

Improving The Management of Our Nation's Fisheries:

Considerations in the Re-Authorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act

- What Works
- What Needs Improvement
- Connecting to the Ocean Action Plan

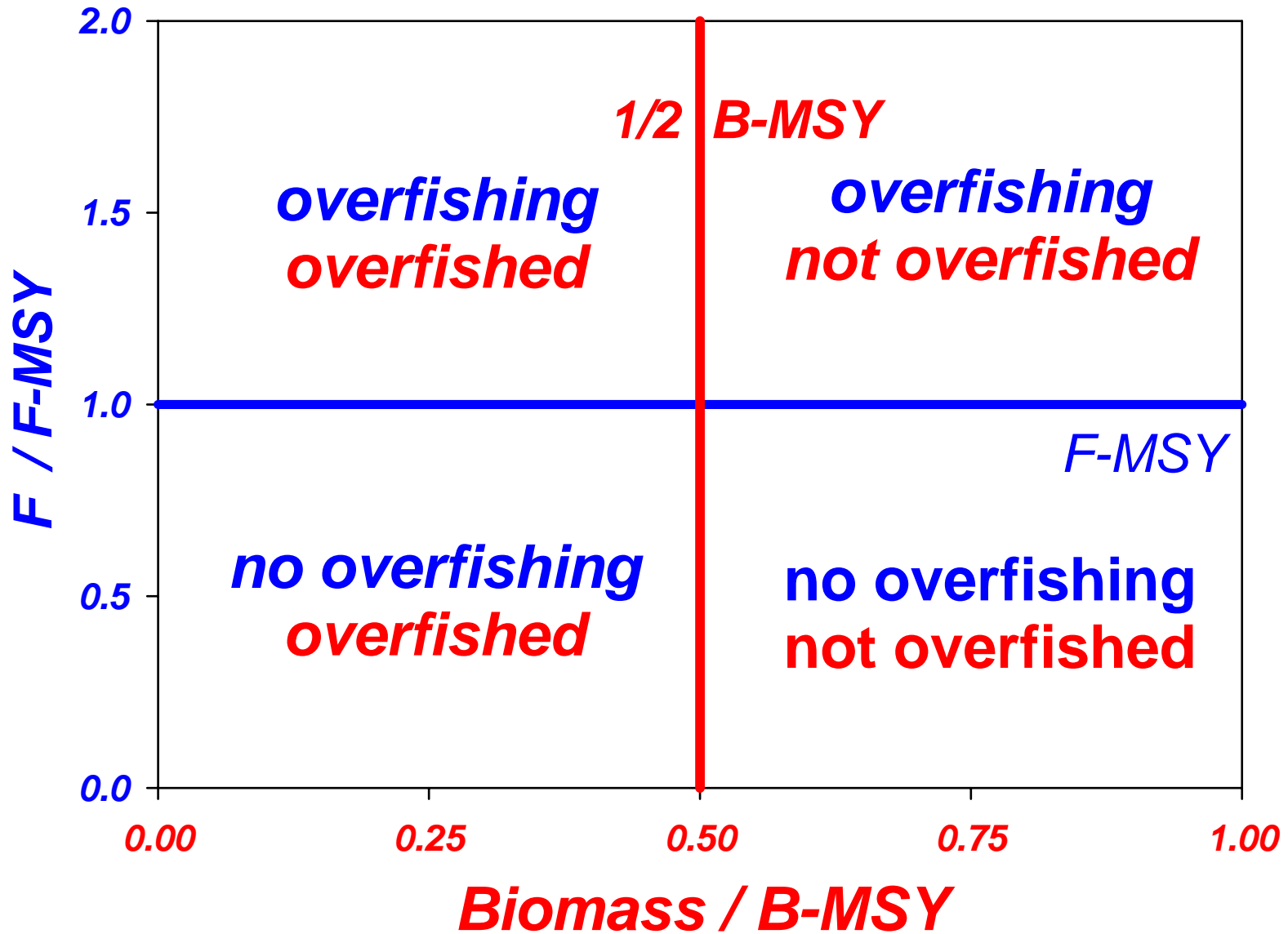


2005 House Ocean Caucus Fisheries Luncheon - 09/12
"Rebuilding U.S. Fisheries: What's Working? What's Not? Scientific background for evaluating proposals to revise the Magnuson-Stevens Act"

