

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 June 2025 statement under this agenda item.

The SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee anticipates conducting its annual review of Ecosystem Status Report Science Topics in the fall of 2025 (virtual), based on the proposals adopted by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council, PFMC) in [March 2025](#). The tentative date proposed in the June 2025 SSC workload planning statement is no longer optimal for the Subcommittee.

The Salmon Methodology Review meeting is scheduled for October 9-10, 2025 as a virtual meeting. The SSC Salmon Subcommittee requests that it be scheduled as a half day beginning at 8 a.m. on October 9, 2025. The SSC Salmon Subcommittee also notes this meeting will occur again in October of 2026, if needed, and that an in-person meeting would be preferable.

The SSC has recommended that the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee (GFSC) convene a Supplemental Review of the widow rockfish stock assessment. This meeting is tentatively planned for October 14-17, 2025, at the Watertown Hotel in Seattle, WA. The meeting would start at 1 p.m. on Tuesday October 14, include two full days on October 15 and 16, and conclude on Friday, October 17. The anticipated degree of complexity for review materials and discussion warrants an in-person meeting, with a broadcast for listening and remote public comment.

A PFMC SSC member plans to participate in the Center for Independent Experts (CIE) review of the Fisheries Integrated Modeling System (FIMS) on November 4-6, 2025 (virtual).

The SSC Economics Subcommittee will hold a virtual meeting, November 7, 2025 from 12-4 p.m. (PT) to review the 5-Year Groundfish Trawl Catch Share Review and will prepare a report for the full SSC to review during its November 2025 meeting.

The SSC notes that, in the Year At a Glance (Agenda Item I.4, Attachment 1), risk table items are grayed out (November 2025 and March 2026 meetings). The SSC has repeatedly found risk tables to be useful and recommends these items be added to the agenda for those meetings if items are completed.

The SSC recommends that the SSC GFSC hold a Groundfish Stock Assessment Process Review meeting in mid- or late- January 2026, as a two-day virtual meeting with participation from the Groundfish Management Team (GMT), Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP), and other stock assessment participants to discuss and provide feedback from the 2025 stock assessment cycle.

The SSC proposes the SSC Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittee conduct a review of new Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC)/Northwest Fisheries Science Center Integrated West Coast Pelagics survey methods for generating biomass estimates to be used in CPS stock

assessments, pending Council decision in November 2025. This review meeting is anticipated to be conducted in February or March 2026, and is currently proposed for the week of February 23-27, 2026 at the SWFSC in La Jolla, California.

The SSC GFSC anticipates conducting a Groundfish Stock Assessment Methodology Review meeting during 2026 for any topic adopted under [Agenda Item G.4](#) at the September 2025 meeting. The review meeting is anticipated as an in-person meeting, with a web broadcast for remote listening and public comment.

The SSC Ecosystem-Based Management Subcommittee anticipates conducting a review meeting, should the Council adopt any science topics from the March 2026 meeting. This meeting would be anticipated in the late fall of 2026.

In the event of a government shutdown during October 2025, the Salmon Methodology Review and Supplemental Review of the 2025 widow rockfish update assessment could be impacted. For the Salmon Methodology Review, there are no federal proponents. However, two members of the SSC and multiple members of the Salmon Technical Team (STT) are federal employees. Salmon Methodology Review material will be available prior to a potential government shutdown, though participation would be uncertain depending on the length of the potential closure. For the Supplemental Review of the 2025 widow rockfish update assessment, review materials are expected to be available prior to a potential shutdown, the two-week deadline for submission of materials would occur prior to October 1, 2025. All analysts working on responses to requests from the SSC GFSC are federal employees. Depending on the length of a shutdown, their potential lack of participation would result in a very different structure to this review. Several members of the SSC GFSC who would participate in the Supplemental Review are also federal employees. A lack of National and Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) employees on both sides of the review would limit the detailed, back-and-forth nature that is typical of stock assessment review meetings.

PFMC
09/23/25

Proposed Workshops and SSC Subcommittee Meetings for 2025 and Beyond

Italic items are noted as potential or preliminary

Shaded rows indicate newly added items since the prior statement

	Workshop/Meeting	Potential Dates	Sponsor/ Tentative Location	SSC Reps.	Additional Reviewers	AB Reps.	Council Staff
1	Ecosystem Status Report Science Topics Review	Postponed until later in 2025	Council/Virtual	Ecosystem Subcommittee	TBD	EWG EAS	Lyons/ Bellman
2	Salmon Methodology Review	October 9-10, 2025	Council/Virtual	Salmon Subcommittee	TBD	STT	Forristall /Bellman
3	Supplemental Review: 2025 update assessment for widow rockfish	Oct 14-17, 2025	Council/ Seattle/ Broadcast	Groundfish Subcommittee	CIE	GMT GAP	Bellman
4	CIE Review of Fisheries Integrated Modeling System	November 4-6, 2025	NOAA/Virtual	PFMC SSC rep.	NA	NA	NA
5	Economic Subcommittee Meeting: Trawl Catch Share Program Review	November 7, 2025	Council/ Virtual	Economics Subcommittee	NA	GMT GAP	Waller/ Bellman
6	<i>Process Review of 2025 groundfish stock assessment cycle</i>	<i>January 2026</i>	<i>Council/ Virtual</i>	<i>Groundfish Subcommittee</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>GMT GAP</i>	<i>Bellman</i>
7	<i>CPS Methodology Review: SWFSC/NWFSC Integrated Survey</i>	<i>February 23-27, 2026</i>	<i>Council/ SWFSC La Jolla/ Broadcast</i>	<i>CPS Subcommittee</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>CPSMT CPSAS</i>	<i>Bernaus/ Bellman</i>
8	<i>Groundfish Methodology Review</i>	<i>Summer 2026</i>	<i>Council/TBD</i>	<i>Groundfish Subcommittee</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>GMT GAP</i>	<i>Bellman</i>
9	<i>Salmon Methodology Review</i>	<i>October 2026</i>	<i>Council/TBD</i>	<i>Salmon Subcommittee</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>STT</i>	<i>Forristall /Bellman</i>
10	<i>Ecosystem Status Report Science Topics Review</i>	<i>Fall 2026</i>	<i>Council/TBD</i>	<i>Ecosystem Subcommittee</i>	<i>TBD</i>	<i>EWG EAS</i>	<i>Lyons/ Bellman</i>