

# Operational Guidelines Project

- Background and History
- Progress To Date
- Next Steps

# Background

- Jan. 16, 2013 OIG Report: Recommended “finalizing the draft Operational Guidelines”
- Feb. 2013: CCC convened a Subcommittee to assist with implementation of OIG Recommendations
- Apr. 2013: NOAA submitted “Action Plan”
- May 2013: Discussed Action Plan and circulated discussion paper at CCC meeting

# Action Plan

- NMFS noted significant changes and law since the 2005 draft OGs
- Rather than finalize 2005 Draft, NMFS planed to work with regions and councils to review and assess more recent experiences, identify best practices, and identify areas for improvement
- Target dates for completion:
  - Feb. 2014: Review draft assessment and options with CCC
  - Feb. 2015: Provide new draft OGs to CCC for review
  - Sept. 2015: Issue Final OGs

# Discussion Paper and Objectives

- Spring 2013, NMFS prepared a discussion paper and survey describing the approaches use in the 1997 and 2005 document
- Solicited input at May 2013 CCC meeting
- NMFS worked with CCC Subcommittee to identify objectives and alternatives

# Summer and Fall 2013 Progress

## Summary of Objectives:

- Promote the quality of outcomes and products; avoid unexpected outcomes and litigation loss.
- Promote a timely, effective, and transparent public process:
  - Simplify and speed the flow of work
  - Achieve appropriate standardization
  - Increase transparency
    - Description of the Process
    - Accessibility
    - Tracking and Accountability

**Draft Decision Matrix:** How to achieve these objectives

# **Next Steps**

**Questions/CCC Input**

**Staff to Develop Draft**