

# D7: Social Sciences Planning Team Report

SSPT minutes from  
May 2019 meeting

Presented by:  
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# SSPT Meeting Objectives

- Discuss Data Gap Analysis version 3 (DGA v3) and create plan for DGA v4
- Build social science (including economic) capacity in the Council family
  - The use of qualitative information in management
  - Highlighting new and underrepresented social science research relevant to the North Pacific
- Develop a shared understanding of social science and management issues, challenges, and potential solutions
  - Update on FEP action modules (AMs)
- Discuss EDR discussion paper and SSPT next steps

# Data Gap Analysis version 3 (DGA v3)

- Received a presentation by Dr. Joe Terry
- Created to organize and highlight gaps in economic and social data necessary to understand changes in net benefits and direct/indirect impacts of fisheries management
- No prioritization of the data gaps
- Does not discuss ways of addressing data gaps
- Separate from research gaps

# Data Gap Analysis version 3 (DGA v3)

- Originally organized around MSA and EO 12866 and the goal of maximizing net benefits to broadly defined groups of producers, consumers, communities of place and practice, and external costs
- However, there was concern that this may be too focused on economics and would need to be more broadly framed to incorporate many social data gaps including distributional impacts and equity issues

# Data Gap Analysis (DGA) v4 structure (not mutually exclusive)

1. Commercial
2. Recreational
3. Subsistence
4. Fishing Communities
5. Unit of Analysis
  1. Individual/households
  2. Community and region
  3. Tribe
  4. Entity
  5. Nation

# Highlighting new and underrepresented social science research

- Using network analysis to identify spillovers
- Surfclam/Ocean Quahog ITQ Program Review
- Well-being frameworks and additional social science literature and work on indicators

# Qualitative Information in Fisheries Management

- Ongoing SSPT topic of interest, NMFS unsuccessfully requested funding in 2018
- It is currently used frequently but not always clearly defined
  - Anecdotal information vs. scientific data collection
- It could be used more completely
  - Local and traditional knowledge (LK/TK)
  - Fishing conditions
  - Understanding responses to and impacts of management and environmental change

# SSPT approach to address qualitative information

- FEP Action Module “Develop protocols for using LK and TK in management and understanding impacts of Council decisions on subsistence use” Task Force will lead on these issues
  - SSPT will be regularly updated on FEP progress
  - SSPT will provide updates to FEP Team and appropriate Task Forces
- Subgroup of SSPT will work on providing a summary of existing literature on best available social science and recent examples of its use in marine and terrestrial system management
  - Present to SSPT in Nov and determine possible presentation to SSC and Council in Dec 2019/Jan 2020



# Economic Data Reports (EDRs)

- Received EDR presentation by Dr. Garber-Yonts and reviewed the Council's motion from April
- The SSPT supports the idea of revisions to the current EDR programs and would like to have a role in those potential revisions. **In order to provide that guidance, the SSPT would like to have an EDR-focused day long technical workshop.**

# Economic Data Reports (EDRs) discussion points

- Economic and social data collections do not appear to have very good coverage across fisheries/sectors relative to other U.S. regions; could consider alternative sampling approaches.
- Consistency of data collection across very different fisheries will be challenging, particularly if eventually expanded to other fisheries that are not included in the current EDR programs.
- Revisions should consider improving the information that we currently collect about crew and processing labor.
- Revisions also consider who is required to fill out EDRs in the future - e.g., vessel owners, permit holders, quota-share holders, etc.

# SSPT recommendations on next steps for EDR revisions

- The purpose and needs statements for each EDR program, and for any systematic economic and social data-collection program more generally, would need to be revised since the goals and needs of future economic data collections are not necessarily the same as when each EDR program was initiated. A clear purpose and needs statement will be critical moving forward to ensure that the EDRs are collecting the right information without imposing unnecessary burden on the industry.
- Issue 2 of the Council's motion regarding EDR revisions should be bifurcated into: 1) issues that are straightforward and can be addressed in the short term; and 2) issues that require a data-collection framework and can only be addressed in the long term.
- The SSPT agreed that it should provide guidance in the development of a framework for future economic and social data collection; however, it was not possible to provide such guidance during the current meeting. The SSPT suggests conducting a workshop outside of the SSPT's regular meeting schedule in order to provide guidance on EDR revisions in a timely manner. The SSPT suggested a late-summer meeting could be possible for several of the SSPT members.

# BS FEP Update

- The SSPT received an update on the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan and forthcoming Action Modules and Task Forces from Dr. Figus
- **The SSPT recommends a member of the SSPT attend FEP Team meetings when possible.** There is likely to be overlap in subsistence sections of SSPT data gap analysis; the 'lead authors' of that section may want to interact with the FEP Team regularly/attend meetings of the FEP Team.
- In general, the SSPT recommended that membership [on Task Forces] be as inclusive as possible, a member suggested adding "indigenous scholars" to the itemized list of potential Task Force members produced by the FEP team. Additionally, the SSPT would like to receive an update on FEP Task Force membership at the November SSPT interim conference call.

# SSPT Next Steps (Goals)

- Restructure DGA v3, version 4 ready by November
- Possible interim technical workshop on EDRs
- Subgroup develop presentation on qualitative information and present to SSPT in November
- Continue to engage with FEP Team



Questions?

Thanks to Sarah Marrinan and the rest of the SSPT for summarizing these minutes, and for the public who participated in the meeting.