

SALMON METHODOLOGY REVIEW

In April of this year, the Council listed five subjects for review by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) this fall. The five subjects were:

- 1) Chinook and Coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) Documentation
- 2) FRAM Validation/Calibration
- 3) Oregon Coastal Natural Management Matrix
- 4) Klamath Ocean Harvest Model – review of contact rates and catch projections
- 5) Columbia River Fall Chinook Ocean abundance predictors

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) recommends that Council instruct the SSC to review items one and five in November.

We understand from the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) that item number one, the FRAM documentation, is complete for both chinook and coho and ready for SSC review.

Item two was listed because it was anticipated that additional stocks like, Sacramento fall chinook, would be added to the model during calibration. While a routine recalibration of the chinook FRAM has been completed, no new stocks or fisheries were added and the SST does not believe that there is a need for SSC review at this time.

Item three, the technical appendix to the Oregon Coastal Natural Work Group matrix, has not been completed.

Item number four, concerning the Klamath Ocean Harvest Model, has been completed to the extent possible at this time but there is nothing for the SSC to review. The model algorithms and code have been checked for errors, and none were found. Decisions concerning whether the 2004 observed contact rates should be considered an anomaly or a signal of a true change in stock availability to the fisheries cannot be made until contact information for 2005 is available in February of 2006.

Methods of directly estimating ocean abundance at age have been developed for Columbia River fall stocks and will be ready for SSC review. They may be proposed for use in 2006 after further review by the US v. Oregon Technical Advisory Committee.

PFMC
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