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FISHERIES**

# **NPFMC Best Scientific Information Available**

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***Magnuson-Stevens Fishery  
Conservation and Management  
Act (MSA) mandates fisheries  
decisions in U.S. be based on  
best scientific information  
available (BSIA) – National  
Standard 2***



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# Policy Directive May 2019

<https://media.fisheries.noaa.gov/dam-migration/01-101-10.pdf>

- Stock status determinations and catch specifications (Annual Catch Limits) must be consistent with the BSIA.
- SSC advice and recommendations to Council are based on BSIA
- Regional BSIA Framework Recommendation
  - Within 3 years (May 2022) each region should develop a regional BSIA framework that describes how it applies the general NOAA Fisheries BSIA Framework.

# Elements of BSIA Draft Framework

- Stock assessment
  - Prioritization and schedule
- Peer review
  - Stock status relative to overfishing status
  - Stock status relative to overfished criteria
  - Projections for OFL and ABC
  - Technical merits of potential revisions
- Assessment revision
- SSC and NOAA fisheries steps
- Catch specifications
- NOAA Fisheries approval

# Framework Elements

- BSAI and GOA Groundfish FMPs
- BSAI Crab FMP
- Scallop FMP
- Salmon FMP

# Timeline

- Jan – March 2022 Draft development in consultation with AKRO, and ADF&G
- April 2022 SSC and NPFMC review
- May 2022 Revisions and submission

