

METHODOLOGY REVIEW PRELIMINARY TOPIC SELECTION

The Council adopted Council Operating Procedure 25 (COP 25) last year, which governs the Council process for reviewing new methodologies that could inform groundfish stock assessments and other analyses important in Council management decisions. COP 25 specifies a Council process that determines which new methodologies proposed for groundfish impact analyses that inform decisions in the biennial specifications process would go forward for a formal review. The decision on which impact analyses are slated for formal review is specified to occur during September and November Council meetings in even years (preliminary topic selection in September and final topic selection in November). At this meeting, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), in conjunction with the Groundfish Management Team, will identify topics that could merit a formal methodology review.

COP 25 also determines the process for new methodologies that inform groundfish stock assessments. While the default process is to decide assessment methodology topics for formal review during September and November Council meetings in odd years, COP 25 allows a process of determining a methodology review outside the schedule prescribed in the COP. The SSC is soliciting new methodologies that may inform 2017 stock assessments at this meeting. Further, it is anticipated that new methodologies for modelling productivity may come forward in a planned December workshop sponsored by the Council. The SSC may propose a pathway for deciding which, if any, new assessment methodologies endorsed by the Productivity Workshop participants merit a formal methodology review.

The Council should consider SSC, other advisory body, and public recommendations on new methodologies for review and provide guidance on preliminary topics for a 2017 methodology review. Final methodology topic selection is scheduled for November 2016.

Council Action:

Provide Guidance on Preliminary Topics for the 2017 Methodology Review.

Reference Materials:

None.

Agenda Order:

- F.2 Methodology Review Preliminary Topic Selection John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on Preliminary Topics for the 2017 Methodology Review