

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON
INITIAL STOCK ASSESSMENT PLANS AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR
GROUNDFISH AND COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) met on April 9, 2016 to review: (1) the draft “*Terms of Reference for Groundfish And Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment Review Process For 2017-2018*” (Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 5); and (2) the draft “*Terms of Reference for the Methodology Review Process for Groundfish And Coastal Pelagic Species For 2017-2018*” (Agenda Item F.7, Attachment 7). The CPSMT recommends Pacific Fishery Management Council adopt for public review the proposed terms of reference for stock assessment and methodology reviews.

The CPSMT recommends a revision in Page 3 (second paragraph) of the TOR for stock assessment review process, to require that when assessment methodologies are used in the first time on a data moderate CPS stock, the assessment will be reviewed by a Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel. The CPSMT also suggests that efforts be made in the future to propose a set of guidelines for CPS Stock Assessment “Best Practices” similar to those defined for Groundfish stocks in Appendix F of the TOR.

The CPSMT further recommends revisions to the TOR for methodology reviews to better describe the criteria that are required to determine whether new methodologies are to be reviewed. The current draft lists elements for new methodology proponents to present to the Council, but lacks specific details on what is required for Council recommendation of a methodology review. The CPSMT would welcome discussion with the Scientific and Statistical Committee to better outline and specify the criteria needed for recommending a methodology review.

PFMC
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