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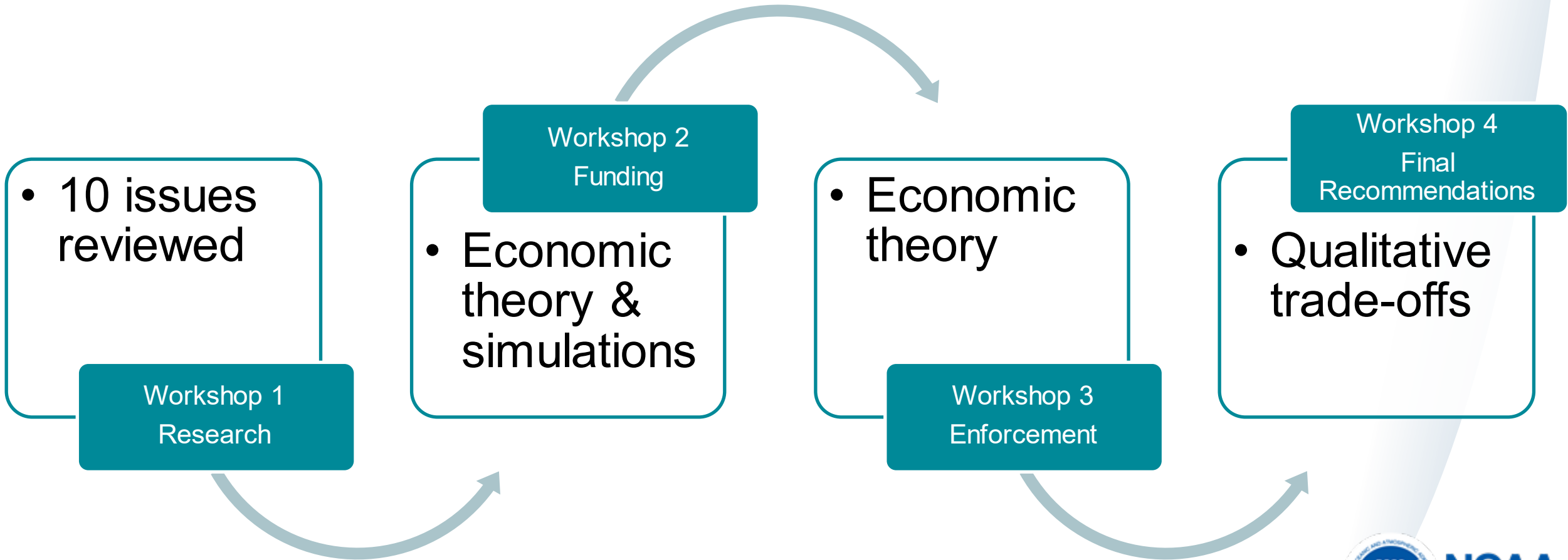
SSC Economic Work Group

Research Set Aside (RSA) Redevelopment

Process Update

March 16, 2022

Process



Workshop 3: Enforcement (Anderson)

- Incentives underlying RSA enforcement issues
- Expected gains from cheating vs. expected losses if caught
 - Probability of being caught, convicted, and punished
 - Size of penalty
 - Need not be monetary
 - Number of illegal fish * price of illegal fish



Prior to Workshop 4: Research Steering Committee (RSC)

- Importance of identifying RSA goals and objectives
 - List of potential goals and objectives
 - Historical context
 - Workshop discussions
- Program design decision tree
- Trade-offs across goals & objectives



