



Determining the Need for Conservation and Management

**Prepared for the Snapper Grouper Advisory
Panel**

November 2020

Magnuson Requirements



Councils must prepare a fishery management plan for each fishery that requires conservation and management.



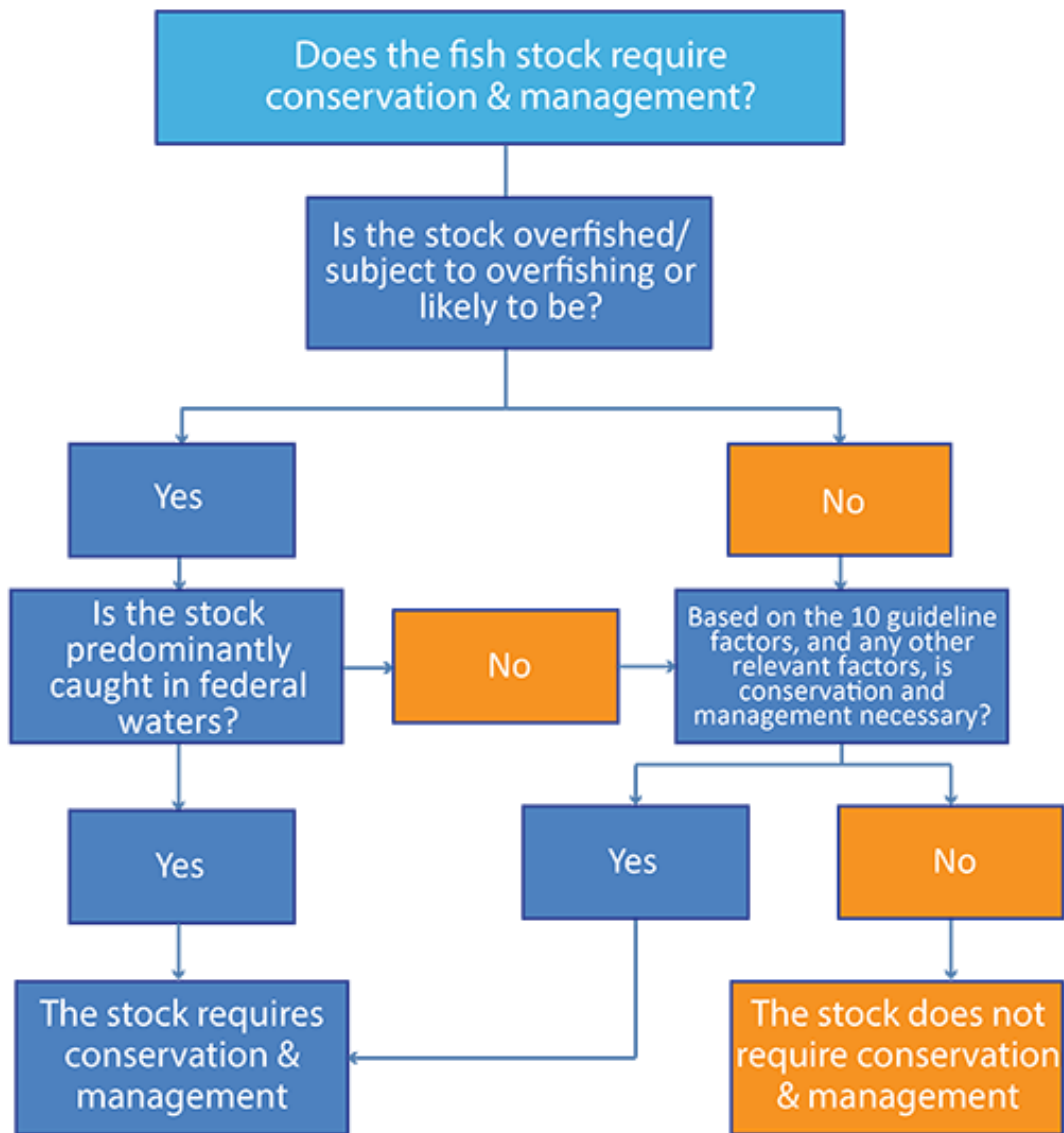
Stocks that are predominately caught in federal waters and are overfished/overfishing or likely to become o/o require conservation and management.



Beyond such stocks, Councils must determine need based on 10 factors.



Conservation & Management Determinations



Adding/removing stocks to/from an existing FMP

- One or more factors and any additional considerations can provide the basis for determining that a stock requires conservation and management.
- SAFMC has not added a stock to existing FMPs.
- SAFMC has removed several species from FMPs



Evaluation factors

1. Is the stock an important component of the marine environment?

- *Look at: Life history (predator/prey relationships, diet composition)*

2. Is the stock is caught by the fishery?

- *Look at: Composition of landings*



Evaluation factors

3. Could an FMP improve or maintain the condition of the stock?

- *Look at: Stock assessment or life history information if an assessment is not available, risk analysis*

4. Is the stock the target of a fishery?

5. Is the stock important to commercial, recreational, or subsistence users?

6. Is the stock important to the Nation or to the regional economy?

- *Look at: Landings (federal and state) and value; Fishery Performance Reports/information from fishermen (APs); if OY is known, evaluate whether the fishery is obtaining OY*



Evaluation factors

7. Is there a need to resolve competing interests and conflicts among user groups?

• *Look at: Management issues for the candidate species*

8. What is the economic condition of the fishery and could an FMP produce more efficient utilization?

9. What are the needs of the developing fishery, and could an FMP foster orderly growth?

• *Look at: Trends in landings and value; cost/benefit analysis; management efforts vs. fishery production and risk of overfishing*



Evaluation factors

10. To what extent is the fishery already adequately managed by states, state/federal programs, or by federal regulations under other FMPs, international commissions, or industry self-regulation?

- *Look at: Management history, location of landings (federal vs. state waters)*

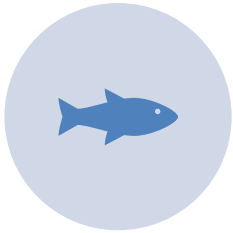


Ecosystem Component Species

Stocks that a Council has determined **do not require conservation and management** but listing in an FMP would help achieve ecosystem management objectives



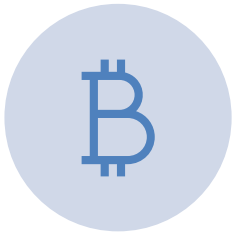
EC evaluation factors



Non-target species or stock



Not overfishing, overfished
or approaching
overfishing/overfished



Not likely to become o/o in
the absence of conservation
and management



Not generally retained for
sale or personal use



What feedback can the AP provide?

1. Review information provided for Blackfin Snapper, Coney, Cubera Snapper, Margate, Misty Grouper, Sailor's Choice, Saucereye Porgy, Yellowedge Grouper, and Yellowfin Grouper.
2. Provide observations/recommendations that will help the Council determine whether these species need to continue to be managed under the Snapper Grouper FMP.

