

Project: MSE Tools for Short-Lived Species

North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC)

3rd Meeting of the Small Scientific Committee on Neon Flying Squid

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Pew

Squid Context

- Squid are ecologically important (forage)
- Life-history: Short lifespans, rapid growth, semelparous reproduction
- Sensitivity to environmental conditions...

Challenges:

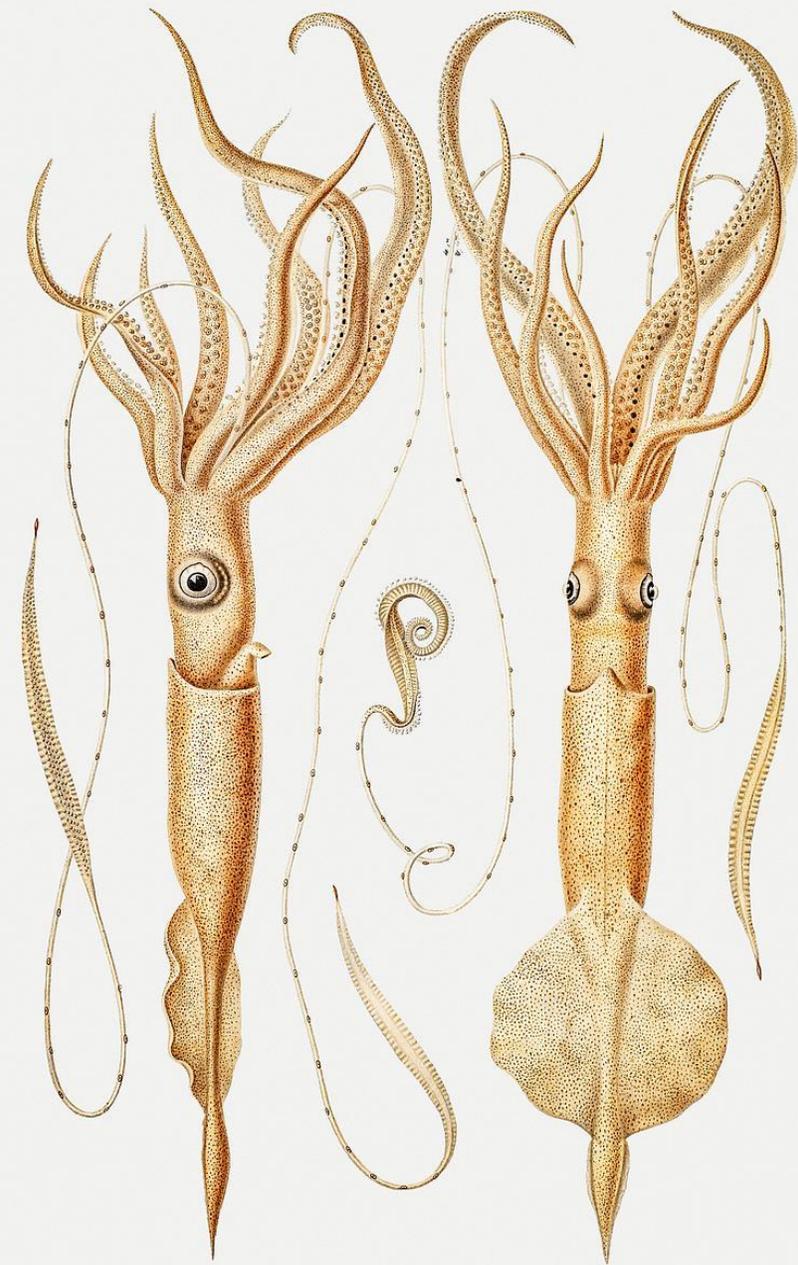
- *Traditional stock assessment methods often fall short for squid fisheries - biology and environmental responsiveness*
- *Scientific and management uncertainties e.g. data limitations*
- *A need for responsive, climate-resilient management strategies*



