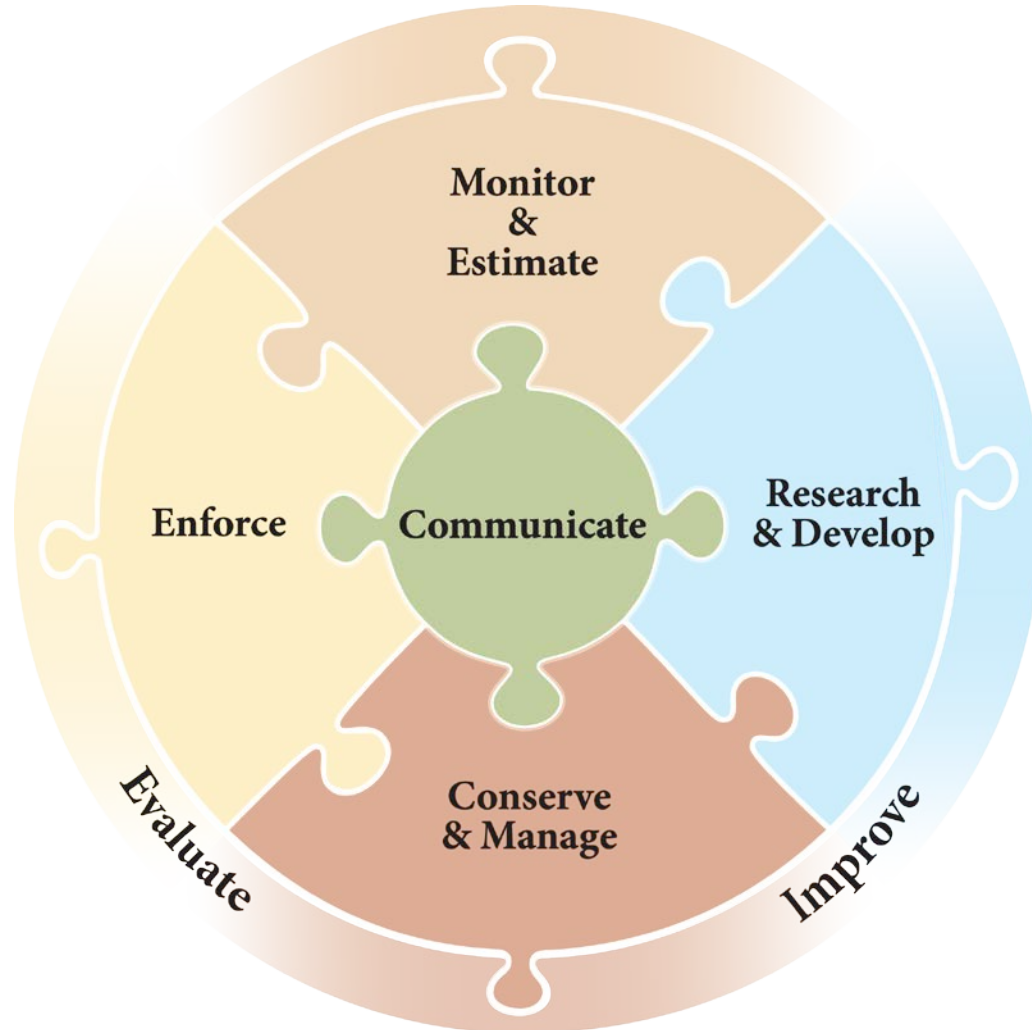
Bycatch Reduction Strategy

- Final Bycatch Strategy – December 2016
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/fisheries_eco/bycatch/strategy.html
- Guide and coordinate NOAA Fisheries' efforts to reduce bycatch and bycatch mortality in support of sustainably managing fisheries and recovering and conserving protected species

Bycatch Reduction Strategy

- Clarification of statutory authorities
- Reducing bycatch includes:
 - Minimize the amount of bycatch
 - Minimize the mortality, serious injury, and adverse impacts of bycatch
 - Increase utilization of fish that would otherwise be economic discards, taking into account conservation and management requirements

Bycatch Reduction Strategy – 5 Objectives



Bycatch Reduction Strategy – Next Steps

- Development of national and regional-level implementation plans
 - Apply national-level objectives to specific priorities and needs of each region and its fisheries
 - In coordination with partners

SBRM Final Rule

- Published January 19, 2017 (82 FR 6317)
- MSA 303(a)(11) requires that any FMP establish a standardized reporting methodology to assess the amount of type of bycatch occurring in a fishery
- Final rule focuses on process for establishing, documenting, and reviewing SBRMs

Key Components

- Defining “standardized reporting methodology” as including data collection, recording, and reporting procedures
- Requiring SBRM procedure(s) to be included in an FMP
- Considerations Councils must assess in establishing and reviewing SBRMs
 - The characteristics of the bycatch occurring in the fishery
 - The feasibility of the methodology
 - The uncertainty of the data resulting from the methodology
 - How the data resulting from the methodology will be used to assess the amount and type of bycatch occurring in the fishery.

SBRM – Next Steps

- All FMPs must be consistent with Final Rule by Feb 21, 2022 (5 years).
 - Conduct a review of FMPs for consistency
 - Amend FMPs, *if needed*, to be consistent



Discussion

