

## METHODOLOGY REVIEW PROCESS FOR 2004

Situation: Each year, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) completes a methodology review to help assure new or significantly modified methodologies employed to estimate impacts of the Council's salmon management use the best available science. This review is preparatory to the Council's adoption, at the November meeting, of all proposed changes to be implemented in the coming season or, in certain limited cases, providing directions for handling any unresolved methodology problems prior to the formulation of salmon management options in March. Because there is insufficient time to review new or modified methods at the March meeting, the Council may reject their use if they have not been approved the preceding November.

In 2003, the SSC reviewed the development of modifications to the Coho Fisheries Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) to accommodate Canadian stocks and fisheries. The modifications were approved by the Council at its November 2003 meeting.

For 2004 there are two issues the Council may want to consider when setting priorities for the methodology review:

1. For 2003 and 2004, the Council approved use of a revised Chinook FRAM to assess impacts from a mark selective chinook fishery proposed for Washington Marine Areas 5 and 6, provided the fishery did not exceed 41 days during July and August, or a landed chinook quota of 3,500 fish. The Council recommended the Chinook FRAM receive additional review prior to implementation of any expanded or additional mark selective chinook fisheries, and formed the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) to assist in documenting the FRAMs to facilitate such a review. If there are plans to consider expanded mark selective chinook fisheries in 2005, the additional chinook FRAM review should occur during this review cycle.
2. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is developing a technical appendix to the OCN Work Group matrix as recommended by the Council at its November 2000 meeting, when it accepted the matrix as expert scientific advice. ODFW is considering completing the technical appendix and submitting the matrix as a technical amendment to the salmon FMP. The salmon FMP allows changes to conservation objectives for natural stocks without formal amendment if "a comprehensive technical review of the best scientific information available provides conclusive evidence that, in the view of the Salmon Technical Team (STT), SSC, and the Council, justifies a modification." The salmon FMP also states "Insofar as possible, changes for natural stocks will only be reviewed and approved within the schedule established for salmon estimation methodology reviews (completed at the November meeting prior to the season in which they are effective) and apart from the preseason planning process." Therefore, if ODFW intends to proceed with the technical amendment, the Council should consider including it on the list of methodology review subjects.

The SSC will receive input from the STT and the MEW, and provide recommendations for methodologies to be reviewed in 2004. A draft review schedule is included in Exhibit d.3.b, Supplemental SSC Report.

**Council Action:**

1. **Provide guidance to the SSC regarding priorities for methodologies to be reviewed.**
2. **Request affected agencies develop and provide needed materials to the SSC, as appropriate.**

**Reference Materials:**

1. Exhibit D.3.b, Supplemental SSC Report: Scientific and Statistical Committee Report on Methodology Reviews for 2004

**Agenda Order:**

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee
- c. Recommendations of the States, Tribes, and Federal Agencies
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- e. Public Comment
- f. **Council Action:** Establish 2004 Schedule and Potential Methodologies To Be Reviewed

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