

FINAL ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hear from the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and others on recommended final assessment methodologies. The SSC will provide the revised Accepted Practices Guidelines for Groundfish Stock Assessments document, which details the SSC-recommended best practices for conducting groundfish stock assessments in 2023 and 2024. The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee produced a draft of the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Groundfish Stock Assessments in 2023 and 2024 document from their December 2022 meeting (Agenda Item F.6.a, SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Report 1).

This document is intended to supplement the Council's [Terms of Reference](#) (TOR) for the Groundfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Process and provide groundfish stock assessment teams (STATs) with default approaches to consider when dealing with certain stock assessment data and modeling issues. The STATs may diverge from the guidelines, and should provide adequate justification for doing so, prior to STAR panel or other review body meetings. These guidelines are not intended to provide a comprehensive treatment of all potential issues, which are too numerous to list. Rather the guidelines focus on a limited number of issues that the SSC has so far considered. The purpose of having these guidelines is to lessen the time that might otherwise be spent during stock assessment reviews in discussions about how particular steps in the assessment process should have been conducted. The guidelines are subject to change each assessment cycle as the SSC evaluates additional data sources and modeling approaches over time.

Council Action:

Review and approve SSC recommendations regarding accepted practices guidelines for groundfish stock assessments in 2023 and 2024; as appropriate.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.6.a, SSC Groundfish Subcommittee Report 1.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

F.6 Final Assessment Methodologies

Marlene A. Bellman

a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies

b. Public Comment

c. **Council Action:** Review and Approve Accepted Practices Guidelines, as Appropriate