

## SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) proposes the following for future work planning:

### **Review of Proposed Sigma Methodologies**

The SSC recommends that a review of new sigma methodologies for estimating uncertainty in stock assessments be conducted just prior to the November Council meeting. This meeting should also include a review of an updated steepness prior for West Coast rockfish necessary to support 2019 stock assessments. This methodology review is proposed as a Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) subcommittee meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Review of Nearshore Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV) Survey Designs and Methodologies**

The SSC proposes that this methodology review be scheduled after the November Council meeting. Members of the Groundfish subcommittee would conduct this review, along with a Center for Independent Experts (CIE) reviewer in late 2018 or early in 2019.

### **Review of Historical Catch Reconstructions of Skate Species**

The SSC recommended that a Groundfish subcommittee review of historical skate catches at the species level take place after the November Council meeting if Longnose and Big skates stock assessments are approved for the 2019 assessment cycle.

### **Data-Limited Tool-Kit Review**

This review will explore the use of the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) component of the Data-Limited Methods (DLM) Toolkit and any proposed new data-moderate methodologies to be considered in groundfish or coastal pelagic species stock assessments. The SSC recommends that the format of this meeting be a workshop, rather than a formal methodology review, to be scheduled for early 2019.

### **California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) Indicator Review**

The CCIEA indicator review is currently scheduled for September 5<sup>th</sup>, as an Ecosystem-based management subcommittee meeting. The SSC recommends that a review of “Analysis of drivers of distribution of Albacore in CCS”, be conducted as a joint Highly Migratory Species/ Ecosystem-based management sub-committee webinar sometime after the November meeting.

### **Salmon Methodology Review**

A salmon methodology review is tentatively scheduled for October. The exact timing and duration should be determined at the September Council meeting based on the available material for review.

### **Other Items**

Three additional webinars are recommended; i) a webinar to discuss the Terms of Reference (TOR) for Stock Assessments, likely to occur in July, assuming that the Council accepts the SSC recommendation to postpone adoption of the TOR and scheduling final adoption at the September agenda; ii) a webinar for revisiting a subset of issues that arose at the catch estimation methodology from March of 2018, currently proposed for the week of July 30<sup>th</sup>, and iii) best practices for Groundfish and CPS assessments, likely to be scheduled in August of 2018.

**Coastal Pelagic Species Subcommittee**

The SSC also discussed the priorities and the future work plan for Coastal Pelagic Species that have been recently discussed by Council Staff, members of the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team, the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, and members of the SSC for 2018 and 2019. Products, leads, and timelines will continue to be refined and will be discussed in more detail in September 2018.

PFMC  
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