

SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM COMMENTS ON  
METHODOLOGY REVIEW PROCESS FOR 2004

Chinook and Coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) documentation

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) understands the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) will begin development of detailed technical documentation of the Chinook and coho FRAMs this year. However, it is not anticipated the MEW will complete this documentation in time for SSC review this fall.

Chinook FRAM for mark-selective fisheries

The STT believes the Chinook FRAM is usable for evaluating impacts of “small” selective fisheries, such as the fishery conducted in Areas 5 and 6 last year. As long as Chinook mark selective fisheries remain ‘small’ in preterminal fishing areas or are confined to terminal areas, the STT believes further technical review of FRAM Chinook for mark-selective fisheries is not necessary. However, the STT believes that FRAM should not be used for large, preterminal fisheries without further documentation and review by the SCC.

Chinook Rebuilding Exploitation Rate analysis

The STT suggests that this issue be reworded to read “The Rebuilding Exploitation Rates for several ESA-listed Chinook stocks rely upon a time series of exploitation rates estimated using coded-wire tags (CWTs). Similar time series of Exploitation rates can be estimated by the FRAM model; where necessary, conversion factors between the two series should be developed.”

The STT would also like to provide some additional information in regard to the June CWT workshop being sponsored by the Pacific Salmon Commission. The workshop will not be a public forum, but rather is being designed to provide an expert panel with information on issues surrounding concerns about degradation of the CWT system, including the impacts of mark selective fisheries. The panel is to prepare a report and recommendations regarding the CWT program and potential alternative approaches for improving the informational basis for salmon management.

PFMC  
04/07/04