

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
METHODOLOGY REVIEW PROCESS AND PRELIMINARY TOPIC SELECTION
FOR 2005

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) met with Mr. Dell Simmons and other members of the Salmon Technical Team (STT) to identify, discuss, and prioritize methodology reviews for 2005. Current issues include three unresolved items from 2004 and two new items. The SSC places highest priority on the first two items below.

Chinook and Coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Model Documentation. The Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) is completing detailed documentation of the Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM). In April 2004 the SSC advised that this item be given highest priority for review in 2004. Again, the SSC recommends that the FRAM documentation be the highest priority item for 2005. This is a necessary prerequisite for review of the model.

FRAM Validation/Calibration Exercise. As part of its routine review of the chinook FRAM, the STT during 2005 will develop estimates of base-period data for new fish stocks (e.g., Sacramento fall chinook) and calibrate and validate the revised model. The SSC requests the STT include in the FRAM documentation a technical description of the calibration/validation process and results from its application in 2005.

Oregon Coastal Natural Management Matrix. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is developing a technical appendix to the Oregon Coastal Natural Work Group matrix. The SSC is prepared to review this work at the November Council meeting as a Technical Amendment to the fishery management plan.

Klamath Ocean Harvest Model - Contact Rates and Catch Projections. Contact rates for Klamath River fall chinook were much higher in 2004 than previously observed, and this stock will significantly constrain several Council salmon fisheries in 2005. The SSC understands that documentation of model performance in 2004 is being prepared. An exploration of potential factors that led to the unusual Klamath contact rates in 2004 could help prevent a recurrence.

Columbia River Fall Chinook Ocean Abundance Predictors. The SSC was told that ocean abundance predictors for Columbia River fall chinook are likely to be available for review in 2005.

PFMC
04/05/05