

- **As ESRs and ESPs are part of the process of stock status determination and catch setting, the SSC recommends these be included in the timelines as one of the steps leading to BSIA.**
- The specification of the length of time (e.g., five years) between Center for Independent Experts (CIE) reviews should be viewed as a desirable target and not a requirement, to allow for some flexibility in scheduling. In addition, it is not expected that every assessment (e.g., Tier 4-6 groundfish and Tier 4 crab) will be reviewed at that target frequency by CIE and may occur less frequently.
- While the Regional Framework reflects broadly the current timelines by which the process takes place, the specific month by month schedules provided in the report for groundfish, crab and scallop are, on occasion, revised as the need arises. The SSC suggests a note to that effect in the Regional Framework would recognize this level of flexibility in the process.

SSC Member Associations

At the beginning of each meeting, members of the SSC publicly acknowledge any direct associations with SSC agenda items. If an SSC member has a financial conflict of interest (defined in the 2003 Policy of the National Academies and discussed in Section 3) with an SSC agenda item, the member should recuse themselves from participating in SSC discussions on that subject, and such recusal should be documented in the SSC report. In cases where an SSC member is an author or coauthor of a report considered by the SSC, that individual should recuse themselves from discussion about SSC recommendations on that agenda item. However, that SSC member may provide clarifications about the report to the SSC as necessary. If, on the other hand, a report is prepared by individuals under the immediate line of supervision by an SSC member, then that member should recuse themselves from leading the SSC recommendations for that agenda item, though they may otherwise participate fully in the SSC discussion after disclosing their associations with the authors. The SSC notes that there are no financial conflicts of interest between any SSC members and items on this meeting's agenda.

At this April 2022 meeting, a number of SSC members acknowledged associations with specific agenda items under SSC review. Jason Gasper is a member of the CCTF and reviewed the BSIA directive report. Chris Siddon is the direct supervisor of Tyler Jackson (SPT co-chair and Scallop SAFE co-author) and is married to Elizabeth Siddon (BS FEP team member). Mike Downs clarified his connection to agenda item C4 GOA Rockfish Program, in which he is listed as a contributor. Dr. Downs contributed to an analysis that is referenced in the document but did not contribute directly to the analysis for this C4 agenda item. Dana Hanselman is the second-level supervisor of Elizabeth Siddon (BS FEP team member). Brad Harris and Ian Stewart are members of the BS FEP team. Dr. Harris is also a co-author of the Fishing Effects model referenced in the SPT minutes. Finally, Robert Foy is the third or greater level supervisor for contributors to the following agenda items: Sarah Wise, Kerim Aydin, Kirstin Holsman, Elizabeth Siddon, and members of the BS FEP team (Agenda item D2 BS FEP); Kirstin Holsman (D3 IPCC update); Anne Hollowed (D4 BSIA directive); and contributors to the B2 Seabird Working Group Report.