



NOAA
FISHERIES

Best Scientific Information Available – Draft Document

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Best Scientific Information Available

Outline

Objectives

Challenges

General Steps

Request & Status

OBJECTIVES

Best Scientific Information Available (BSIA)

- BSIA criteria from NS2 Guidelines
 - Relevance, inclusiveness, objectivity, transparency and openness, timeliness, verification and validation, and peer review, as appropriate

Our requests

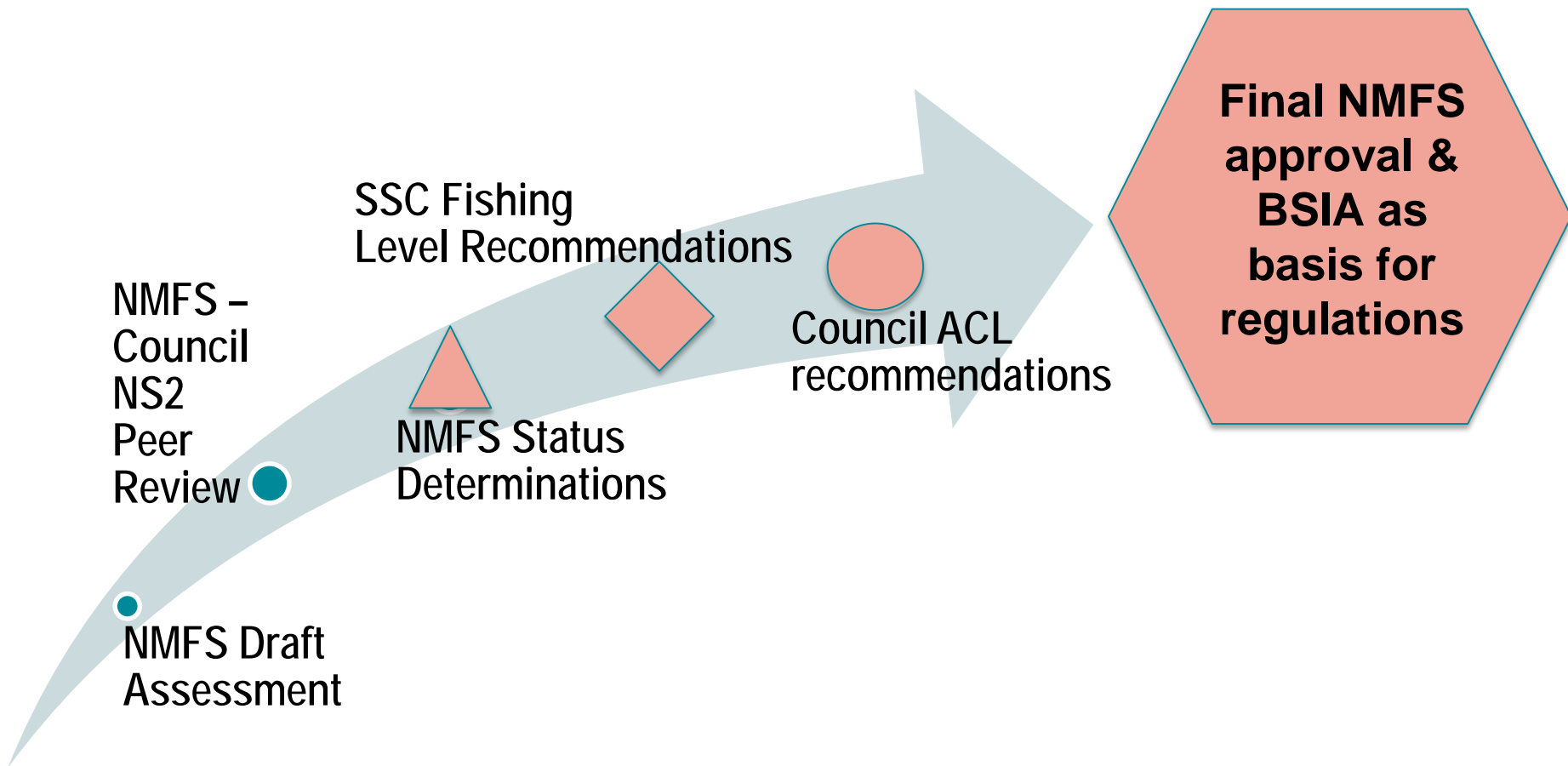
- Short-term: evaluate proposed BSIA process
- Longer-term: document regional process

