



**WCPFC
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES WORKSHOP**

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MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES IN US FISHERIES

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Management Objectives in US Fisheries



Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

National Standards

- IN GENERAL—Any fishery management plan prepared, and any regulation promulgated to implement any such plan, pursuant to this title shall be consistent with the following **national standards for fishery conservation and management**:



National Standards

- (1) Conservation and management measures shall **prevent overfishing** while achieving, on a continuing basis, the **optimum yield** from each fishery for the United States fishing industry.
- (2) Conservation and management measures shall be based upon the **best scientific information available**.
- (3) To the extent practicable, an individual stock of fish shall be **managed as a unit throughout its range**, and interrelated stocks of fish shall be managed as a unit or in close coordination.



National Standards

- (4) Conservation and management measures **shall not discriminate** between residents of different States. If it becomes necessary to allocate or assign fishing privileges among various United States fishermen, such allocation shall be (A) **fair and equitable** to all such fishermen; (B) reasonably calculated to promote conservation; and (C) carried out in such manner that no particular individual, corporation, or other entity acquires an excessive share of such privileges.



National Standards

- (5) Conservation and management measures shall, where practicable, consider **efficiency in the utilization** of fishery resources; except that no such measure shall have economic allocation as its sole purpose.
- (6) Conservation and management measures shall take into account and allow for **variations among, and contingencies in**, fisheries, fishery resources, and catches.
- (7) Conservation and management measures shall, where practicable, **minimize costs** and avoid unnecessary duplication.



National Standards

- 8) Conservation and management measures shall, consistent with the conservation requirements of this Act (including the prevention of overfishing and rebuilding of overfished stocks), take into account the **importance of fishery resources to fishing communities** by utilizing economic and social data that meet the requirements of paragraph (2), in order to (A) provide for the sustained participation of such communities, and (B) to the extent practicable, minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities.

