SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON METHODOLOGY REVIEW PLANNING

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) endorses the request for a Council-sponsored Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Methodology Review planned for early 2018. The request was presented by Mr. Dale Sweetnam (Southwest Fisheries Science Center; SWFSC) and focuses on the acoustic trawl method (ATM) survey for assessing CPS (Agenda Item G.3.a, SWFSC Report, April 2017). The SSC notes that this document includes a comprehensive list of topics to be addressed. The SSC CPS Subcommittee will work with the SWFSC and advisory bodies to develop meeting-specific Terms of Reference and identify specific topics to be addressed at the meeting.

The SSC recommends that the list of topics to be considered during the review meeting be expanded to include any revision to the method discussed during the February 2017 Pacific Sardine Stock Assessment Review Panel (Agenda Item G.5.a, STAR Panel Report, April 2017) for projecting the results of the ATM survey forward to enable computation of overfishing limits. The 2011 review focused on Pacific sardine, but the 2018 review should place more emphasis on other CPS species, in particular the central subpopulation of northern anchovy.

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