

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
OFF-YEAR SCIENCE IMPROVEMENTS REPORT

Dr. Elizabeth Clarke (National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Fisheries Science Center) gave an oral report on science improvement activities organized and/or sponsored by the Northwest Fisheries Science Center, which so far this year have included the Recreational Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) Workshop held in June 2004 and the Groundfish Stock Assessment Data Workshop held in July 2004. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) anticipates receiving at the November Council meeting a final report on the Recreational CPUE Workshop and a draft report of the Groundfish Data Workshop.

The third and final science improvement activity planned for 2004 is a Stock Assessment Modeling Workshop, which will occur during the last week of October 2004. The SSC worked with Dr. Clarke to revise the draft agenda for the Modeling Workshop. The revised agenda includes the following topics: Terms of Reference for stock assessment teams, methods for developing biomass indices from surveys, review of methods for model tuning, evaluation of model diagnostics, and methods for making catch and biomass projections and expressing uncertainty.

It is unlikely a written report about the Modeling Workshop will be available for the November 2004 Council meeting. The Council and its advisory committees may wish to formally review the off-year science activities at some future meeting and provide guidance concerning the process for planning such activities in the future.

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