

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
OREGON COASTAL NATURAL COHO MANAGEMENT REVIEW - PROGRESS REPORT

At its November 1999 meeting, the Council approved an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) proposal to form an ad-hoc work group to ensure the harvest management portion of the rebuilding plan for Oregon coastal natural (OCN) coho is based on the best available science. Mr. Sam Sharr of ODFW informed the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) of the work group's progress to date.

The SSC considers the group's work plan to be systematic and well-considered. In addition to the list of questions the work group proposes to address, the SSC would also like the group to evaluate whether improvements could be made to the current method of estimating marine survival, which is a critical parameter for setting allowable OCN exploitation rates. The SSC is particularly interested in how the previous year's smolt-to-jack ratio is used to infer smolt-to-adult survival in the current year, and also, how survival data for hatchery fish is extrapolated to natural coho stocks. In terms of the composition of the work group, the SSC strongly encourages regular participation by the Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team.

PFMC
03/08/00