

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

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) would prefer to conduct our June meeting via webinar. If the meeting were to be in-person, several members will not attend due to health concerns. The SSC offers the following guidance on the future Council meeting agenda and workload planning.

The SSC Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittees and other interested Council advisory body representatives will hold a webinar on April 21, 2020, to discuss the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Groundfish and CPS Stock Assessment Review Process for 2021-2022.

The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee will hold a methodology review webinar on May 12-14, 2020, for data-limited methods which will include two length-based data limited stock assessment methods and a review of data-limited approaches and tools for use in the upcoming stock assessment cycle.

The SSC agreed that finalizing the list of the 2021 Stock Assessments at the June meeting is valuable so that the Stock Assessment Teams can begin work. This could be combined with full SSC review of the length-based methodologies. The SSC recommends convening a meeting between the states, the Science Centers, and the ageing laboratories shortly thereafter to coordinate ageing efforts and other data needs. The Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Methodology review can wait until September.

The SSC notes that multiple topics of potential relevance to Salmon Methodology Review were raised at the March meeting and sees value in more discussion of Salmon Methodology issues in June.

If the Council wants SSC review of the sardine rebuilding plan with time for response before final action in September, the SSC could review that work in June.

The SSC discussed the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee's 7th national meeting to be held August 4-6, 2020, in Sitka, Alaska. The SSC anticipates finalizing a list of attendees at the June meeting if the Sitka meeting remains on the calendar.

The SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee plans to meet for one day prior to the September SSC meeting to review items from the California Current Ecosystem Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is revisiting how they assign market category catches to the species level, which could influence future stock assessments. The SSC seeks guidance on whether this needs SSC review and, if so, whether it would be part of the Council Operating Procedure (COP) 25 Methodology Review process in September or reviewed earlier this year.

Proposed Workshops and SSC Subcommittee Meetings for 2020

Workshop/Meeting		Potential Dates	Sponsor/ Tentative Location	SSC Reps.	Additional Reviewers	AB Reps.	Council Staff
1	Webinar for the Terms of Reference for Groundfish and CPS stock assessments	April 21	Council/ webinar	GF and CPS subcommittee members	Stock Assessment Analysts	GMT, GAP CPSMT, CPSAS	DeVore
2	Data-Limited Methodology Workshop, Combined with Length-Based Data-Moderate Assessment Methodologies Review	May 12-14	Council/ webinar	GF Subcommittee Members	Carruthers, Hordyk	NA	DeVore
3	7 th National Meeting of the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee of the Council Coordination Committee	August 4-6	NPFMC/ Sitka, AK	4 TBD	NA	NA	DeVore
4	Review of California sea lion pup count and growth rate as an indicator of forage conditions, the habitat compression index, port-specific revenue indices, the natural origin central valley fall Chinook stock indicator	September 10	Council/ Spokane, WA	Ecosystem, Economics, and Salmon Subcommittee Members	TBD	Ecosystem Indicators Review, Including Review of Analyses of Drivers of Albacore Distribution and Availability to Fisheries in the California Current	DeVore Dahl
5	Salmon Methodology Review	October TBD	Council/TBD	Salmon Subcommittee	NA	STT, MEW	Ehlke