Dr. Steven Murawski, NOAA Fisheries Service

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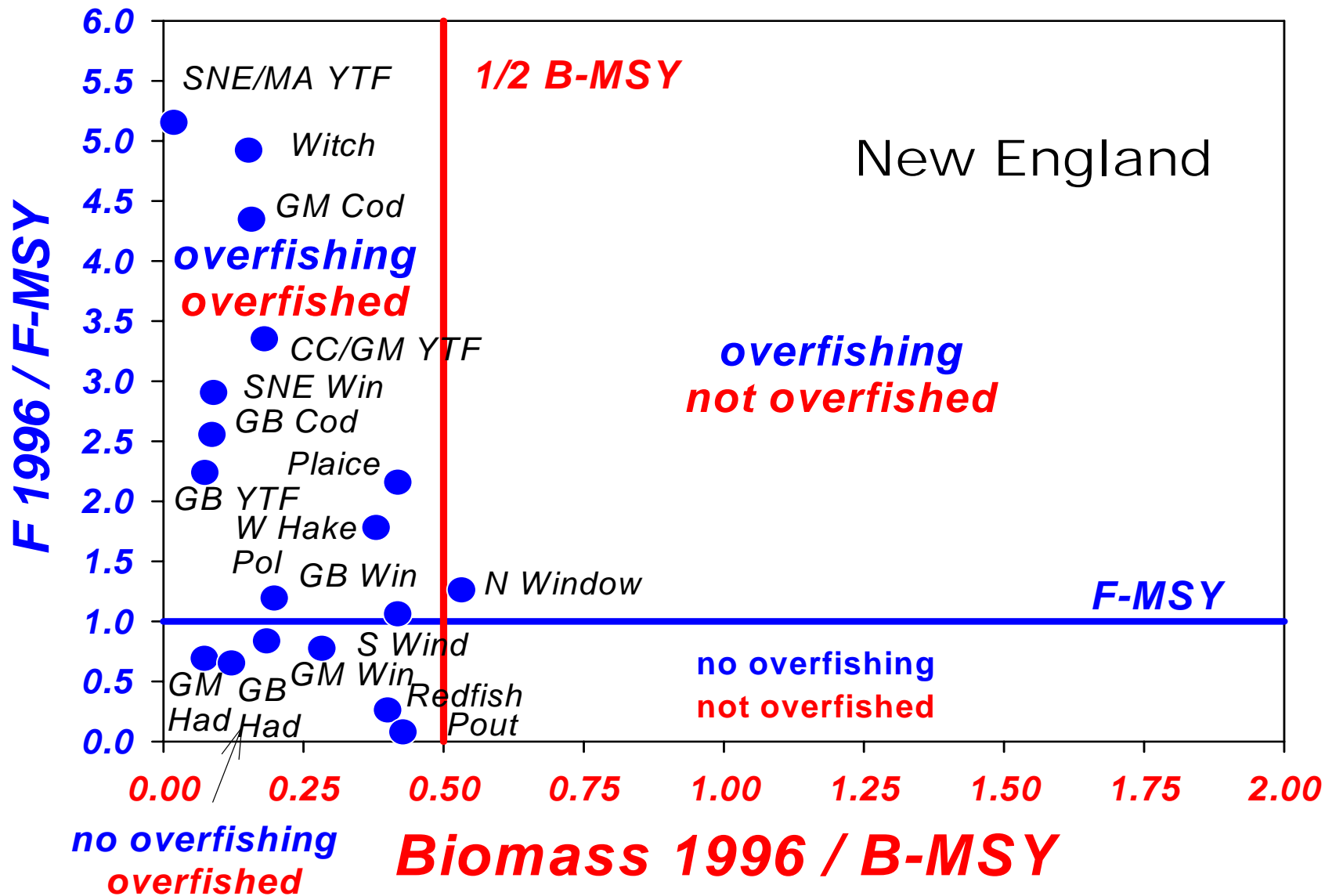
Current Year Stock Status - Status Determination



