At the April meeting, the Council identified the following nine priority items that the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) should consider for the 2010 Salmon Methodology Review.

1. Examination of the potential bias in Coho and Chinook Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) of fishery-related mortality introduced by mark-selective fisheries – Model Evaluation Workgroup.

2. Continued sensitivity analysis of FRAM to key parameter – Model Evaluation Workgroup.


4. Evaluation of indicator stock tag groups for Columbia River summer Chinook for incorporation into FRAM – Salmon Technical Team.

5. Incorporation of additional Chinook stocks into the FRAM for improved accounting and better overall stock representation – Salmon Technical Team.

6. Revisions to Amendment 13 matrix control rules for OCN coho stocks – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

7. Abundance-based management framework for Lower Columbia River tule fall Chinook – To Be Determined.

8. Update and revision of natural production information in the Lower Columbia River natural coho harvest management matrix – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

9. Review and evaluation of mark-selective fishery reports – Salmon Technical Team.

Reports on the following three items will be ready for review at the methodology meeting:

- Examination of potential bias and bias-correction methods for estimates of unmarked and marked fish mortalities when both mark-selective and non-selective fisheries are operating during a single FRAM time step. This analysis is focused on coho FRAM but will also have relevance to the Chinook FRAM (item 1.) – Model Evaluation Workgroup.

- Addition of new coded-wire-tag (CWT) groups to Chinook FRAM for better representation of the upper Columbia River summer Chinook stock (Item 4.) – Model Evaluation Workgroup and Salmon Technical Team.
• Oregon coastal natural coho salmon abundance predictor (Item 3.) – National Marine Fisheries Service and Oregon Production Index Technical Team.

A memo dated August 23, 2010 from Will Stelle, NMFS Northwest Regional Administrator to Mark Cedergreen indicated that NMFS is working to complete certain, unspecified, tasks “designed to accelerate the recovery process” for Lower Columbia River tule Chinook. NMFS will provide a progress report to the Council in November, in the hopes of having work products for implementation in 2011 fisheries. There will be no opportunity for SSC or Council review of this work prior to March 2011.

While considering Amendment 16 it became apparent that, depending on which alternative is adopted by the Council, there would be methodology and stock classification changes that will warrant review in 2011 and future years.

The SSC looks forward to reviewing reports on these topics at the November meeting. The SSC Salmon Subcommittee and Salmon Technical Team (STT) will hold a joint meeting on October 19 and 20 in Portland to review these issues. As always, the SSC requires good documentation and ample review time to make efficient use of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee’s time. Materials for review should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the scheduled review. Agencies should be responsible for ensuring that materials submitted to the SSC are technically sound, comprehensive, clearly documented, and identified by author.

PFMC  
09/11/10