

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
METHODOLOGY REVIEWS FOR 2004

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) met with Mr. Dell Simmons of the Salmon Technical Team (STT) to identify and prioritize potential methodology review issues for the coming year. Current issues include unresolved items from 2003 and two new items. The SSC has identified the following list of methodology review issues for 2004/2005 and places the highest priority on the first two items:

- Chinook and coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) documentation: An overview document for the chinook and coho FRAMs has been produced by the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW). The MEW plans to produce detailed technical documentation for each of the FRAMs. The SSC views this as the highest priority for the MEW during the coming year.
- Chinook FRAM for mark-selective fisheries: The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has modified the chinook FRAM to accommodate mark-selective fisheries. The SSC could not endorse chinook FRAM as a tool to evaluate mark-selective fisheries in 2003, but application of the model to estimate mark-selective fishery impacts should be reviewed if such fisheries are planned for 2005 and beyond. Model documentation is a pre-requisite for this review. A limited mark-selective fishery for chinook was conducted in Washington Marine Catch Areas 5 and 6 in 2003. The results from this fishery, in comparison to FRAM predictions, may allow a limited empirical evaluation of the chinook FRAM for mark-selective fisheries.
- Chinook Rebuilding Exploitation Rate Analysis: An evaluation of rebuilding exploitation rates (RERs) for ESA-listed chinook stocks based on coded-wire tag (CWT) data in comparison to RERs based on chinook FRAM is projected to be completed by October 2004.
- Coho FRAM fisheries for Canadian stocks: The Coho Technical Committee of the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) has modified the coho FRAM to add fishery and stock strata for Canadian management. The SSC has reviewed an interim version of these changes.
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Oregon coastal natural (OCN) matrix: The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is developing a technical appendix to the OCN Work Group matrix as recommended by the Council at its November 2000 meeting.
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife management plan for Lower Columbia River coho salmon: The plan is based on new methods that are currently undergoing inter-agency review.
- Columbia River Fall chinook ocean abundance predictors: There has been some preliminary work on producing ocean run-size predictors for these stocks. The SSC will review these predictors when they have been fully developed and documented.

- OCN coho salmon prediction methodology: New predictors are in development. The SSC will review any proposals for change as requested.

The SSC notes that the PSC is sponsoring a workshop in June to review the coastwide CWT. This review will include an examination of the impact of selective fisheries on the CWT system and a review of possible alternatives to the CWT system. This workshop will produce recommendations that may have important implications for data that are currently important to salmon management by the Council and its advisory bodies.

As always, the SSC requires good documentation and ample review time to make efficient use of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee's time. Materials to be reviewed should be submitted by September. Agencies should be responsible for ensuring materials submitted to the SSC are technically sound, comprehensive, clearly documented, and identified by author.

PFMC
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