Draft Goals

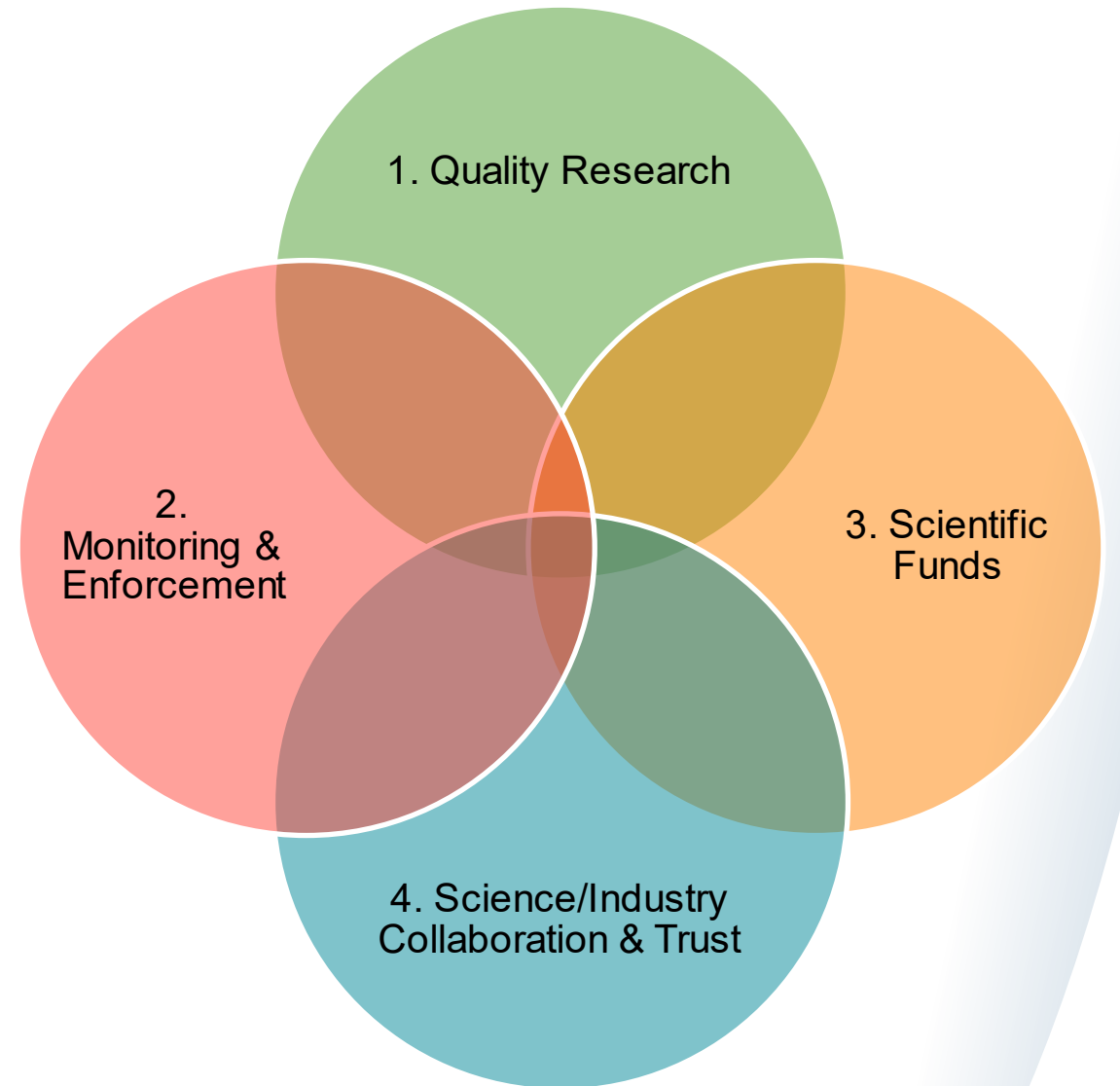
- 1: Produce quality, peer-reviewed research that maximizes benefits to the Council and public and enhances the Council's understanding of its managed resources
- 2: Ensure effective monitoring, accountability, and enforcement of RSA quota
- 3: Generate resources to fund research projects that align with the priorities of the Council
- 4: Foster collaboration and trust between scientific and fishing communities and the general public



Decision Tree

Priority questions bound
RSA design

1. Who participates
2. How quota is allocated
3. What RSA trips look like



Topic #1 - Who is involved in the RSA program

Top Tier/Highest Priority Questions

1A. Allow commercial sector participation only

1B. Allow commercial and for-hire sector participation (no private recreational fishermen)

1Bi. Phase-in participation by one sector

1C. Allocation of quota across sectors or keep separate

2A. Fixed percentage of ABC for each fishery (i.e., different percentages for each fishery)

2B. Fixed percentage of ABC across all fisheries

2C. Fixed number of pounds for each fishery

3A. Allow participation only by federally-permitted vessels

3B. Allow participation by federally-permitted and state-permitted vessels

3Bi. Phase-in participation by permitted (state) vessels

3Bii. Appropriate/standardized reporting for all vessels

3C. Do not allow participation by vessel owners that are also dealers unless dealer has a physical address for place of business

4. Allow states to opt out of shoreside participation in an RSA program (e.g., providing required state exemption permits, etc.)

