

FINAL METHODOLOGY REVIEW

Each year as needed, consistent with Pacific Fishery Council (Council) Operating Procedure (COP) 15, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Salmon Technical Team (STT) complete a methodology review to help assure that any new or significantly modified methods use the best available science to estimate impacts of the Council's salmon management. The methodology review is also used as a forum to review updated stock conservation objective proposals. The review is in preparation for the Council's adoption at the November meeting of all anticipated methodology and conservation objective changes to be implemented in the coming season, or in certain limited cases, of providing directions for handling any unresolved methodology problems prior to the formulation of salmon management alternatives in March. Because there is insufficient time to review new or modified methods at the March meeting, the Council may reject their use if they have not been approved the preceding November.

At its September 2023 meeting, the Council approved three items for this year's methodology review.

1. Review and consider improvements to methods used to model South of Falcon fisheries in Chinook Fishery Regulation Assessment Model.
2. Consider technical modifications to the Sacramento River winter Chinook abundance forecast by examining whether an egg-to-fry covariate can improve forecast performance.
3. Explore alternative forecast approaches for the Oregon Production Index Hatchery coho forecast.

In addition, further documentation of the Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) documentation would be available to provide the STT and SSC Salmon Subcommittee (SC) an update on progress made over the past year.

Technical documents related to each topic of review were submitted to the SSC Salmon Subcommittee and the STT prior to the methodology review meeting (Agenda Item D.2, Attachments 1).

The methodology review meeting of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee and the STT was held online October 11-12, 2023. The results of the methodology review will be presented to the full SSC and the Council at the November Council meeting, where the Council may approve any new methodologies or warranted changes based on the review.

Council Action:

1. **Approve new and modified methodologies and conservation objectives as appropriate.**
2. **Provide guidance, as needed, for any unresolved methodology issues.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.3, Attachment 1: Methodology Review Materials (*Electronic only*).
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see [e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

D.3 Final Methodology Review

Robin Ehlke

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Methodology Changes for 2024 and Beyond, as Needed

PFMC

10/04/23