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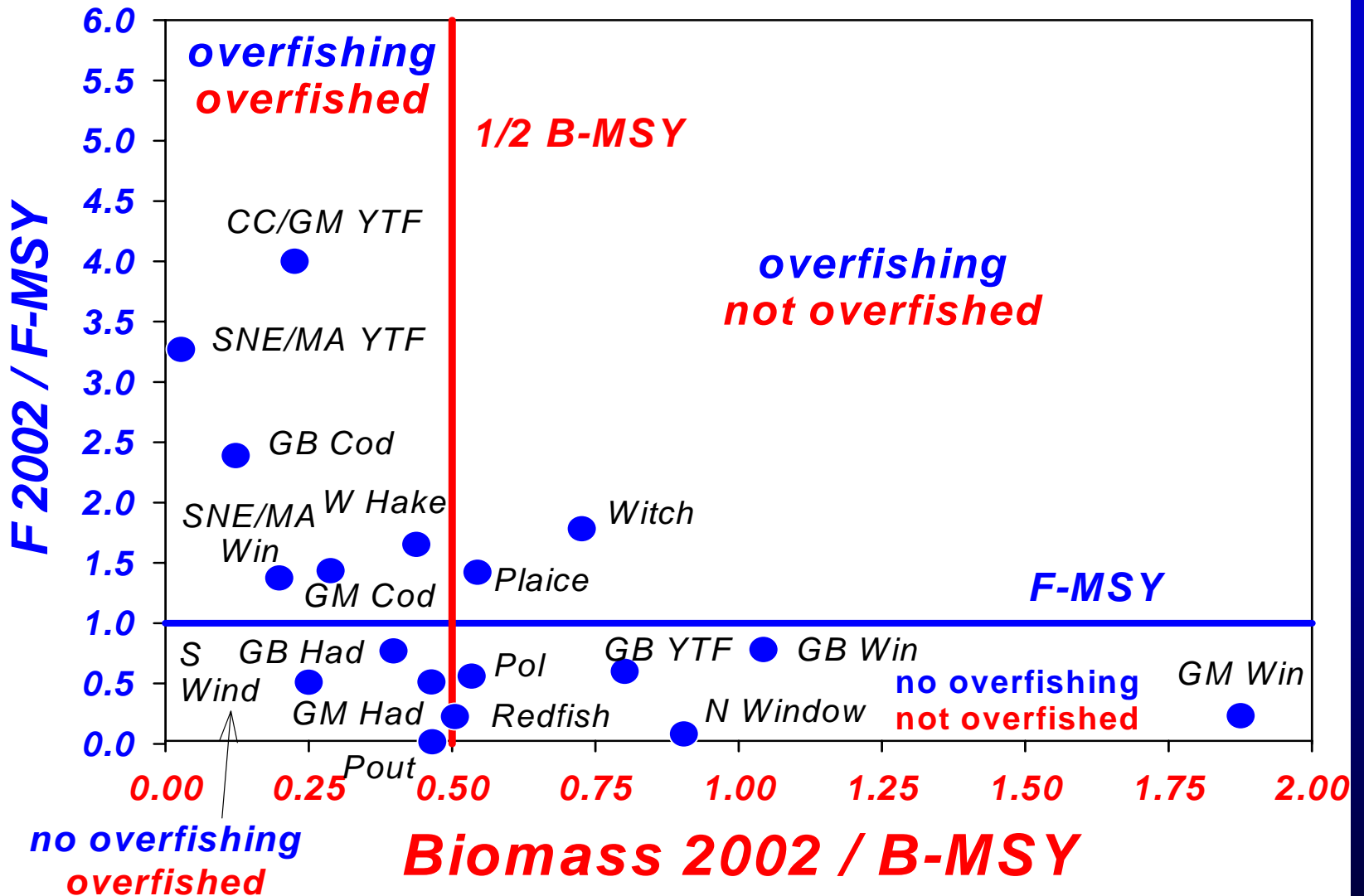
Groundfish Stock Status - 1996



