

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

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) discussed workload planning and has the following updates to our November 2021 statement under this agenda item.

The SSC recommends two meetings to discuss proposed changes to two separate Stock Assessment Terms of Reference (TOR) for Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS). The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee proposes to meet via webinar in April to discuss the Groundfish TOR and the SSC CPS Subcommittee proposes to meet via webinar in April or early May to discuss development of the CPS TOR. Members of the Groundfish and CPS management teams and advisory subpanels are encouraged to participate in these meetings. The revisions to the TOR for groundfish stock assessments is scheduled for final review by the Council in June 2022, while review of the CPS TOR is slated for initial review in June and final review in November.

The 7th National Meeting of the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee of the Council Coordination Committee (SCS7) is scheduled for August 15-17 in Sitka, Alaska. The meeting will generally explore fishery management adaptations to a changing climate. Dr. André Punt has been invited to be a keynote speaker and other SSC members anticipated to attend include Drs. Kristin Marshall, Melissa Haltuch, Galen Johnson, Theresa Tsou, and possibly Dan Holland. The SSC will keep the Council apprised of the plans for the SCS7 meeting as they are decided.

The SSC recommends continuing to convene the annual SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee meeting with the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) team to review additions to the IEA report in September. The SSC also recommends inviting the SSC Salmon Subcommittee, Salmon Technical Team, and Salmon Advisory Subpanel to the September SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee meeting since one of the recommended topics is specifically relevant to salmon management. The salmon topic could be scheduled in the afternoon so that those attending for that topic need only attend a half day.

The SSC recommends holding the annual Salmon Methodology Review in mid-October.

The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee is planning a number of additional meetings and workshops over the next several months. The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee is planning a workshop to discuss alternative harvest control rules for spiny dogfish to reflect its lower productivity and the finding from the most recent assessment that the spawning potential ratio 50 percent harvest rate may not be sustainable. Dates for that workshop are yet to be determined.

The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee is planning to meet in late June or early July to review the Template Model Builder implementation of a species distribution model to generate biomass indices along with a workshop on the treatment of indices for hook-and-line survey data. In order to accommodate Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) field work schedules, WDFW hook-and-line survey data and index development will be discussed at a subsequent fall meeting. The fall meeting will build on the recommendations from the early summer meeting. Pairing the Template Model Builder methodology review with the hook-and-line data and index development workshops will reduce the number of meetings and reports and provide time for proponents to work on requests while other topics are discussed.

The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee proposes a planning meeting in late July or early August to coordinate aging prioritization and catch estimation to inform the groundfish stock assessments prioritized for review in 2023.

The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee proposes conducting a workshop in late August to explore approaches for modeling large closed areas and other regulation changes in upcoming groundfish stock assessments.

The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee recommends a meeting in late September to discuss the integration of remotely operated vehicle (ROV) survey data in assessments and to review Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's proposed acoustic/ROV survey methodology for semi-pelagic rockfish, with the participation of a Center of Independent Experts scientist on acoustic abundance estimation methods. The outcomes of the three aforementioned methodology review and workshop meetings will inform the groundfish stock assessment accepted practices.

Proposed Workshops and SSC Subcommittee Meetings for 2022

Workshop/Meeting		Potential Dates	Sponsor/ Tentative Location	SSC Reps.	Additional Reviewers	AB Reps.	Council Staff
1	GFSC Meeting to Review Proposed Changes to the TORs	April TBD	Council/Webinar	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	Science Center Assessment Staff	GMT GAP	DeVore
2	CPSSC Meeting to Review Proposed Changes to the TORs	April/early May TBD	Council/Webinar	CPS Subcommittee Members	Science Center Assessment Staff	CPSMT CPSAS	Doerpinghaus
3	Proposed Workshop to Develop Alternative Harvest Control Rules for Spiny Dogfish	TBD	Council/Webinar	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	TBD	GMT GAP	DeVore
4	Proposed Workshop to Develop Methods for Constructing Abundance Indices Based on Hook-and-line Surveys/ sdmTMB Model Review	late June/early July TBD	Council/Webinar	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	TBD	GMT GAP	DeVore
5	Aging Prioritization and Catch Estimation Meeting for 2023 Stock Assessments	late July/Aug TBD	Council/Webinar	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	NA	GMT GAP	DeVore

6	Proposed Groundfish Subcommittee Meeting to Explore Approaches to Deal with Large Closed Areas and Other Regulation Changes in Stock Assessments	late Aug TBD	Council/TBD	Groundfish Subcommittee Members (Budrick - chair)	TBD	GMT GAP	DeVore
7	7 th National Meeting of the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee of the Council Coordination Committee	Aug 15-17, 2022	NPFMC/ Sitka, AK	Punt, Marshall, Haltuch, Holland?, Johnson, Tsou	NA	NA	DeVore
8	Proposed Workshop to Develop Methods for Constructing Abundance Indices Based on WA Hook-and-line Surveys	Fall TBD	Council/TBD	Groundfish Subcommittee Members (Hamel & Haltuch - co-chairs)	TBD	GMT GAP	DeVore
9	Proposed Methodology Review for the ODFW Acoustic/ROV Survey and Workshop for Using ROV Data in Stock Assessments	Sept 26-30, 2022	Council/Portland	Groundfish Subcommittee Members (Budrick - chair)	CIE for ROV and Acoustics	GMT GAP	DeVore
10	Ecosystem Subcommittee/CCIEA Team Meeting	Sept 2022 TBD	Council/Boise	Ecosystem Subcommittee Members	CCIEA Team	EWG EAS STT SAS	DeVore Dahl Ehlke
11	Salmon Methodology Review	Oct 2022 TBD	Council/TBD	Salmon Subcommittee Members	TBD	STT MEW	Ehlke