

## METHODOLOGY REVIEW: FINAL FISHERY IMPACT MODEL REVIEW TOPICS AND STOCK ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGIES

Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Operating Procedure 25 ([COP 25](#)) specifies the Council process for reviewing proposed new methodologies to inform management decisions. Two types of methodologies are considered in COP 25, groundfish impact analyses and those proposed for use in groundfish stock assessments.

At the September 2024 meeting, the Council provided guidance on development of a groundfish incidental-catch projection model for non-sablefish, non-nearshore fishing activity to analyze and predict fishery impacts in the biennial harvest specifications process. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region is able to provide some support to assist members of the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to develop this model. The Council will consider this topic for final methodology review. If selected, the anticipated schedule would be for a project team to develop the projection model and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) to conduct a groundfish methodology review in advance of the June 2025 Council meeting, to align with potential use in the 2027-28 harvest specifications and management measure process.

In September 2023, the Council adopted a methodology review topic for potential use in groundfish stock assessments. The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee (GFSC) conducted a methodology review on the suitability of fish age estimates developed using Fourier Transformed Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-NIRS) in groundfish stock assessments in October 2024. The SSC GFSC provided a summary report from the review and the full SSC will provide their recommendations to the Council at this meeting.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Identify final topics for fishery impact model methodology review in 2025.**
- 2. Adopt final stock assessment methodologies for 2025 and beyond, as recommended by the SSC.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

### **Agenda Order:**

- I.3 Methodology Review: Final Fishery Impact Model Review Topics and Stock Assessment Methodologies  
Marlene A. Bellman
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Identify Final Topics for Fishery Impact Model Review and Adopt Final Stock Assessment Methodologies