

Subject: 2005 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 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 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 requested 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 should be 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. 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. Ocean abundance predictors for Columbia River fall chinook are likely to be available for review in 2005.

Thanks.

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