

SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT REPORT

The Council approved a list of workshops and formal reviews of new proposed methodologies to be conducted this year to improve the science informing Council management decisions at their November 2017 meeting. A formal review of a proposed methodology to improve catch estimation methods in sparsely sampled mixed stock fisheries using a Bayesian hierarchical modeling of available historical species catch composition sampling was conducted on March 28-29 in Santa Cruz, California. The documentation of this methodology is provided in Agenda Item I.6, Attachment 1 and the methodology review panel report with their recommendations is provided in Agenda Item I.6, Attachment 2. A follow-up review by the methodology proponents and the methodology review panel was conducted by webinar on July 31. The report of that follow-up review will be incorporated in an appendix to the methodology review panel report and is provided in Agenda Item I.6, Supplemental Attachment 3.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will review and discuss this methodology review at this meeting. The Council should consider approval of this new methodology pending the SSC's endorsement.

Council Action:

Review and Approve Science Improvements for Use in Management.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.6, Attachment 1: DRAFT: Improving Catch Estimation Methods in Sparsely Sampled Mixed-Stock Fisheries.
2. Agenda Item I.6, Attachment 2: Methodology Review Panel Report: Catch Estimation Methodology Review.
3. *Agenda Item I.6, Supplemental Attachment 3: Appendix D. Supplemental Catch Estimation Methodology Review Report.*

Agenda Order:

- I.6 Science Improvement Report John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Review and Approve Science Improvements for Use in Management