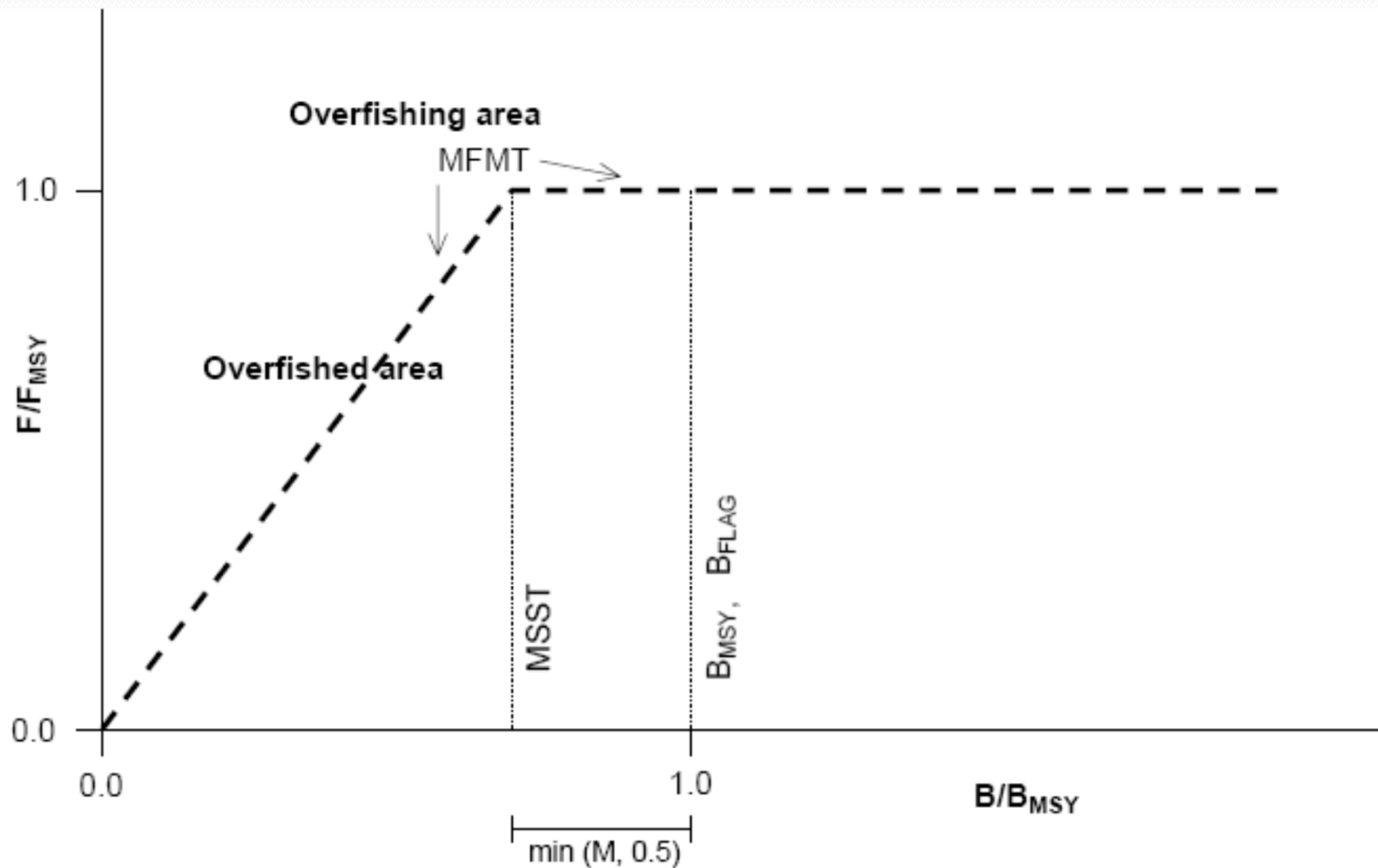
National Standards

- (9) Conservation and management measures shall, to the extent practicable (A) **minimize bycatch** and (B) to the extent bycatch cannot be avoided, **minimize the mortality of such bycatch**.
- (10) Conservation and management measures shall, to the extent practicable, promote the **safety of human life** at sea.

National Standard 1

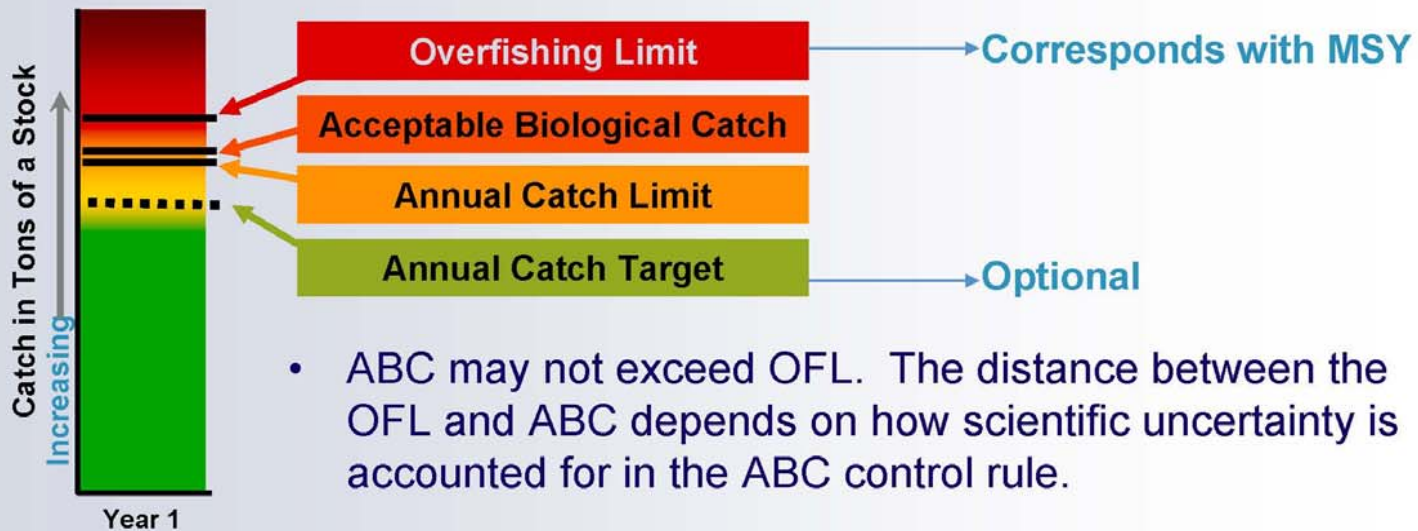
- (1) Conservation and management measures shall prevent overfishing while achieving, on a continuing basis, the optimum yield from each fishery for the United States fishing industry.

Ref Points for Stock Status



Annual Catch Limits

$$\text{OFL} \geq \text{ABC} \geq \text{ACL}$$



- ABC may not exceed OFL. The distance between the OFL and ABC depends on how scientific uncertainty is accounted for in the ABC control rule.
- The ACL may not exceed the ABC.
 - ABC is one of the fishing level recommendations under MSA section 302(h)(6).

WP Pelagics Fishery Ecosystem Plan Objectives

- *Objective 1:* To maintain biologically diverse and productive marine ecosystems and foster the long-term sustainable use of marine resources in an ecologically and culturally sensitive manner through the use of a science-based ecosystem approach to resource management.
- *Objective 2:* To provide flexible and adaptive management systems that can rapidly address new scientific information and changes in environmental conditions or human use patterns.
- *Objective 3:* To improve public and government awareness and understanding of the marine environment in order to reduce unsustainable human impacts and foster support for responsible stewardship.
- *Objective 4:* To encourage and provide for the sustained and substantive participation of local communities in the exploration, development, conservation, and management of marine resources.
- *Objective 5:* To minimize fishery bycatch and waste to the extent practicable.
- *Objective 6:* To manage and comanage protected species, protected habitats, and protected areas.
- *Objective 7:* To promote the safety of human life at sea.
- *Objective 8:* To encourage and support appropriate compliance and enforcement with all applicable local and federal fishery regulations.
- *Objective 9:* To increase collaboration with domestic and foreign regional fishery management and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations, communities, and the public at large to successfully manage marine ecosystems.
- *Objective 10:* To improve the quantity and quality of available information to support marine ecosystem management.