

WORKSHEET FOR RSC DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE RSC

This worksheet has been developed to support a full Research Steering Committee discussion, at its August 8, 2018, meeting about the future of this committee. The intent is to help the Committee develop a recommendation for the Council to consider. RSC members are encouraged to think about these questions in advance. RSC members who will be absent are encouraged to submit responses to staff in advance to contribute your input on this important topic.

Question	Individual considerations
1. Is there sufficient need to maintain an ongoing RSC? If so:	
a. How can the RSC best support the mission of the Council? What should be its essential functions?	
b. Should the RSC continue to do management reviews? If so, what criteria should be used to identify projects to review?	
c. Are there benefits that a non-issue-based committee can bring to the Council process? Can the RSC help Council members reach compromise and/or think longer term? If so, how would this occur through RSC meetings?	
d. Should the RSC be more active in urging NMFS take up Council priorities facilitating communication? How might this occur through RSC meetings?	
e. Should the RSC be a forum to discuss the state of knowledge and future needs for specific topics (e.g., a day-long meeting on a discard mortality)?	
f. How frequently should the RSC meet?	

<p>2. If there is insufficient need to maintain the RSC:</p> <p>a. Should the RSC be suspended, reforming when there is a specific need and keeping a staff person and Council member assigned as chair to “keep the lights on”?</p>	
<p>b. Would there be value in joining with the MAFMC on a joint RSC to give input to NMFS? What about a NMFS-NEFMC-MAFMC-ASMFC research committee?</p>	
<p>3. Are there potential improvements to the Research Review Policy?</p>	