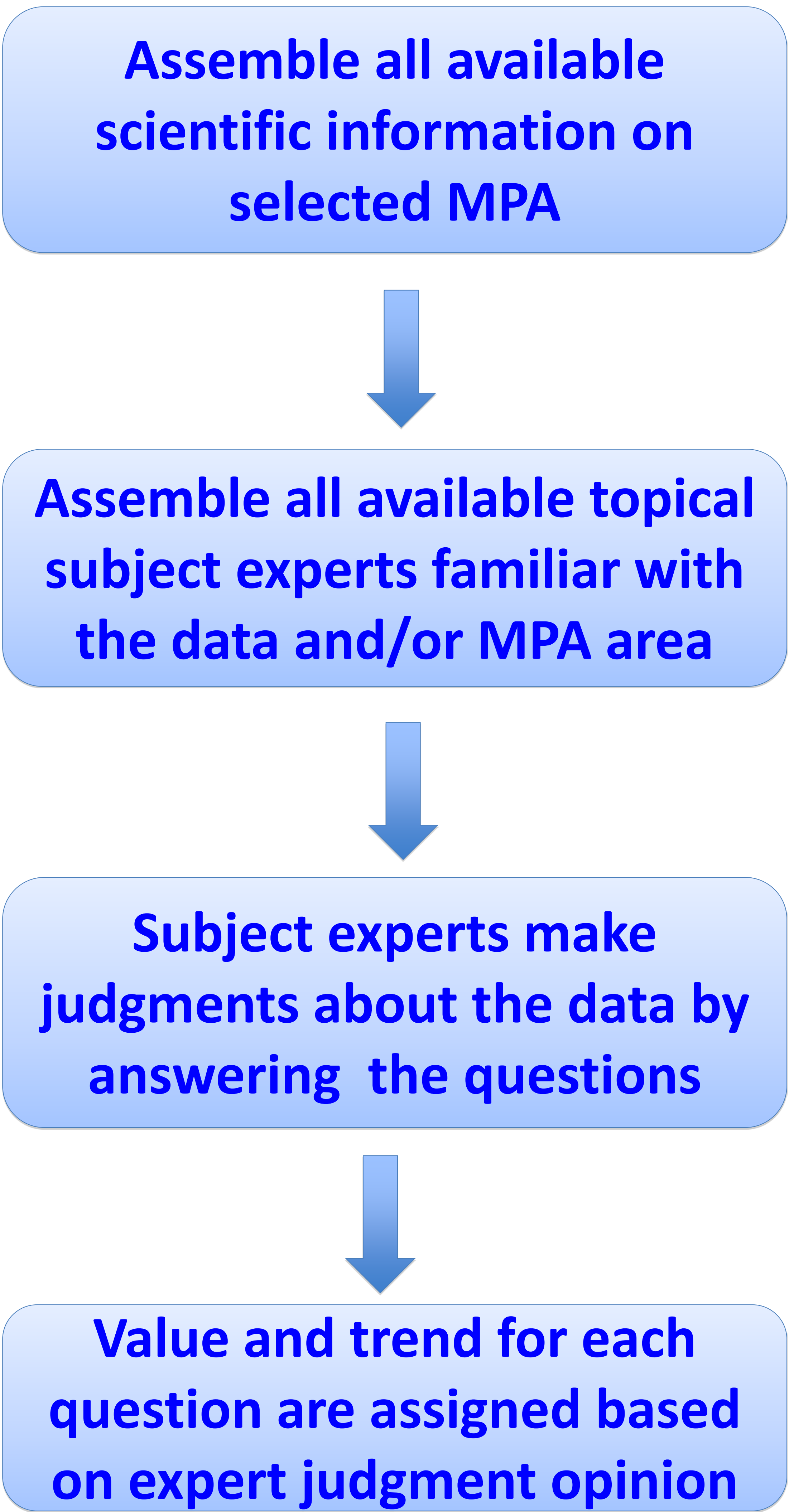


North American Marine Protected Areas Network (NAMPAN) Ecological Condition Assessment Scorecard: Improving Collaboration, Disseminating Complex Science Information That Stakeholders Can Understand, and Encouraging Ownership of Marine Resources in Canada, Mexico, and the United States

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ABSTRACT: Ecological scorecards are used as a *communication tool*, requiring groups to pool data, expertise, and discuss in order to develop a final product that can be used by technical and non-technical audiences alike. They are a *reporting tool*, taking complex monitoring data and providing stakeholders with an easy to understand value judgment and assigning a trend. They are a *collaborative tool*, offering stakeholders and managers the opportunity to take actions necessary to improve the value judgments on the next reporting cycle. They are an *information gap tool*, identifying areas of monitoring that are either insufficient to make an informed value judgment or nonexistent.

THE SCORECARD PROCESS



SCORECARD CATEGORIES

- Water/Stressors
- Water/Nutrient Effects
- Water/Human Health
- Water/Human Activities
- Habitat/Extent & Distribution
- Habitat/Contaminants
- Habitat/Human Activities
- Living Resources/Biodiversity
- Living Resources/Extracted Species
- Living Resources/Alien Species
- Living Resources/Keystone & Indicator Species
- Living Resources/Focal Species
- Living Resources/Species of Common Concern
- Living Resources/Human Activities

SCORECARD VALUE JUDGMENTS

Superior	★★★★★
Good	★★★★
Fair	★★★
Poor	★★

TREND ANALYSIS

- Rapidly Improving
- Improving
- Stable
- Diminishing
- Rapidly Diminishing
- Undetermined

EXAMPLE OF NAMPAN SCORECARD QUESTION

Question 9. (Living Resources/Extracted Species). What is the status of extracted species and how is it changing?