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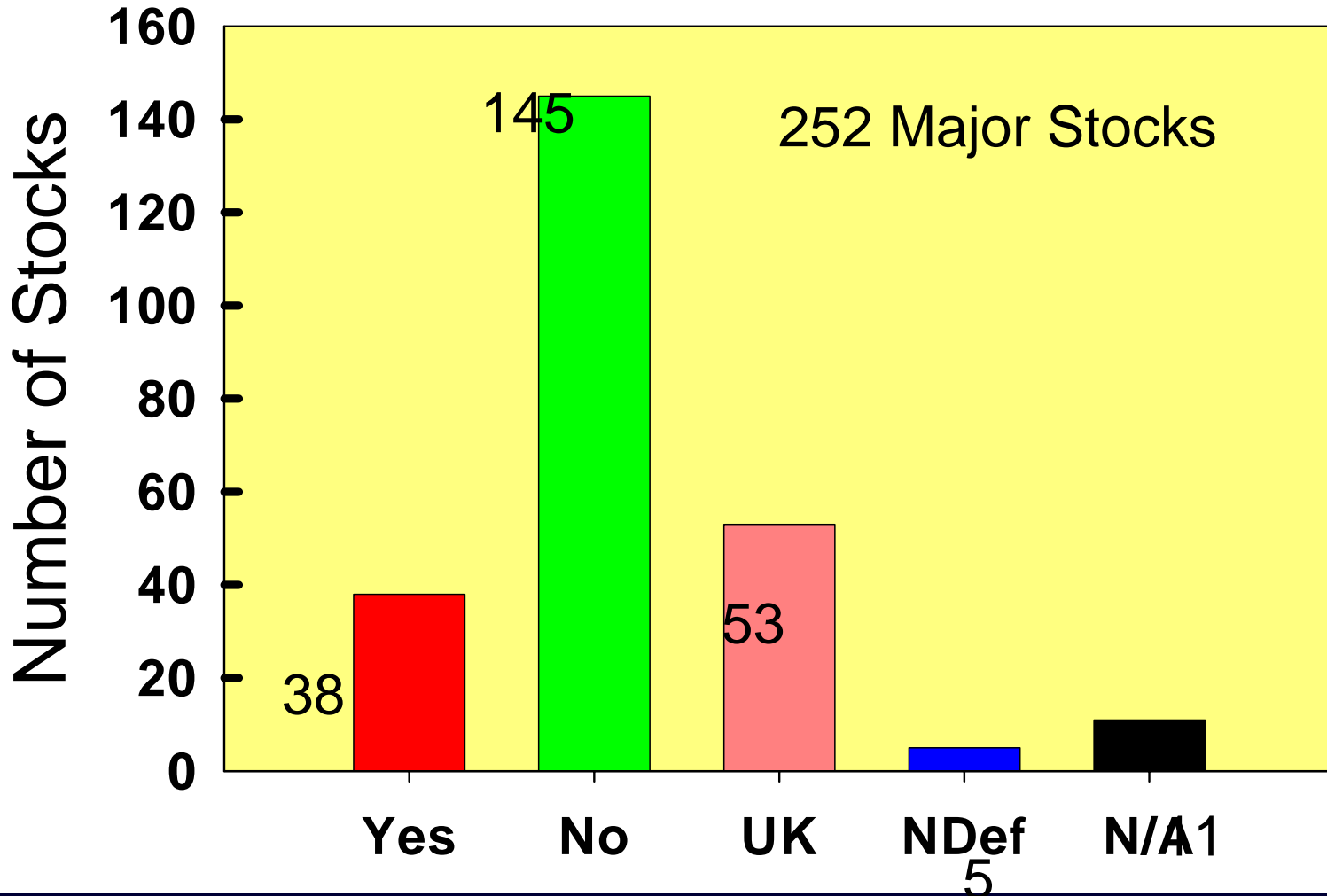
Groundfish Stock Status - 2002



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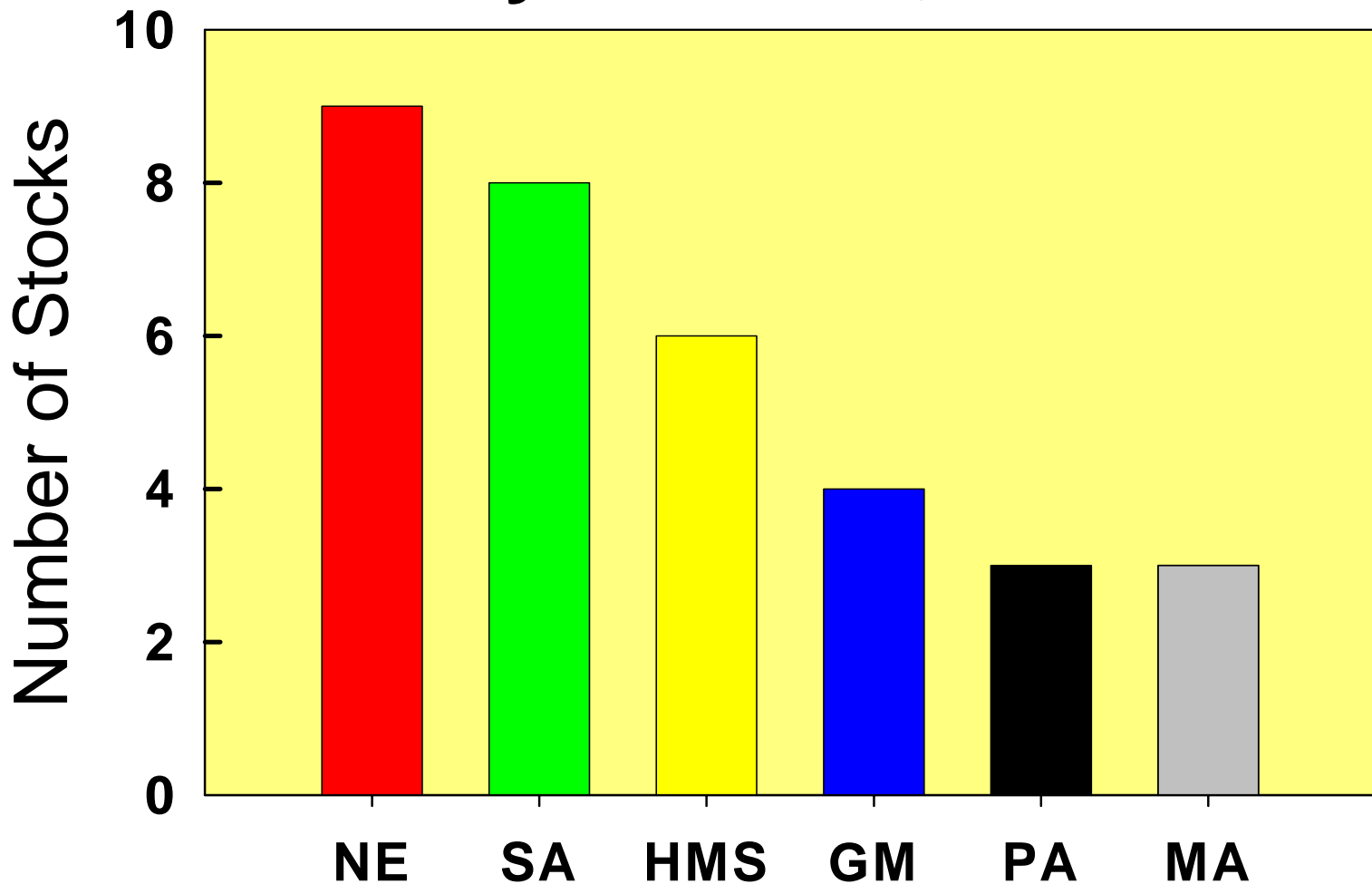
Status of Overfishing 2004



