

**Proposed Stock Assessment Activities for 2004-2005**

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This strawman for stock assessment activities has four main components:

- 1) A draft list of primary stock assessments to be conducted and delivered in 2005
- 2) A proposal to facilitate the assessment by coordinating authors into species groups which may have similar issues
- 3) A proposed list of workshop topics to be coordinated by the NWFSC
- 4) A proposed STAR panel schedule for 2005

Below is a table of stock assessments that could be conducted in 2005. We have marked the stock assessments for which agency leads have been identified. This list does not identify which assessments will be full assessments and which will be updates. Clearly, a significant number will have to be updated assessments if the full list of stocks proposed here is to be assessed.

Table 1. Proposed Stock Assessments for 2005

Species	Group Number*	Agency Lead
Whiting	1	NWFSC
Widow	4	SWFSC
Cowcod	6	
Darkblotched	5	NWFSC
Canary	4	NWFSC
Sablefish	2	NWFSC
Dover sole	2	NWFSC
Shortspine		
Thornyhead	2	NWFSC
Longspine		
Thornyhead	2	NWFSC
Yelloweye	6	
Bocaccio	4	SWFSC
Petrals Sole	3	NWFSC
Bank Rockfish	5	SWFSC
Chilipepper		
Rockfish	4	SWFSC

Table 1. Proposed Stock Assessments for 2005 (cont.)

Species	Group Number*	Agency Lead
English Sole	3	NWFSC
Arrowtooth flounder	3	NWFSC
Blackgill	5	
Yellowtail	4	NWFSC
Splitnose	5	SWFSC
Vermillion	5	SWFSC
POP	5	NWFSC
Lingcod	4	
Cabezon	6	NWFSC
California scorpionfish	6	CDFG

\*Groups represent the Stock Assessment working groups proposed in the next section.

In order to facilitate discussion between stock assessment authors, we suggest that stock assessment authors be delegated to several working groups (Table 2). Membership of these groups should include the authors of stock assessments of similar species. One of the topics for discussions by these groups could include trends and biological information available on some as yet unassessed species. This will facilitate the eventual assessment of these unassessed species. These groups can meet during 2004 to discuss issues relevant to the stock assessments of species in the group.

Table 2. Proposed Stock Assessment Working Groups

Group Number	Title	Species
Group 1	Pacific Whiting	Pacific Whiting Sablefish, Dover sole, Shortspine
Group 2	DTS	Thornyhead, Longspine Thornyhead, Grenadier Petrale, English sole, Arrowtooth flounder,
Group 3	Shelf Flatfish	Sanddab, Rex Sole Canary, Yellowtail, Bocaccio, Chilipepper,
Group 4	Shelf Rockfish	Widow, Lingcod

Table 2. Proposed Stock Assessment Working Groups (cont.)

Group Number	Title	Species
Group 5	Slope Rockfish	Darkblotched, Bank, Blackgill, POP, Splitnose, Vermillion, Shortbelly
Group 6	Other Rockfish	Cowcod, Yelloweye, Cabezon, California scorpionfish

The multi-year management process specifies that the “off” years can be used to conduct workshops to refine modeling and stock assessment approaches. The NWFSC could coordinate three workshops in 2004 to facilitate the stock assessment process.

The first workshop would focus on data needs for stock assessment. We propose that discussions between authors and data managers and others regarding data needs for the stock assessments occur at this first workshop. In order to facilitate this discussion, Center will assign four staff with the role of coordinating the data needs of stock assessment authors in several areas: Observer information, NWFSC trawl survey information, Catch information and Ageing information.

The second workshop will focus on new models and modeling issues that are relevant to the following year’s stock assessments. During such a workshop the NWFSC proposes to introduce a flexible ADMB model and other topics that could be discussed are: methods for communicating uncertainty and refinement of the terms of reference for the 2005 stock assessment review process.

The third workshop will review the methods for calculating recreational CPUE. The Council has suggested this review.

Table 3. Proposed Workshops coordinated by the NWFSC for 2004

Title	Timing	Location
Recreational CPUE Methods	March 2004	Santa Cruz
Stock assessment data workshop	June 2004	Newport
Stock assessment modeling workshop	August 2004	Seattle

Finally, the following is a proposed schedule for the review of stock assessments in 2005. A list of possible species for each panel is included in the table for discussion purposes only. A final list of species to be given updated assessment versus full assessments must be developed prior to finalizing the species to be included in each panel.

Table 4. Proposed Stock Assessment Review Schedule

Panel	Possible Species	Time	Location
STAR Full Assessment Panel One	Pacific Hake	February	Seattle
STAR Full Assessment Panel Two	Sablefish, Dover, Thornyheads	May	Newport
STAR Full Assessment Panel Three	Petrals, English, Sablefish	May	Seattle
STAR Full Assessment Panel Four	Chilipepper, Vermillion, Bank, Splitnose, Shortbelly	Late May	Santa Cruz
STAR Full Assessment Panel Five	Cowcod, California Scorpionfish	June	La Jolla
STAR Update Panel One		August	TBA
STAR Update Panel Two		August	TBA