

**Subject:** Salmon Methodology Review

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Greetings all:

This is just a reminder that the Council will be establishing priorities for salmon methodology review by the SSC at the September Council meeting. The review itself usually occurs in mid- to late October.

A prioritized list of potential subjects was considered at the April Council Meeting (see below), and it will be useful to have updates on the priorities and whether some of the projects are suitably complete for review.

It is unlikely that the SSC will have time to review all the subjects this year, or that all will be ready for review. Please discuss these projects with appropriate parties and have recommendations ready for the September meeting.

- 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.

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