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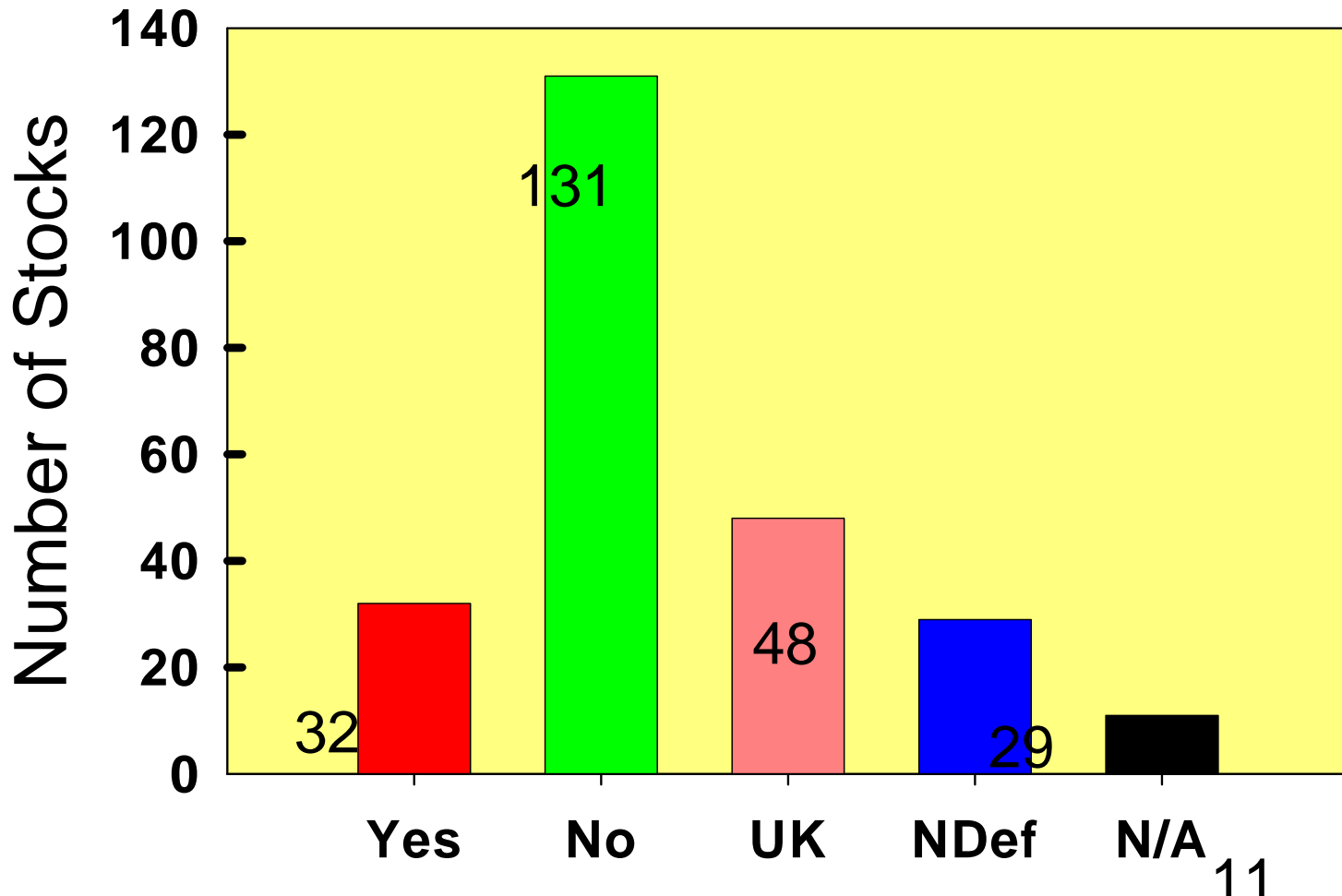
Overfishing Major Stocks by Council, 2004