OBJECTIVES

Fishery management must be based on BSIA

- Document aims to:
 - Describe BSIA certification process for stock assessments to support:
 - ▲ Stock status determination
 - ◆ Fishing recommendations (OFL & ABC)
 - Harvest specifications (ACL)
- Identify roles & facilitate **coordination** with SSCs

National Standard 2: Best Scientific Information Available – BSIA



BSIA-RELATED CHALLENGES

- Coordination of peer review, status determination, & fishing limit specification
- Decision to use some or all results of an assessment
 - Assessment may represent BSIA for one or more mgmt. decision (overfished/ing, OFL/ABC, ACL)
 - Multiple models may be under consideration
 - SSC may have different perspective than NMFS or peer review on aspects of the assessment

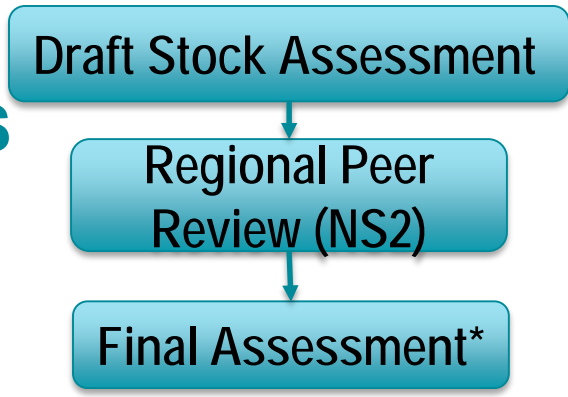
BSIA-RELATED CHALLENGES

- When in the process BSIA is firmly decided
- SSC role in contributing to NMFS' BSIA determination
- How the BSIA determination is documented

Goal: address challenges; establish process that is

- Well understood (who does what, when...)
- Transparent and documented
- Well coordinated

