



Strengths/Successes and Weaknesses/Challenges in Fish Stock Assessment

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External Review of Fisheries Stock Assessments

May 19-22, 2014

Version May 20, 2014



(Day 1)

Strengths/Weaknesses: Context and Overview

- Excellent international collaboration in HMS assessments
- Leadership of RFO assessments
- Publications on new stock assessment techniques
- Assessments well-documented in working papers and
- Lots of data available for improving assessments
 - Habitat data
 - Biosamples (size & life history)
- Initiatives and collaborations
 - SWFSC on HMS
 - SEFSC on coral reef fish
 - Fishery independent survey
- Insufficient support for RFO science and assessment work (unfunded mandate)
- Unprocessed data on tuna purse seine size and species composition data
- Keeping up with ever-expanding mandates.
- Limited capacity to utilize all available habitat and other data
- Difficulty recruiting stock assessment scientists
- Few, and expensive, fishery-independent methods for surveying stocks – and their reliability is uncertain



(Day 1)

Strengths/Weaknesses: Data Review

- Excellent HMS data collection and dissemination
- Creel Surveys in the Territories
- Fishery independent reef fish surveys (RAMP)
- Opportunity to integrate RAMP into reef fish assessments
- Life History capacity
- Data collections proven effective in responding to mandates and obligations
- Need for further dedicated analysis of fishery monitoring
- Need to determine the utility of some monitoring (i.e. creel survey for reef fish assessment)
- Need centralized database and database administration, with versioning for consistency
- Need better integration of related databases, in Oracle.
- Life History Program “bottleneck”
 - Challenges listed in the Life History presentation.