

MODEL EVALUTATION WORKGROUP REPORT ON THE FISHERY REGULATION ASSESSMENT MODEL

The Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) Chair and Vice Chair met earlier this week with the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Salmon Technical Team (STT) to discuss further progress on the MEW's task of documentation of the Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM). The FRAM is used for Chinook and coho salmon fisheries impact assessment in Council area fisheries and other waters. The meetings with the SSC and STT reviewed FRAM documentation reports that incorporated their comments from the November, 2005 statements to the Council.

FRAM documentation originally consisted of an overview report. It now comprises a set of five reports. Four of these reports were included in a Briefing Book CD to provide the SSC and STT an opportunity to quickly review the material before the June Council Meeting. These reports are:

1. An Overview of FRAM, for a general audience.
2. FRAM Technical Documentation Report, a more detailed description.
3. Coho FRAM Base Data Development Report.
4. Chinook FRAM Base Data Development Report.

The fifth piece of documentation was provided at this June meeting as supplemental material.

5. A FRAM Users Manual.

In 2004, the Council accepted the MEW report entitled A FRAM Overview. The MEW requests that the previous Overview be replaced with this latest version. This version of the Overview has been simplified technically and is targeted toward a more general audience, while the FRAM Technical Documentation provides material appropriate for a more analytically oriented audience. Thus, although the SSC and STT are familiar with the previous "Overview," the MEW requests their review of these latest products with consideration of the target audience.

The two Base Data Development reports describe how data were compiled and analyzed for model usage. The MEW considers the Chinook Base Data Report as a final draft, pending SSC and STT review over the summer. The Coho Base Data Report remains a preliminary draft until the Coho Technical Committee of the Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) finishes the documentation of the base data used in coho FRAM for PSC modeling.

This is the first opportunity the STT and SSC have had to review the FRAM Users Manual. Although largely complete, MEW work on this product will continue through the summer. A few sections still need to be added.

For all five reports, the MEW would appreciate reviewers' comments prior to the September Council Meeting with the hope of finalizing this documentation project this fall.

PFMC
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