

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON SACRAMENTO
WINTER CHINOOK HARVEST CONTROL RULE

Dr. Mike O'Farrell (Southwest Fisheries Science Center) gave a presentation to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) on the management strategy evaluation (MSE) that formed the basis for determining a harvest control rule for Sacramento Winter Run Chinook. The MSE and its results had been examined previously during a workshop associated with the April 2013 Council meeting in which members of the SSC, Salmon Technical Team, and Salmon Advisory Subpanel participated. The current Sacramento Winter Run Chinook jeopardy standard includes a harvest control rule adopted by National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Region (SWR) in 2012 that was based on the MSE analyses. The current SWR rule, along with a variety of alternative harvest control rules, were evaluated at the workshop. The operational model for the MSE and components of the model used to evaluate the harvest control rule alternatives have been peer reviewed and published. The SSC notes that results from MSE analyses are best used as a means to compare proposed harvest control rules on a relative basis but the empirical results from model runs (such as the frequency of occurrence of no fishing periods) should not be viewed as accurate predictions of future events.

The SSC endorses the MSE as the best available science for evaluating the harvest control rules for Sacramento Winter Run Chinook.

PFMC
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