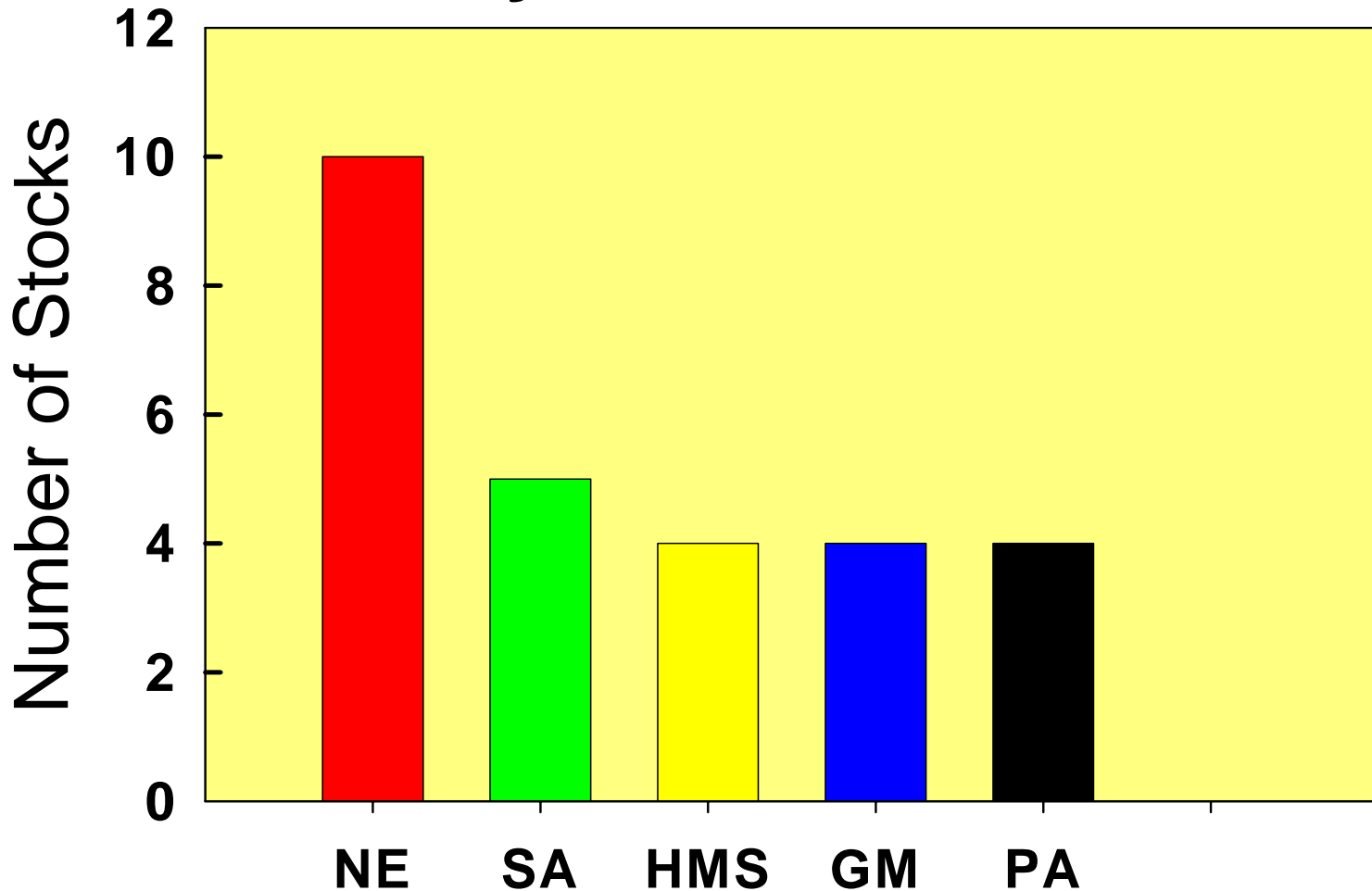
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Status of Overfished 2004



