

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
METHODOLOGY REVIEW FINAL TOPIC SELECTION

Ms. Angelika Hagen-Breaux (MEW) and Mr. Jon Carey (STT) briefed the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) on the list of proposed topics for the 2021 Salmon Methodology Review scheduled for webinar in mid-October (tentatively October 19-20). The four topics listed in the situation summary are anticipated to be ready for review and the SSC supports reviewing all four. The topics and parties responsible for providing documentation are:

- 1) overview documentation of the FRAM program including algorithms and an updated User Manual (MEW);
- 2) an evaluation of the post-season metrics of FRAM model performance (MEW);
- 3) review of the Willapa Bay coho forecast (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife); and
- 4) review of the Oregon Production Index Hatchery coho forecast (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife).

The Sacramento River fall Chinook conservation objective was identified earlier as a potential topic for review by both the STT and SSC; however, the Council dropped this topic from its list of review topics at the April 2021 meeting. The SSC sees merit in reviewing the existing published documents already in the Council record (e.g., those cited in the discussion of the current conservation objective on p. 21 of the fishery management plan) on this topic to better understand the current basis of the conservation objective and to identify potential issues at the October methodology review meeting. This can provide more focused SSC recommendations and requests to the appropriate agencies as this topic moves forward.

At the June 2021 meeting under Agenda Item C.10, the SSC attached a [report](#) from a salmon subcommittee meeting held on June 4, 2021. In that report the SSC requested guidance from the Council to help standardize the review process for science to inform salmon management by (1) defining “major stocks” that are subject to SSC forecast review; (2) establishing a database to describe methodologies used to produce forecasts and the post-season forecast performance of each “major stock”; and (3) establishing a process that outlines how and when conservation objectives are reviewed and updated. The SSC proposes that these topics be discussed with the STT at the October methodology review meeting.

Materials submitted for review should be technically sound, comprehensive, clearly documented, and identified by author. Materials to be reviewed should be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the review. If this deadline cannot be met, it is the responsibility of the author to contact Robin Ehlke, the SSC Salmon Subcommittee Chair, and the STT Chair prior to the deadline, so appropriate arrangements, rescheduling, and cancellations can be made in a timely and cost-effective manner. The SSC plans to review reports on these topics at the November 2021 Council meeting.