

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 its November 2023 statement under this agenda item.

The SSC anticipates conducting its April 2024 meeting remotely and anticipates meeting for only one day on Friday, April 5th.

The SSC proposes the SSC Groundfish and Economics Subcommittees hold a meeting to discuss methods for the state/Federal catch proportion analysis (recreational and commercial) in late spring or early summer of 2024 prior to application of these methods in the Phase 2 groundfish stock definition analyses with participation from the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP), subject to when the analysis and analysts are available. The SSC requests guidance on optimal timing of when this review should occur and the scope of the review to support the Council process.

The SSC Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittee will review and update Terms of Reference for the CPS Stock Assessment Review Process and the Accepted Practices Guidelines for CPS stock assessments on April 17, 2024 during a virtual meeting.

The SSC proposes holding a Groundfish Methodology Review to consider the use of the Fourier Transformed Near-Infrared Spectrophotometry (FT-NIRS) method for estimating groundfish ages to be utilized in future stock assessments in late summer 2024 at a time and place to be determined with participation from the GMT.

The Council Coordination Committee's (CCC) Scientific Coordination Subcommittee meeting (SCS8) will be hosted by the New England Fishery Management Council and will be held during the week of August 26, 2024 in Boston, MA. At least two members of the PFMC SSC are expected to attend.

The SSC Ecosystem-Based Management Subcommittee proposes a one-day meeting in Summer 2024 to review topics associated with the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Team's Ecosystem Status Report and Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Initiative 4 aimed to report to the Council at the September 2024 Council meeting. Anticipated participants include members of the Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) and the Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS). The scope and participants for this meeting will be refined after receiving Council and advisory body guidance on FEP Initiative 4 after the March 2024 meeting.

The SSC proposes the full SSC hold a meeting to discuss Phase 2 Stock Definition analyses as an extra day added at the beginning of the September SSC meeting in Spokane with participation invited from representatives of the GMT and the GAP.

The SSC proposes the SSC Salmon Subcommittee hold a Salmon Methodology Review with participation from the Salmon Technical Team (STT), and the Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) in the first week of October 2024 at a time and place to be determined.

The SSC proposes the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee hold a meeting to discuss “Approaches to Deal with Large Closed Areas and Other Spatial Issues in Stock Assessments” in 2024 at a time and place to be determined, with participation from the GMT and the GAP, and subject to analysis being completed and ready for review,

The SSC proposes holding a workshop in 2024 on use of remotely operated vehicle (ROV) data in stock assessments to facilitate inclusion in future groundfish assessments, dependent on proponents readiness and the provision of additional information to review by CDFW. This includes review of abundance estimates for quillback rockfish and consideration of methods for integration of results in future stock assessments,

The SSC proposes holding a Workshop to Develop Alternative Harvest Control Rules for Pacific Spiny Dogfish in 2024, particularly if spiny dogfish or another elasmobranch species is included in the stock assessment prioritization for 2025 assessments. However, the SSC notes that this would require that an analysis be developed and available to review. The review would take place at a time and place to be determined.

Proposed Workshops and SSC Subcommittee Meetings for 2024 and Beyond

	Workshop/Meeting	Potential Dates	Sponsor/ Tentative Location	SSC Reps.	Additional Reviewers	AB Reps.	Council Staff
1	Meeting to Discuss Methods for the State/Federal Catch Proportion Analysis (Recreational and Commercial)	Late Spring/Summer 2024	Council/TBD	Groundfish/ Economics Subcommittee Members	NA	GMT GAP Advisors	Bellman
2	CPS Stock assessment TOR and Accepted Practices	April 17, 2024	Council/TBD	CPS Subcommittee Members	NA	CPSMST CPSAS Advisors	Doerpinghaus
3	Groundfish Methodology Review of FT-NIRS Method for Estimating fish Ages Utilized in Stock Assessments	Summer 2024 TBD	NWFSC	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	CARE	GMT	Bellman
4	CCC Scientific Coordination Subcommittee Meeting (SCS8)	August 26-29, 2024	NEFMC/ Boston, MA	SSC members TBD	NA	NA	Bellman
5	Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) Subcommittee Review of CCIEA Topics	Summer 2024	Council/TBD	EBM Subcommittee	NA	EWG EAS	Bellman
6	Review Phase 2 Stock Definition Analysis	Extra SSC added to September SSC meeting	Council/Spokane	Full SSC	NA	GMT GAP Advisors	Bellman
7	Salmon Methodology Review	First week of October 2024 TBD	Council/TBD	Salmon Subcommittee	NA	STT MEW	Bellman/Ehlke
8	Approaches to Deal with Large Closed Areas and Other Spatial Issues in Stock Assessments	By End of 2024 TBD	Council/TBD	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	NA	GMT GAP Advisors	Bellman

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9	Use of ROV Data in Stock Assessments Workshop	By End of 2024 TBD	TBD	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	TBD	GMT	Bellman
10	Proposed Workshop to Develop Alternative Harvest Control Rules for Spiny Dogfish	TBD	TBD	Groundfish Subcommittee Members	TBD	GMT GAP Advisors	Bellman

PFMC
03/11/24