

OFF-YEAR SCIENCE AND STOCK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY REVIEW –
FINAL TOPIC SELECTION

In September, the Council adopted a preliminary list of workshops and formal reviews of new proposed methodologies to improve the science informing groundfish management decisions. The preliminary list is as follows:

- a workshop on historical catch reconstruction as a follow-up to last year's workshop;
- a workshop on transboundary issues in groundfish stock assessments;
- a workshop on best practices for modeling conditional age-at-length data;
- a follow-up workshop on modeling stock productivity in groundfish stock assessments (this workshop may not be needed pending the results and recommendations from participants of the October Center for the Advancement of Population Assessment Methodology workshop on modeling natural mortality);
- a review of a proposed methodology to improve catch estimation methods in sparsely sampled mixed stock fisheries (this could be logically combined with the historical catch reconstruction workshop);
- a review of the Data-Limited Methods Toolkit for use in groundfish stock assessments;
- a review of a proposed remotely operated vehicle (ROV) survey of nearshore stocks by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Agenda Item F.10.a, ODFW Report 1);
- a review of a proposed ROV survey of nearshore stocks by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Agenda Item F.10.a, CDFW Report 1); and
- a workshop to determine best practices for modeling recreational catch per unit effort data in groundfish assessments.

The Council requested feedback from Council staff and the National Marine Fisheries Service on the available resources to cover these workshops and methodology reviews.

The Council should consider this feedback, the recommendations of the Scientific and Statistical Committee and other advisors, and public comments before deciding which workshops and methodology reviews should be conducted next year.

Council Action:

Adopt a Plan for Improvements in Groundfish Management Science and Identify Priority Stock Assessment Methodology Review Topics for 2018.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.10.a, ODFW Report 1: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Stock Assessment Methodology Review.
2. Agenda Item F.10.a, CDFW Report 1: California Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Off-Year Science and Stock Assessment Methodology Review Topic Selection.
3. Agenda Item F.10.a, NMFS NWFSC Report 1: Northwest Fisheries Science Center Statement on Off-Year Science and Stock Assessment Methodology Review.

Agenda Order:

- F.10 Off-Year Science and Stock Assessment Methodology Review –
Final Topic Selection John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt a Plan for Improvements in Groundfish Management Science and Identify Priority Stock Assessment Methodology Review Topics for 2018

PFMC
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