

Draft Risk Policy Terms of Reference

April 11, 2023
Risk Policy Working Group
Danvers, MA



Draft TOR 1:

1. Review the Council's current Risk Policy, and Risk Policy Road Map. The review should:
 - a. Address the application of the current Risk Policy and how it is used by various groups in the Council process (i.e. SSC, PDT, Council).
 - b. Address the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the Current Risk Policy.
 - c. Document ABC control rules used in each of the Council's FMPs and existing uncertainty buffers (with rationale) for managed stocks.

Draft TOR 2:

2. Based on the review, recommend changes, if necessary, to the Council's Risk Policy. When considering possible changes, the Risk Policy Working Group should consider:
 - a. The development of Goals and Objectives for a Risk Policy.
 - b. Defining key terms used in the application of a policy, such as risk, and uncertainty.
 - c. The scope of the Risk Policy (broadly apply to all Council decisions, or narrowly defined to apply to catch setting, multiple risk policies covering various scenarios).
 - d. The factors that should be considered by a Risk Policy, such as environmental change.

Draft TOR 2: (objectives cont.)

2. Based on the review, recommend changes, if necessary, to the Council's Risk Policy. When considering possible changes, the Risk Policy Working Group should consider:
 - e. Situations and species characteristics where a risk averse approach is or is not warranted.
 - f. Whether or not to use a consistent procedure in applying the Risky Policy across fishery management plans and individual stocks.
 - g. Outlining how the updated Risk Policy interacts with existing ABC control rules used in each of the Council's FMPs.
 - h. Identify the format of the final Risk Policy and how it will be communicated.

Draft TOR 1: (with edits)

1. Review the Council's current Risk Policy, and Risk Policy Road Map. The review should:
 - a. Address [Is address the right word?] the application of the current Risk Policy and how it is used by various groups in the Council process (I.e. SSC, PDT, Council, NMFS).
 - b. Address [Is address the right word?] the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the Current Risk Policy.
 - c. Document ABC control rules used in each of the Council's FMPs and existing uncertainty buffers (with rationale) for managed stocks. Document tools used to explicitly address scientific and management uncertainty. The review should document how the ABC control rules were developed, the rationale for specific control rule choices, and how they performed over time relative to preventing overfishing and maximizing net benefits.
 - d. Document the status and probability of overfishing (if determined) in each of the Council's FMPs.
 - e. Document assessment type used in each of the Council's FMPs (e.g., analytic, analytic with rho adjustment, data-poor).

Gather feedback on public understanding, particularly fishing industry to inform future discussion on consistency and communication. Perhaps could just be added under a by including input from APs.

Draft TOR 2: (with edits)

2. Based on the review, recommend changes, if necessary, to the Council's Risk Policy. When considering possible changes, the Risk Policy Working Group should consider:
 - a. The development of Goals and Objectives for a Risk Policy.
 - b. Defining key terms used in the application of a policy, such as risk, and uncertainty.
 - c. The ~~scope~~ application of the Risk Policy (broadly apply to all Council decisions, or narrowly defined to apply to catch setting, multiple risk policies covering various scenarios). **Develop examples of applying the Risk Policy to assist with future implementation.**
 - d. The factors that should be considered by a Risk Policy, such as environmental **or social** change.

Draft TOR 2: (objectives cont.) (edits)

2. Based on the review, recommend changes, if necessary, to the Council's Risk Policy. When considering possible changes, the Risk Policy Working Group should consider:
 - e. Situations and species characteristics where a risk averse approach is or is not warranted.
 - f. ~~Whether or not to use~~ If a consistent procedure in applying the Risky Policy across fishery management plans and individual stocks **is appropriate**.
 - g. Outlining how the updated Risk Policy interacts with existing ABC control rules used in each of the Council's FMPs.
 - h. Identify the format of the final Risk Policy and how ~~it will be communicated best to communicate it to various audiences~~. Identify relevant information that can assist in risk-based decision making (e.g., State of the Ecosystem Report, Fishery Performance Reports, Economic and Social Profiles (ESPs), etc.).



Questions?