
Abalone Harvest Strategy

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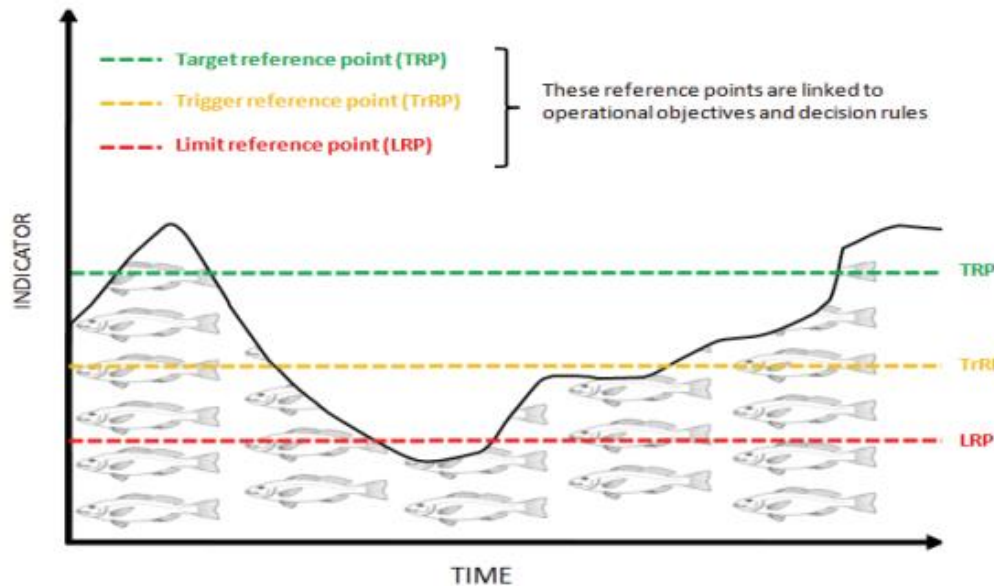
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What is a harvest strategy?

A harvest strategy is a framework that specifies pre-determined management actions in a fishery for defined species (at the stock or management unit level) necessary to achieve the agreed ecological, economic and/or social management objectives



Benefits of a harvest strategy



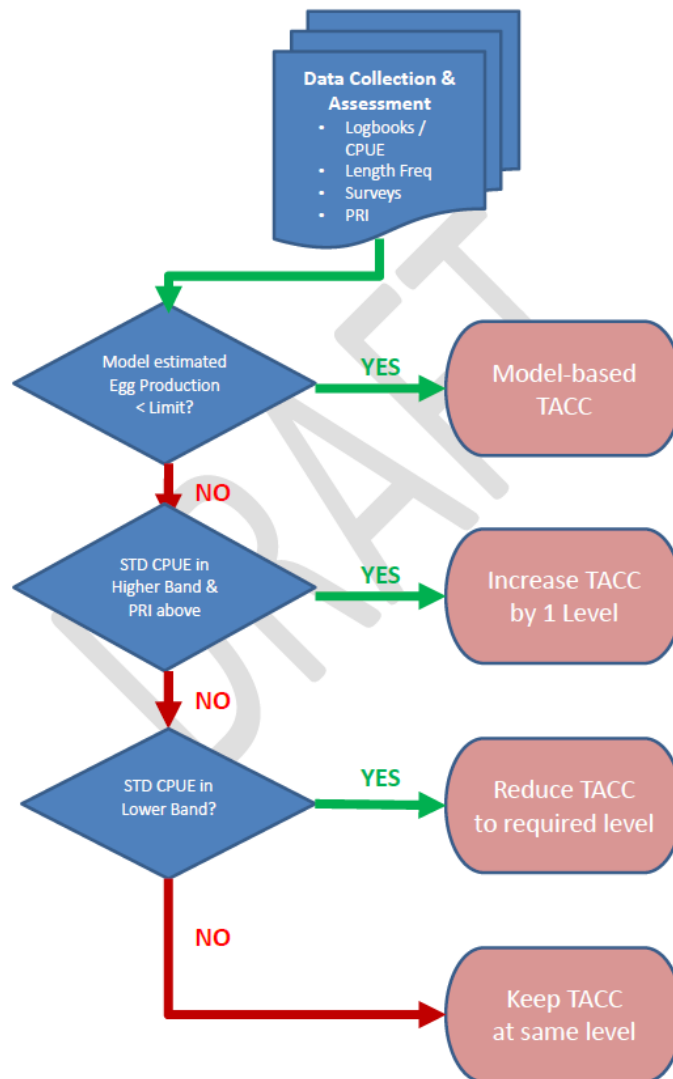
- Represent best practice fisheries management
- Formal and consistent approach to decision making
- Provide for transparent, predictable and timely decisions
- Pre-agreed actions linked to fishery status
- Efficient and cost effective
- Proactive and adaptive

Key elements of a harvest strategy



- Agreed operational objectives for the fishery
 1. Rebuild and then maintain the legal biomass to the target reference point.
 2. Maintain recruitment above a threshold reference point and avoid decline in legal biomass.
 3. Avoid the legal biomass falling below the limit reference point.
- Performance indicators to assess fishery status (to be finalized)
 1. Catch per unit effort
 2. Length
 3. Fishery independent surveys
 4. Logger data
 5. Diver surveys
- Decision rules that control the intensity of fishing activity and/or catch.

An example of a harvest strategy



Harvest strategy timeline



- Working group was formed to develop harvest strategy with representatives from all zones as well as science advisors
- To date have held five meetings
- Upcoming meetings:
 - Science advisors meeting on 18/19 October
 - Working Group meeting 30/31 October
- Draft harvest strategy completed by November 2017
- Independent review of harvest strategy and refinements as necessary

Future Use of the harvest strategy



- 2018/19 TACC-setting forum:
 - Current weight of evidence approach
 - Harvest strategy demonstration

In future TACC forums, expect to be using harvest strategy and will continue to test and refine with industry