Overfished Major Stocks by Council, 2004



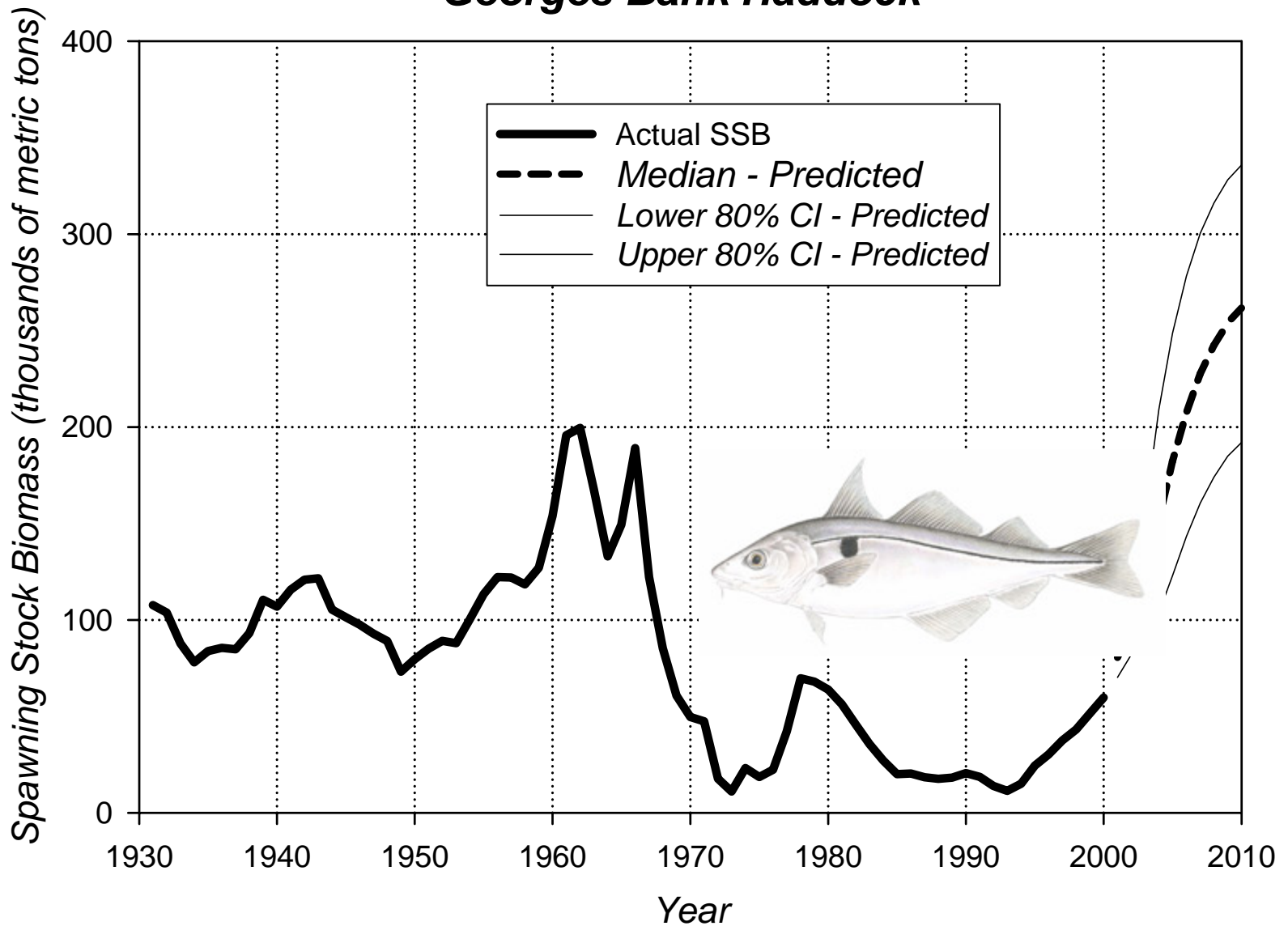
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Proposals for NS-1

- Remove “time discontinuity” in current NS-1
- Default $B_{lim} = 50\% B_{msy}$
- Define Core or “assemblage” stocks; OY Control Rules for core stocks set F_{target} F_{lim} , any new plan sets F below F_{lim} in first year
- Define T_{target} as the default rebuilding time
- Overfished = Depleted
- Rename $MMST = B_{lim}$, $MFMT = F_{lim}$; F_{msy} to determine rebuilding when B_{msy} cannot be calculated
- Clarify what aspects of a rebuilding plan must be changed
- Specify limitations when stock not rebuilt at the end of a rebuilding plan,
- Elaborates on “straddling” international stocks

