SALMON TECHNICAL TEAM REPORT ON FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN INITIATIVE 4: GROUNDFISH AND SALMON RISK TABLES – PROGRESS REVIEW

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) reviewed the available reports on Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Initiative 4 and was briefed by Correigh Greene on the use of a Risk Tables/Matrix Approach for Sacramento River Fall Chinook (SRFC).

The STT agrees that incorporating environmental factors into salmon population forecasts has merit. Given data limitations to fully incorporating environmental indicators into stock assessments, we agree that developing a tool to assess risk and/or consistently inform salmon management on measurable environmental factors could be a positive step toward ecosystem-based fisheries management.

As part of developing the risk table methodology for groundfish, the Pacific Fishery Management Council agreed that the application could be broadened to include select salmon stocks as described in the <u>Habitat Committee Report in March 2024</u>. The Habitat Committee suggested that the stoplight tables for Klamath River Fall Chinook (KRFC) and SRFC could be refined into numerical risk tables.

We should also note that both the SRFC and KRFC Workgroups have begun exploring the use of risk tables/matrices as a means to incorporate environmental indicators into salmon management.

The STT supports meeting with pertinent groups over the winter months to explore how incorporating environmental factors could improve salmon management for SRFC and KRFC.

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