GENERAL STEPS

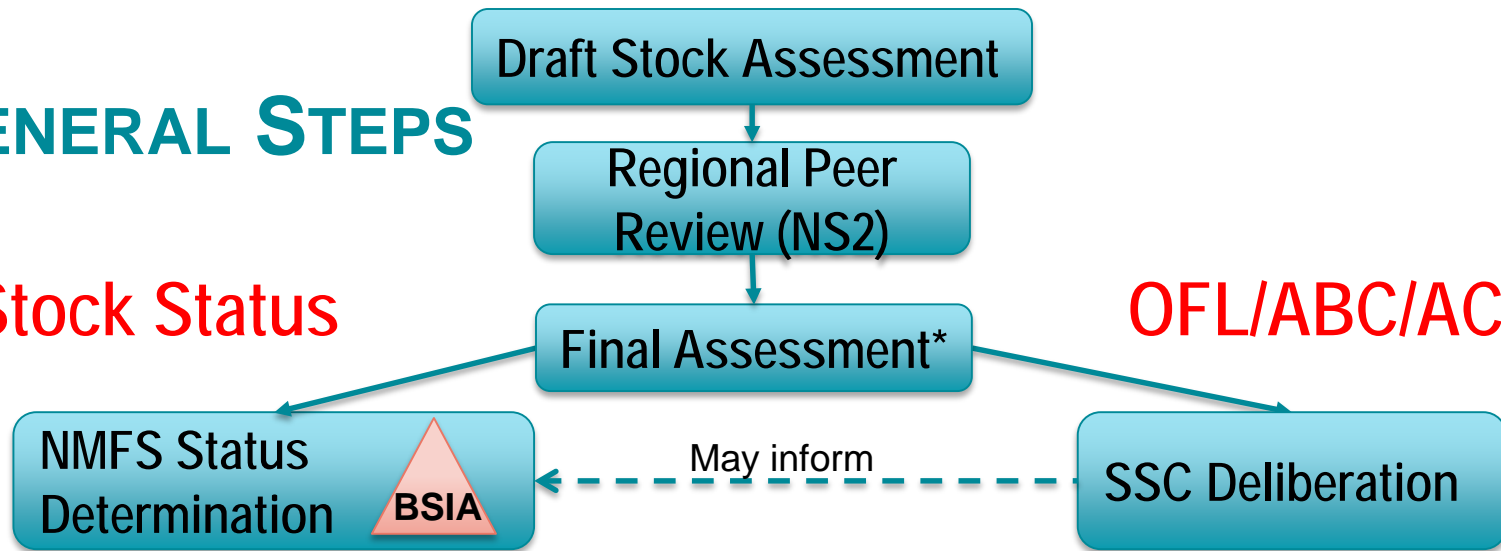


*Science centers may certify final assessments as BSIA

GENERAL STEPS

Stock Status

OFL/ABC/ACL



4 aspects evaluated for BSIA

1. Overfishing
2. Overfished
3. Catch level
4. Amendments (SDC, harvest policy, rebuilding plan)

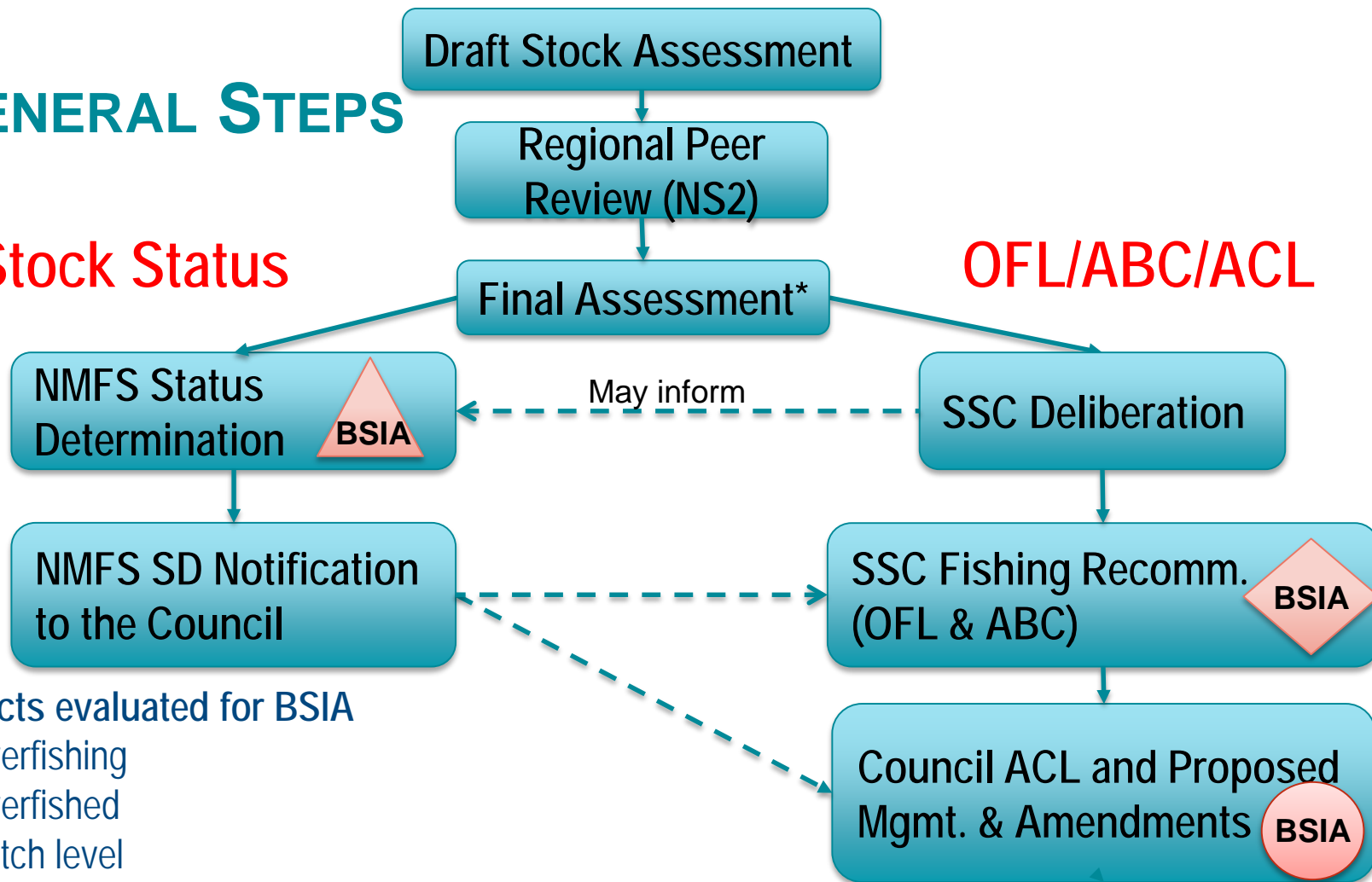
Ultimately, NMFS makes final BSIA declaration.

