

## METHODOLOGY PRELIMINARY TOPIC SELECTION AND REVIEW PROCESS

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Terms of Reference (TOR) for Methodology Reviews describes a procedure for considering new methodologies related to the assessment and management of coastal pelagic species (CPS) and groundfish. The TOR focuses on methodologies that are useful components for stock assessments, but it can be used to consider other methods such as economic analyses and ecosystem-based fishery management.

For CPS topics, the TOR process calls for a 1-2 page proposal to be submitted by the methodology proponent, submitted for the briefing book of the "appropriate Council meeting." In recent years, this has occurred at November Council meetings. The proposal should include the title, the names of the principals, a statement of how the proposed methodology will improve assessment and management for the stocks in question, and an outline of the field and analytical methods. The proposal is reviewed by the Scientific and Statistical Committee, Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), and Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS), and the Council. If the Council approves the review of the proposed methodology, Council and NMFS staff will schedule a methodology review panel meeting, with the appropriate independent experts, plus a representative each from the CPSMT and the CPSAS. The panel will then submit a report its findings, for Council consideration.

As of the advance Briefing Book deadline, no proposals for methodology reviews had been received.

### **Council Action:**

**Consider topics for review.**

### **Reference Materials:**

None.

### **Agenda Order:**

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Consider Methodology Topics for Review and Provide Additional Guidance as Necessary.

Kerry Griffin