

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
METHODOLOGY REVIEW PRELIMINARY TOPIC SELECTION

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) met with members of the Salmon Technical Team (STT) to discuss potential topics to be reviewed by the SSC Salmon Subcommittee in fall 2025. Will Satterthwaite (Southwest Fisheries Science Center) briefed the SSC and STT on the review topics put forward by the Sacramento River Fall Chinook Workgroup (SRWG) (Agenda Item D.4.a, [SRWG Report 1](#)):

1. Derivation of natural-area  $S_{MSY}$  for Sacramento River Fall Chinook;
2. Methods for evaluating consequences of changes in allowable exploitation rates, evaluating forecast performance, and potentially adjusting forecasts for bias and/or uncertainty buffers; and
3. Methods for deriving a total (natural areas plus hatchery) escapement objective based on consideration of natural production and hatchery needs.

The SSC supports moving forward with review of the topics proposed by the SRWG. These topics all have materials ready for review this year, with analysts available and able to engage in the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) process, and there are a reasonable number of topics for review this year.

The SSC also supports reviewing the Oregon Production Index Hatchery (OPIH) forecast methodology, including but not limited to the modifications made in March 2025. The SSC reiterates our previously stated position that the OPIH team should explore breaking the forecast into key component stocks, including natural origin stocks, and should clearly and completely document how the aggregate OPIH forecast is broken into the components used by the STT and modelers (e.g., Fishery Regulation Assessment Model).

The SSC is also willing to review other salmon methodology topics as requested by the Council.