1. **Assessment information collected** (new process started 2011)

   a. Results of student defense of thesis proposal (pass/fail). Goal = 80% success w/in two years of enrollment.

   The MS program was recently revised to require a defense of the thesis proposal. To date, no failures have been recorded, which means 100% of students took and passed the proposal defense.

   b. Student committee rates student and Grad Program Chair rates thesis after thesis defense. Goal = 80% of students will be judged by faculty and the program head to have performed at the level of a competent fisheries professional (score <= 2). MET GOAL.

   Revised OA procedures changed the committee evaluations from pass/fail to a score of 1-4, and added an evaluation of the thesis by the Graduate Program Chair. Scores are:
   
   1 = strong compared to a typical professional
   2 = competent compared to a typical professional
   3 = needs improvement to meet professional standards
   4 = seriously deficient

   Committee evaluations for MS students in AY 12-13 and 13-14 were: seven students received an overall score of <=2.

   Grad Chair overall evaluation of the theses were scored as 1 (three students), 2 (one student), and 2.5 (one student).

   c. Students post-graduation employment. Goal = 80% have fisheries-related employment or in PhD program within one year. MET GOAL.

   The majority of students are finding fisheries-related employment. Specifically, 12 of the last 15 graduated were in a fisheries-related job or an advanced degree program post-graduation. Of the other three, one was unemployed, the second employed by Amazon.com, and the third was unreachable.
d. Advisor and students asked whether publications resulted from thesis. Goal = 50% of MS students submit a manuscript to a journal within a year, 25% successfully publish a first-authored paper within three years.

Student publications: Based on the 2013 Associate Dean’s publication list, publications including past and present students numbered 35.

e. Students rate program at exit and 3 years post-graduation. Goal = 80% satisfied or very satisfied. MET GOAL.

Exit interviews with 2012-2014 graduates: Thirteen exit interviews were conducted with MS students, of which 10 answered the question “Overall, how satisfied are you with your educational and professional preparation from your degree program in Fisheries?”. Seven students gave a “very satisfied” answer and three gave a “satisfied” answer.

Several students mentioned either individual faculty or courses that were particularly valuable. One mentioned problems they had with a GPMSL faculty member. Several indicated that they’d like to see improvements in the VCON course experience, and that they’d like more offerings in GIS, proposal writing and time management as a scientist.

Survey of 2008-09 graduates: Due to 2 of our 3 administrative staff leaving the Fisheries Division and not replaced, no surveys of former graduate students have been conducted.

f. Miscellaneous statistics.

In Spring 2013, there were 36 MS students officially enrolled and in Spring 2014, official enrollment was 39 MS students. During the period Fall 2012-Spring 2014, 13 MS students graduated. The MS students had a mean time of 3.5 years, calculated from 213 students who have been in the program since 1988. During AY 2012-2014, MS student credit hours totaled 1044.

2. Conclusions drawn from the information summarized above

The Fisheries MS Program is very successful. It is producing students that are successful in obtaining fisheries-related employment, most of it in Alaska. The majority of students are publishing the results of their theses in peer-reviewed scientific literature, indicating that their research is of high quality. Students are generally satisfied with the program, and at the end of their program the faculty are satisfied with the students and their theses.

The mean time to graduation is 3.5 years for an MS, with only one recent student past the 7 year limit. This is acceptable and could be reduced to 3 years.

Improvements to data collection are needed: A higher fraction of students need exit interviews and post-graduation surveys. The Division Director, Grad Chair, and staff will clarify procedures and responsibilities for collecting, collating, and archiving OA data. An additional administrative staff position has been hired so better follow-up should occur.

3. Curricular changes resulting from conclusions drawn above

Curricular review for the MSc program was completed in 2011. We propose to review it again every 3-5 years.
4. **Identify the faculty members involved in reaching the conclusions drawn above and agreeing upon the curricular changes resulting**

The Fisheries Graduate Program Committee consists of Shannon Atkinson (chair), Courtney Carothers, (term ends June 2015), Franz Mueter (term ends June 2014), and Milo Adkison (past chair), Jeff Falke (Term ends June 2016) and Ginny Eckert (term ends 2016). The Committee will review the outcomes data and suggests changes, but any changes are approved (and possibly modified) by the Fisheries faculty as a whole.