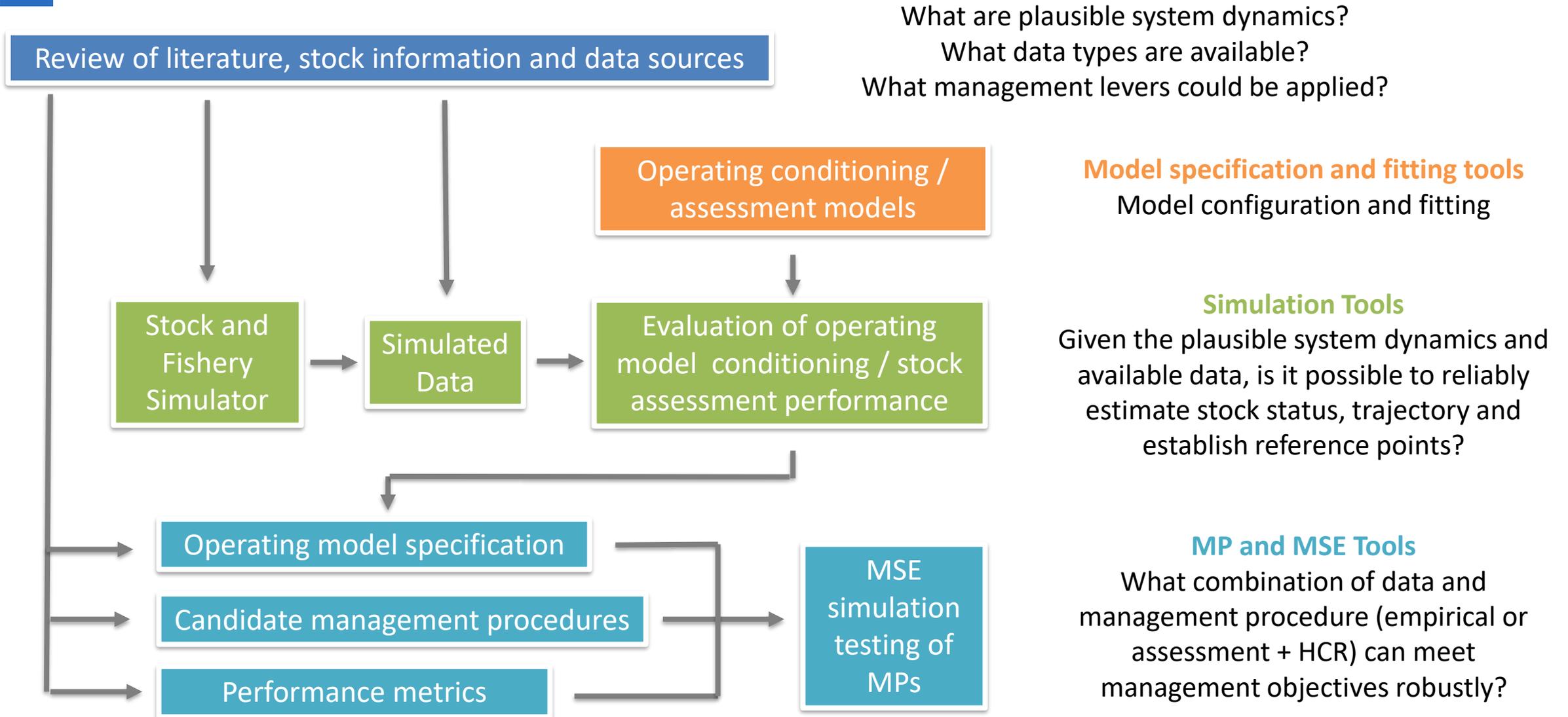
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Project Background

- Increasing interest in the development of robust Management Procedures (MPs) for short-lived species such as squid
- Short-lived species often require:
 - *Operating Models (OMs) that account for seasonal cycles in recruitment and growth*
 - *MPs that can respond to in-season data*
- **Aim to develop a suite of MSE tools for OpenMSE** - that will enable the simulation testing of assessment models, the specification of OMs and the development of MPs for short-lived species
- **The project hopes to include relevant RFMO squid case studies – *Neon flying squid, Japanese flying squid, or Jumbo flying squid?***
- The efficacy of the new tools depends on real-world applications and collaboration with scientists and managers of applicable stocks



Methods



Project Tasks

- **Develop globally applicable MSE tools for squid (/short-lived species)**
- **Develop some archetype MPs that could be effectively applied to squid (/short-lived species) fisheries**
- **Provide strategic MSE analyses for RFMO squid fisheries - monitoring and research priorities**
- **Integrate/test climate and environmental robustness testing methods**
- **Provide feedback opportunities and capacity-building on the new MSE tools through RFMO trainings/workshops**



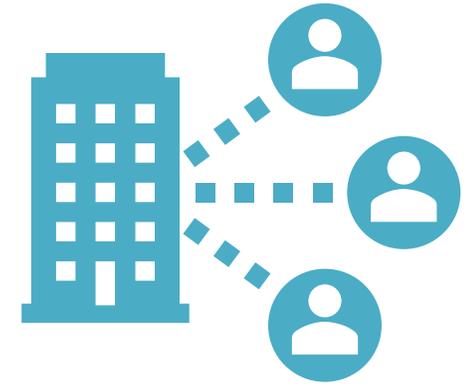
Tentative - Project Timeline

- **The project Kick-Off was in late January 2026**
- **Develop short-lived species OpenMSE tools throughout 2026**
 - We plan feedback/input opportunities and scientific capacity-building workshops and training sessions for the tools in coordination with NPFC and SPRFMO. [TBD 2026-2027]
 - **Apply short-lived species OpenMSE tools to 2xRFMO squid case studies** [TBD - 2026-2027/28]
- **Strategic MSE** – RFMO monitoring and research priorities [in 2026]
- **Robustness Tests** – Environmental and climate considerations [in 2026]



Call for Collaboration

- Looking for case study stocks/fisheries to develop and apply the new tools
- RFMO scientists' inputs will be crucial for shaping the project's direction and relevance
- Inviting NPFC and SPRFMO scientists to engage with Blue Matter Science Ltd. to discuss the project and how to participate at key stages / tasks
- Continuous dialogue is encouraged throughout the project
- **Your expertise, input and feedback will be essential for its success**



Interested?

- **Contact:** tom@bluematterscience.com [Cc. awilson@pewtrusts.org]



Any Questions?

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