

Groundfish Subcommittee of the Scientific and Statistical Committee: Accepted Practices Guidelines for Groundfish Stock Assessments

Pacific Fishery Management Council
Large Conference Room/Online
7700 NE Ambassador Place NE
Portland, OR 97220

December 2-3, 2024

Instructions for how to connect to the Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) Groundfish Subcommittee (GFSC) hybrid meeting will be posted on the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council's) [website](#) prior to the first day of the meeting.

SSC Subcommittee meetings are open to the public, and a public comment period has been scheduled. Additional public comments may be taken at the discretion of the Chair. Times on this agenda are subject to change once the meeting begins. Subcommittee member work assignments are noted in parentheses at the end of each agenda item; the first name listed is the discussion leader and the second is the rapporteur.

The purpose of the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee's meeting is to develop recommendations for consideration by West Coast groundfish stock assessment scientists. Recommendations of SSC Groundfish Subcommittee members will inform the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Stock Assessments in 2025 and 2026, which is a compilation of guidelines for groundfish stock assessment scientists. The updated version of this document will be posted on the Pacific Council's website shortly after this meeting and provided to the full SSC and the Council in March 2025.

Monday, December 2, 2024 – 1:00 PM

A. Introduction

John Field/Cheryl Barnes

1. Roll Call, Introductions, Announcements, etc.
2. Goals of the Meeting
3. Review and Approve Agenda

B. Approaches for addressing spatial closures in groundfish stock assessments

1. Presentation of literature review Brian Langseth
(1:15 p.m.; **Barnes, Field**)
2. Discussion of potential improvements for addressing spatial considerations in groundfish stock assessments
(2:00 p.m.; **Barnes, Field**)

Break (2:45 - 3:00 p.m.)

C. California ROV: overview of survey methodologies

1. 2023 methodology review report and recommendations John Field
(3:00 p.m.; **Hamel, Barnes**)
2. Ongoing research and methodological improvements John Budrick
(3:15 p.m.; **Hamel, Barnes**)
3. 10-m segment indices of abundance and MPA applications Nick Perkins
(3:30 p.m.; **Hamel, Barnes**)
4. Transect level indices for the Quillback Rockfish Assessment John Budrick
(4:00 p.m.; **Hamel, Barnes**)
5. SSC Groundfish Subcommittee discussion
(4:30 p.m.; **Hamel, Barnes**)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
04:45 p.m. (or immediately following Agenda Item C.5)
Public comments are accepted at this time.

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 – 8:30 AM

Overview of Day 1 outcomes and Day 2 expectations John Field/Cheryl Barnes
(8:30 a.m.)

D. California ROV: design-based estimates for use in groundfish stock assessments

1. Overview of design-based estimates of abundance John Budrick
(8:40 a.m.; **Marshall, Free**)
2. Stratification for length and density estimates Rob Silva (CDFW)
(8:50 a.m.; **Marshall, Free**)
3. Seafloor mapping and area-specific estimates Mike Patton (CDFW)
(9:15 a.m.; **Marshall, Free**)
4. Estimates of abundance John Budrick (CDFW)
(9:30 a.m.; **Marshall, Free**)

BREAK (10:00 - 10:15 a.m.)

5. Data gaps and future research efforts Mike Prall (CDFW)
(10:15 a.m.; **Tsou, Hamel**)

- 6. SSC Groundfish Subcommittee discussion
(10:30 a.m.; **Tsou, Hamel**)

E. Recommendations for the development of risk tables for 2025 assessments

- 1. Review of September 2024 risk table discussion and recommendations Kristin Marshall
(11:00 a.m.; **Tsou, Hamel**)

LUNCH (12:00 - 1:30 p.m.)

F. Accepted practices for groundfish stock assessments in 2025 and 2026

- 1. Revisions to existing accepted practices language; input from GFSC or STATs
(1:30 p.m.; **Field, Schaffler**)
- 2. Revisions to existing accepted practices language (continued)
 - a. Recommended revisions from B. Approaches for addressing spatial closures in groundfish stock assessments
 - b. Recommended revisions from D. California ROV: design-based estimates for use in groundfish stock assessments(2:00 p.m.; **Field, Schaffler**)

BREAK (3:00 - 3:15 p.m.)

- 3. Revisions to existing accepted practices language (continued)
 - c. Recommended revisions from FEP 4 risk table guidance from Council(3:15 p.m.; **Field, Tsou**)

<p>PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD 04:00 p.m. (or immediately following Agenda Item F.3) Public comments are accepted at this time.</p>

F. Accepted Practices for Groundfish Stock Assessments in 2025 and 2026 (cont'd)

- 4. Coordination of tasks and timeline John Field/Cheryl Barnes
- 5. Closing discussion or remarks
(4:15 p.m.)

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