National Standard 1 Guidelines
Summary of 2016 Revisions
Outline

1. Background
2. Basis for Revising NS1 Guidelines
3. Objectives
4. Features
5. Summary
National Standard 1 (NS1)

• National Standard 1 is a critical component to the MSA’s success

• Requires that U.S. fisheries management:
  A. Prevent overfishing
  B. Achieve optimum yield

• NS1 guidelines provide guidance on how to achieve requirements (A) and (B)
U.S. Federal Fisheries Management

Conservation success

• 40 stocks rebuilt
• Number of stocks that are not overfished/subject to overfishing are at historic lows

Economic success

• Commercial & recreational industry generates $210+ billion
• Supports 1.8 million jobs
Basis for Action

• 2007 MSA Reauthorization
  • Introduced annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) requirements

• ACLs and AMs transformed federal fisheries
2016 Revisions to the NS1 Guidelines

Objectives:

1. Improve & streamline guidelines

2. Address experience gained during implementation of ACLs & AMs

3. Provide flexibility to address management issues within current statutory limits

Do not require Councils to revise their current FMPs
Features of NS1 Final Rule

1. Increasing stability to fisheries
2. Increasing flexibility in rebuilding plans
3. Determining adequate progress in rebuilding
4. Determining which stocks require federal management
5. Clarifying OY & advancing ecosystem-based fisheries management (EBFM)
Increasing stability to fisheries

A. Phasing-in changes to catch levels
B. Carrying over unused quota into the next year
C. Multi-year overfishing status determinations
Phasing-in changes to catch levels

Must prevent overfishing each year
Increasing stability to fisheries

A. Phasing-in changes to catch levels

B. Carrying over unused quota into the next year

C. Multi-year overfishing status determinations
Carry-Over Approach #1: Utilizing ACL buffer
Consider the stock’s **condition** & the **reason** for the underage prior to carrying-over.
Increasing stability to fisheries

A. Phasing-in changes to catch levels
B. Carrying over unused quota into the next year
C. Multi-year overfishing status determinations
Multi-year overfishing status determinations

- Agency determines stock status annually
- Last year of data is often the most uncertain
Multi-year overfishing status determinations

- When data is uncertain, overfishing status determinations may be based on a 3 year average
- Increases reporting consistency
Multi-year overfishing status determinations

- **Provision does not allow:** setting future annual catch limits at levels that do not prevent overfishing
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Increasing flexibility in rebuilding plans

Calculating max. time:

1) $T_{\text{min}} + \text{generation time}$
2) $T_{\text{min}} \times 2$
3) Time needed to rebuild to $B_{\text{msy}}$ when fished at 75% of MFMT

Graph showing years of projection with minimum and maximum time targets and biomass target.
Increasing flexibility in rebuilding plans

Discontinuing rebuilding plans

![Graph showing B/Bmsy from 2005 to 2016]

- Overfished threshold
- B/Bmsy (2010)
- B/Bmsy (2016)
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3. Determining adequate progress in rebuilding

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Determining adequate progress in rebuilding

Adequate progress is not being made if:

1. $F > F_{\text{rebuild}}$ or associated ACL, and AMs are not effective, or

2. New/unexpected information significantly changes rebuilding expectations
Determining which stocks require federal management

Does the fish stock require conservation & management?

Is the stock overfished/subject to overfishing or likely to be?

Yes

Is the stock predominantly caught in federal waters?

No

Based on the 10 guideline factors, and any other relevant factors, is conservation and management necessary?

Yes

The stock requires conservation & management

No

The stock does not require conservation & management
Features of NS1 Final Rule

1. Increasing stability to fisheries
2. Increasing flexibility in rebuilding plans
3. Determining adequate progress in rebuilding
4. Determining which stocks require federal management
5. Clarifying OY & advancing EBFM
Clarifying OY

• Relationship between OY and ACL

• Qualitative analyses of economic, ecological, and social factors are permissible
Advancing EBFM

Example: Aggregate MSY

Aggregate MSY for a Fishery → OY for a Fishery

Stock 1 ACL
Stock 2 ACL
Stock 3 ACL
Stock 4 ACL
Stock 5 ACL
Stock 6 ACL
Stock 7 ACL
The updated NS1 Guidelines:

• Provide **tools** to increase stability and flexibility within fisheries management
• Do not establish any new requirements to revise management plans
Questions?
Determining which stocks require federal management

10 Factors To Consider:

1. The stock is an important component of the marine environment.
2. The stock is caught by the fishery.
3. Whether an FMP can improve or maintain the condition of the stock.
4. The stock is a target of a fishery.
5. The stock is important to commercial, recreational, or subsistence users.
6. The fishery is important to the Nation or to the regional economy.
7. The need to resolve competing interests and conflicts among user groups and whether an FMP can further that resolution.
8. The economic condition of a fishery and whether an FMP can produce more efficient utilization.
9. The needs of a developing fishery, and whether an FMP can foster orderly growth.
10. The extent to which the fishery is already adequately managed by states, by state/Federal programs, by Federal regulations pursuant to other FMPs or international commissions, or by industry self-regulation, consistent with the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and other applicable law.