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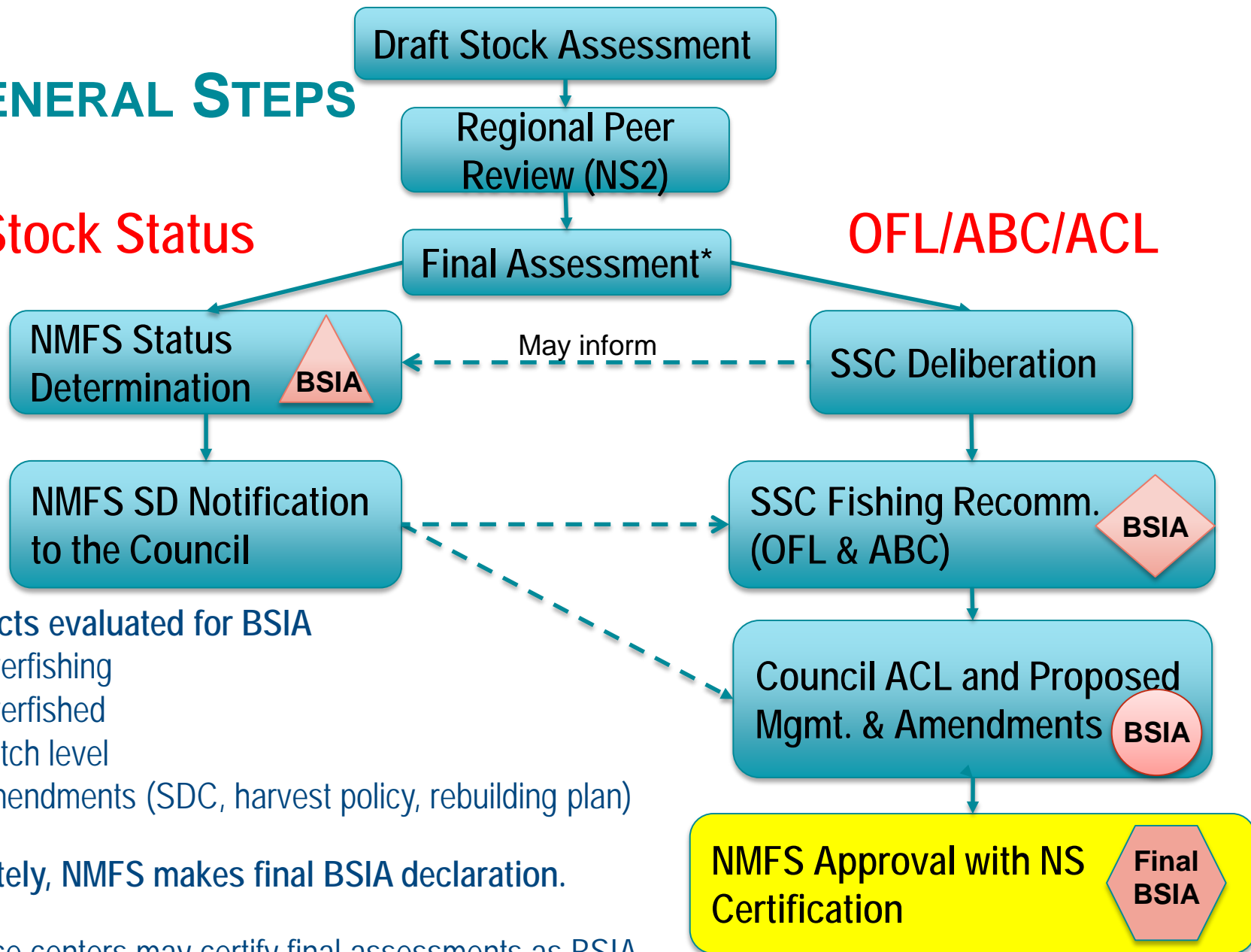
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REQUEST & STATUS

Request

- Evaluate and discuss proposed process
- Is it feasible? Is current process different?

Further agency review and revision

- Estimate 1-2 months before next version
- Distribute for Council review
- Request: conduct review and discuss at Council meeting
- Provide 3-4 months for comments

BEST SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION AVAILABLE

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- Available for discussions & questions (email, phone, in person)

Thank you!

