

WHERE DOES MY DATA GO?

From Fishermen, For Fishermen



Fishermen Provide Data

Fishermen are crucial in providing much needed information about the fisheries. Their data and knowledge are important for scientists to understand the numbers and the story behind them.



Agencies Collect Data

State and Territory agencies have programs that collect information on types of fish, catch, effort, sales. Some are mandatory while others are voluntary.



NMFS Finalizes Assessment

Scientists take the panel review recommendations and revise the assessment.



Assessment Gets Peer-Reviewed

The assessment is reviewed by a panel of independent experts to determine if it is good enough for management to use.



National Marine Fisheries Service Develops Stock Assessment

Scientists use these data sets to estimate how much fish are in the ocean and project a sustainable level of harvest. This product is called a **stock assessment**.



Assessment Goes to the SSC and The Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council

The Fishery Managers and it's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) receive the peer-reviewed assessment and make a decision whether to use it or not.



Share & Use Data

The data that fishermen and others provide are summarized and shared with fishermen through the Annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report (see www.wpcouncildata.org). The data are used to ensure fishermen continue to fish forever!



Agencies Monitor Catch

Catches are monitored either in near-real time or annually against the quota. The data used in monitoring are the same data provided by fishermen to generate the assessment.



Council Sets Quota

SSC reviews the assessment and decides whether the product is considered best scientific information available. If in favor, the Fishery Managers uses this to set the quota (see Annual Catch Limit infographic).