Georges Bank Haddock



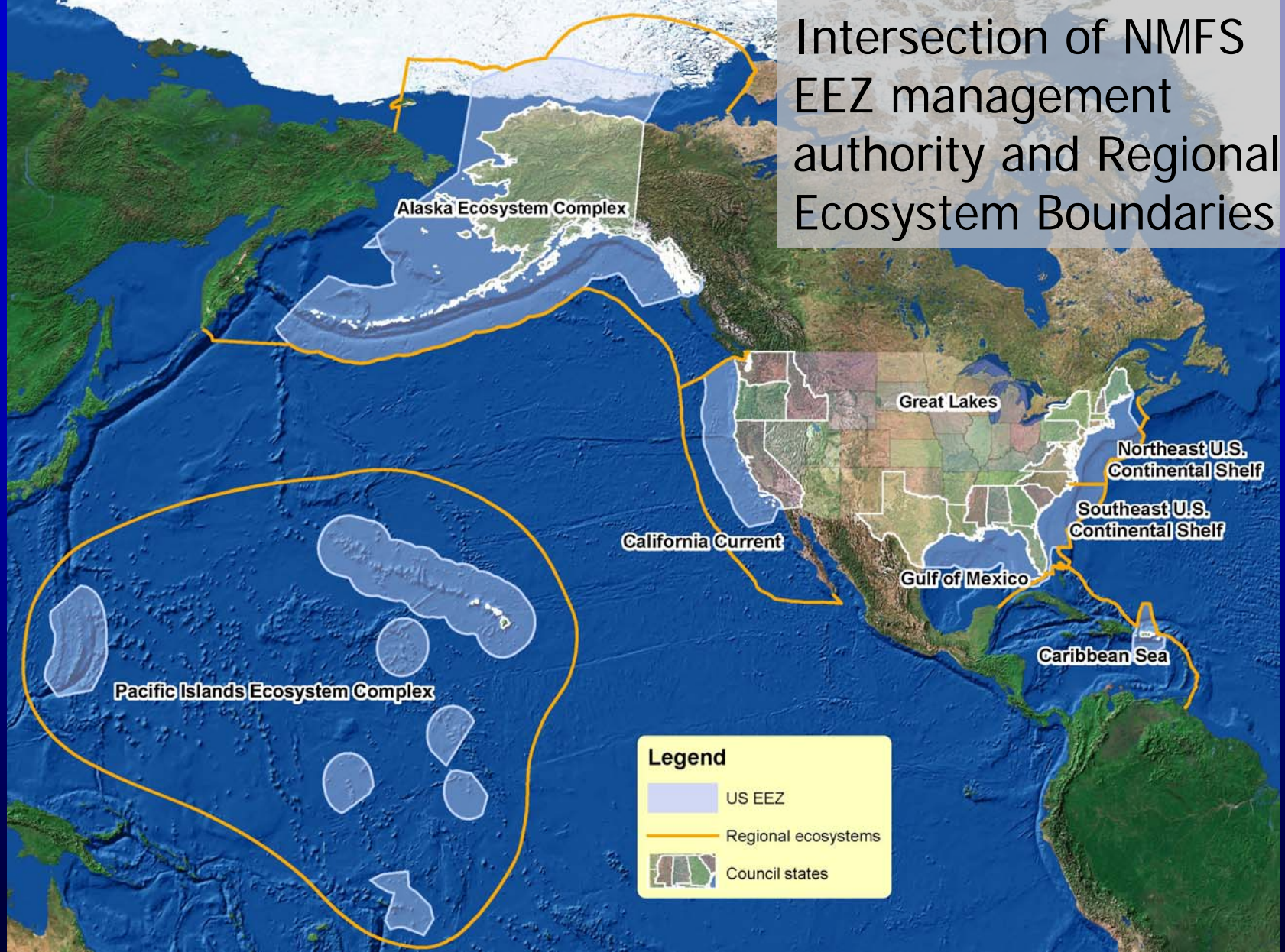
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Highlights from the Administration's MS Bill

- End Overfishing in two years for all stocks
- Revise Time Frames per NS-1 proposals
- Improve Fishery-Dependent Data, National Data collection Programs & Recreational Registration Program in absence of State Licenses, improved Social & Economic Data
- Improved Science supporting Management: Formalize Peer Review, stipends for some S&S Cttee. Members, Funding for Observer Programs
- OY redefined as MSY AS REDUCED BY economic or environmental factors & Scientific Uncertainty (precaution under uncertainty)
- Greater Use of Dedicated Access Privileges to Reduce Overcapacity
- Allow Councils to develop formal Fishery Ecosystem Plans (FEPs)
 - Develop consistent guidelines for FEPs

Intersection of NMFS EEZ management authority and Regional Ecosystem Boundaries



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Consensus Operational Objectives for EAF

- **Conserve and Manage Species**
- **Minimize Bycatch**
- **Manage Tradeoffs**
- **Account for Feedback Effects**
- **Establish Appropriate Ecosystem Boundaries**
- **Maintain Ecosystem Productivity, Balance Ecosystem Structure**
- **Account for Climate Variability**
- **Use Adaptive Approaches to Management**

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