

MRIP Calibration Workshop Terms of Reference

Draft ToR:

1. Review the calibration approaches recommended by the MRFSS/MRIP Calibration Workshop held March 27-29, 2012, in Raleigh NC.
2. Review analyses performed to evaluate potential effects of the 2013 change in the APAIS sampling design on MRIP catch statistics.
3. Evaluate the feasibility of separating the effects of changes in the APAIS sampling design from the effects of changes in the fishery during the affected years.
 - Use red snapper as a case study and review evidence for major changes in the fishery that could account for observed changes in catch statistics.
4. Recommend appropriate calibration approaches to adjust the catch statistics (point estimates and variance) for the years prior to 2013. Discuss the key factors that the calibration approaches must take into account and how they should be modified as more years of APAIS data are collected with the new sampling design.
5. Discuss how future MRIP survey design changes should be evaluated with respect to possible needs for calibration and adjustments to past catch statistics, addressing how any APAIS design change calibration would best be integrated with any future calibrations.
6. Prepare a consensus report providing complete documentation of workshop activities and recommendations.