

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
2013 SALMON METHODOLOGY REVIEW

At its April meeting, the Council identified the following five priority items that the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) should consider for the 2013 Salmon Methodology Review.

1. Review performance of and develop alternatives to the Yaquina River marine survival rate index used in 2013 for the Oregon coastal natural (OCN) coho matrix control rule.
2. Evaluate alternative forecast methodologies for the Sacramento fall Chinook index.
3. Develop Conservation Objectives, Annual Catch Limits, and Status Determination Criteria for Willapa Bay coho.
4. Develop Lower Columbia natural (LCN) coho matrix control rules.
5. Develop Conservation Objectives for Southern Oregon coastal Chinook.

Reports on all five of these items are expected to be available for review at the Salmon Methodology Review meeting scheduled for October.

In addition, the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) identified five potential analyses and products:

6. Evaluate bias in coho mark rates in preseason forecasts and postseason estimates in mark-selective coho fisheries north of Cape Falcon.
7. Incorporate observed encounter rates of sublegal Chinook into the Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) for fisheries outside of Puget Sound.
8. Review the user's manual for the Visual Studio version of FRAM.
9. Develop improved base period estimates of legal and sublegal Chinook encounter rates by incorporating more recent information from coded-wire tag (CWT) and genetic sampling into Chinook FRAM.
10. Explore incorporating the coho FRAM bias-correction methods for mark-selective fisheries into Chinook FRAM.

The MEW has concentrated its efforts on improved modeling of Chinook age structure and sublegal encounters. Items they will have ready for review in October include:

- 1) Development of a standardized methodology for calculating Age 2 Chinook forecasts based upon the stock specific Age 3 forecast. (related to preliminary item 9).

- 2) Incorporate estimates of legal and sublegal Chinook fishery encounters from recent sampling information into FRAM's base period type data. (addresses, but does not complete, preliminary items 7 and 9).
- 3) Present a progress report on the development of a new Chinook FRAM base period incorporating recent year CWT recovery data, encounter rates, etc., and modifications to FRAM algorithms on assessing sublegal and legal encounters and changes in minimum size limits. (Preliminary item 9).

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 1 - 3 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 to be reviewed 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
09/12/13