5A. Cap the number of vessels that can participate within each state

5Ai. Cap by sector (depending on alternatives 1A-1C)

6A. Require Allow observers/state staff onboard all RSA compensation fishing trips

6B. Require Allow all vessels to be equipped with VMS or AIS



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Topic #2 - How would you allocate/divide RSA quota

Top Tier/Highest Priority Questions

1A. RSA applies to all fisheries/species

1B. RSA only for select fisheries/species

2A. Allow specific percentage of projected revenue from species quota sale to be used for research on other species

2B. All revenue from species quota sale can only be used for research related to that species

3A. Funding mechanism should include ability to use both bilateral agreements and third party auctions

3B. Funding mechanism should include the use of only bilateral agreements or third party auctions (only one)

3A-Bi. Conduct periodic review of funding mechanism(s) to determine approach supports or undermines project or program objectives

Secondary Tier Priority Questions

4A. Single species quota lots only

4Ai. Allow specific percentage of revenue from species quota sale to be used for other species research

4Aii. All revenue from species quota sale can only be used for that species

4B. Bundled and single species quota lots

5A. Support short-term projects only (2-3 years max)

5B. Support short- and long-term projects (i.e., monitoring)

6A. Proposals need to identify scientific need and how results will reduce uncertainty

6B. Proposals need to identify how results will address a timely/relevant management issue

6C. Proposals need to include a detailed data sharing/management plan



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Topic #3 - What does an RSA trip look like

Top Tier/Highest Priority Questions

1A. Compensation harvest completely decoupled from funded research (i.e. vessels harvesting RSA quota are not vessels conducting research)

1B. Compensation harvest decoupled from research activity, but vessels harvesting RSA quota also participate in research trips

1C. Where feasible, compensation harvest is coupled with research activity

2A. Require RSA harvest to occur on separate trips from non-RSA harvest

2B. Allow both RSA and non-RSA harvest on the same trip

3A. Limit RSA offloads to specific ports in each state

3Ai. Limit RSA sales to specific dealers in each state

3Ai(1). Limit RSA sales to only federally permitted dealers

3B. Require all RSA quota to be offloaded at the same port from pre-trip notification

4. Limit RSA offloads to specific hours (e.g., 6am-8pm)

5A. Require all participating vessels to submit a pre-trip notification 24hrs in advance to declare intent to harvest RSA quota that includes port and anticipated day/time of landing.

5B. Require all vessels to report port of landing, amount of RSA quota onboard, and complete an electronic trip report at least six hours prior to landing

6A. Allow RSA trips to land quota after the regular season closes

6B. Allow RSA trips to increase trip limits during the regular season

6C. Allow RSA trips flexibility in both the timing and landings throughout the year

Secondary Tier of Priority Questions

7A. Unlimited transfer/leasing of RSA quota between vessels

7B. Do not allow transfer/leasing of RSA quota except under catastrophic circumstances.

7C. Allow for one or limited number of transfers/leases of RSA quota between vessels



Given Decision Tree answers...

- What are the trade-offs across prioritized Goals?
 - Qualitative assessment
 - Fewest trade-offs: Goal 1
 - Expected if design and prioritization consistent
- Focus of Economic Work Group in Workshop 4



Future RSA support

- April Research Steering Committee Meeting
- Report to Council
 - Revisit previous work
 - Final Program Recommendations
 - Focus on SSC function
 - Peer Review, ToRs, specific analyses, think tank
- Further work depends on RSC recommendations



Non-RSA work

- Summer Flounder Management Strategy Evaluation
 - Anticipated Completion June 2022
- Recreational Harvest Control Rule SSC review
 - Anticipated Completion June 2022
- Ecosystem Approach Risk Assessment
 - Workflow TBD



Lessons learned to date

- Work has deviated greatly from vision
 - Scoping exercise – lack of defined objectives
 - Data availability
 - Non-economic contributions
- Real capacity constraints
- Collaborative effort with value added to process



Moving forward

- RSA Report & wrap up
 - Peer Review, ToRs, specific analyses, think tank
 - Meet following April RSC meeting
 - No need for another case study
- Reserve capacity for Council tasking
 - Harvest Control Rule
- Focus on Economics
 - Strategic & modular engagement



Thanks to Work Group members Questions?

- Lee Anderson
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- Geret DePiper (chair)
- Sarah Gaichas
- Mark Holliday
- Jorge Holzer
- Yan Jiao
- Paul Rago

