

METHODOLOGY REVIEW PLANNING

When new stock survey or data methodologies are developed for potential inclusion in Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) products, the Council provides a process for peer review and evaluation. Upon approval by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the methodology can then be included in stock assessments or other Council products. For coastal pelagic species (CPS), the joint CPS and groundfish Terms of Reference for methodology reviews describe the review process, including the preliminary stage of determining which methodologies should be considered for a formal review.

Typically the proponents of a methodology bring a preliminary proposal to the Council at the November meeting (also described in Council Operating Procedure 26), and upon approval by the Council, the methodology review meeting is then scheduled for some time during the following year. The proposed review of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center's (SWFSC) acoustic-trawl methodology is tentatively planned for January 2018. Therefore, the Council is being asked to approve the review now, rather than wait until November. This will give adequate time to identify review panel members and make other necessary arrangements for the review meeting.

At this meeting, the Council will consider the request for formal review of the SWFSC acoustic-trawl survey for use in future stock assessments, as well as recommendations from the SSC and other Council advisory bodies, in determining whether it should be formally reviewed in the following year, and other considerations regarding the review.

Council Task:

Consider proposal for formal methodology review in 2018.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.3.a, SWFSC Report.

Agenda Order:

G.3 Methodology Review Planning

- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on Survey Methodology Reviews

Kerry Griffin