

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON STOCK ASSESSMENT
METHODOLOGY REVIEW

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) recommends that methods described in [Agenda Item, E.3 Attachment 1, September 2017](#): “Improving Catch Estimation Methods in Sparsely Sampled Mixed Stock Fisheries” be reviewed in 2018. The GMT believes that the proposed model-based approach for applying species compositions may be a better methodology than the current design-based approach that uses borrowing rules (e.g., nearest port, gear, etc.) to address un-sampled stratum. That is because the model-based methods provide measures of uncertainty, and may also lead to more accurate point estimates since the species compositions are applied based on statistical likelihood. **The GMT recommends that if the new model based approach is endorsed by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), then it be considered for all appropriate catch stream reconstructions from which historical estimates were previously based upon borrowing rules for applying species compositions.**

In addition, the GMT concurs with the SSC recommendation that the stock assessment methodology review selection process (described in COP 25) be expanded from the current one meeting (September) to two meetings (September and November). This will provide proposers, stock assessors, and the SSC more opportunity to further develop, discuss, and hone proposals prior to final selection. For example, it is our understanding that the SSC may propose having the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) fishery-independent survey proposal ([Agenda Item E.3.a., Supplemental ODFW Report](#)) brought back in November so that ODFW can provide more specifics regarding certain methods and how their data would be used within assessments.

PFMC
09/13/17