

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
2009 SALMON METHODOLOGY REVIEW

At the April meeting, the Council identified the following six priority items that the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) should consider for the 2009 Salmon Methodology Review.

1. Assessment of the September 1 maturity boundary assumption for Klamath River fall Chinook (KRFC).
2. Forecasting impact rates in fall fisheries for KRFC and Sacramento River fall Chinook.
3. Evaluation of the Oregon Coastal Natural (OCN) coho abundance predictor.
4. Sensitivity analyses of the Chinook and Coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Models (FRAM) to major assumptions, including sensitivity to parameters related to mark-selective fisheries.
5. Characterization of bias in the mark-selective Chinook and Coho FRAM.
6. Development of ocean abundance predictors for Columbia River Fall Chinook stocks.

Reports on the following four items will be ready for review at the methodology meeting:

- Assessment of the September 1 maturity boundary assumption for KRFC.
- Forecasting impact rates in fall fisheries for KRFC and Sacramento River fall Chinook.
- Characterization of bias in the mark-selective Chinook and Coho FRAM.
- An update on the progress in developing ocean abundance predictors for Columbia River Fall Chinook stocks.

In addition, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Puget Sound Treaty tribes will be giving a report on the methods used to establish conservation objectives for Puget Sound coho. Currently these methods are the basis for management of Puget Sound coho stocks under the Pacific Salmon Treaty and/or the Comprehensive Coho agreement but they are not formally included in the current Salmon Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The intent is to incorporate them into the Salmon FMP prior to the 2010 management season. Consequently, they require review in the Council process. In addition, incorporating these stocks in this time frame will help facilitate the Amendment 16 process.

The SSC looks forward to reviewing reports on these topics at the November meeting. The SSC Salmon Subcommittee and Salmon Technical Team (STT) will hold a joint meeting on October 5 and 6 in Portland to review these issues. As always, the SSC requires good documentation and ample review time to make efficient use of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee's time. Materials to be reviewed should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the scheduled review. Agencies should be responsible for ensuring that materials submitted to the SSC are technically sound, comprehensive, clearly documented, and identified by author.