

SALMON METHODOLOGY REVIEW

Each year, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Salmon Technical Team (STT) complete a methodology review to help assure new or significantly modified methodologies employed to estimate impacts of the Council's salmon management use the best available science. This review is preparatory to the Council's adoption at the November meeting of all proposed changes to be implemented in the coming season, or, in certain limited cases, providing directions for handling any unresolved methodology problems prior to the formulation of salmon management alternatives the following March. Because there is insufficient time to review new or modified methods at the March meeting, the Council may reject their use if they have not been approved the preceding November.

The Methodology Review is also used as a forum to review updated stock conservation objective proposals, which allows the Council to approve updates at the November meeting and allows adequate time for planning fisheries in the subsequent year. The Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP) allows conservation objectives to be updated without a formal FMP amendment, provided a comprehensive technical review of the best scientific information available provides conclusive evidence that, in the view of the STT, SSC, and the Council, justifies a modification.

At its April 2015 meeting, the Council adopted the following priority candidate items for the 2015 Salmon Methodology Review. Source entities to deliver detailed reports for SSC review are included in brackets with each candidate item.

The following were identified as priority items:

- Update of the Chinook FRAM (Fishery Regulation Assessment Model) base period and associated base period algorithms [Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW)].
- Update documentation for Chinook and coho FRAM [MEW].
- Evaluation of Sacramento River winter Chinook contribution to ocean fisheries north and south of Point Sur [California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)].
- Evaluation of a management line at Point Reyes for the Klamath Ocean Harvest Model (KOHM), Sacramento Harvest Model (SHM), and Winter Run Harvest Model [CDFW, NMFS].
- Evaluation of a potential management line splitting the California Klamath Management Zone in the KOHM and SHM [CDFW, NMFS].

The Council also requested that the STT evaluate salmon forecasts for the potential estimation of variance. At the June 2015 Council meeting, it was announced that this item would be presented next spring for consideration as a topic for the 2016 methodology review.

Additionally, the Yurok and Hoopa Valley Tribes intend to collaborate on the development of methods to estimate ocean fishery impacts on Klamath River spring Chinook. The Yurok and Hoopa Valley Tribes are planning to begin this effort in 2015, but do not anticipate that sufficient work would be completed in time for a full review in the fall of 2015.

These subjects and the responsible agencies were identified in a reminder email dated May 11, 2015, which requested agencies prepare to speak to the status of the subjects in terms of completeness and priority (Agenda Item D.1.a, Attachment 1).

All materials for review are to be received at the Council office at least two weeks prior to the review meeting of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee and STT, which is scheduled for October 20-22, 2015 in Portland.

Council Action:

- 1. Determine if topics identified for review will be ready for the October Salmon Methodology Review meeting.**
- 2. Set priorities for review of methodologies and/or conservation objective update proposals.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.1, Attachment 1: May 11, 2015 email to the agencies from Mike Burner regarding preliminary topic selection.

Agenda Order:

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| E.1 Salmon Methodology Review | Mike Burner |
| a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities | |
| b. Public Comment | |
| c. Council Action: Identify Priority Projects for Review in 2015 | |

PFMC
08/05/15