

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 September 2025 statement under this agenda item.

The SSC Ecosystem Subcommittee anticipates conducting its annual review of Ecosystem Status Report Science Topics on either December 18 or 19, 2025 as a virtual meeting, based on the proposals adopted by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) in [March 2025](#).

The SSC recommends that a two-day virtual meeting of the full SSC be held to conduct additional review of the widow rockfish stock assessment, ideally during the week of January 19th and scheduled concurrently with the Groundfish Stock Assessment Process Review meeting in late January. The SSC suggests January (Tue) 20 and (Thu) 22, 2026 to allow for requests and responses by the Stock Assessors Team. This would also allow most stock assessment process participants to attend both this supplemental review and the process review meeting. The SSC requests participation from the Groundfish Management Team (GMT), Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) and if possible, the Center for Independent Experts (CIE) reviewer who participated in the 2025 stock assessment cycle.

The SSC recommends that the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee (GFSC) hold a Groundfish Stock Assessment Process Review meeting on January (Wed) 21 and (Fri) 23, 2026 as a two-day virtual meeting with participation from the GMT, GAP, CIE, 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 FSC 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 currently proposed for the week of February 23-27, 2026 (with travel days Feb (Mon) 23 and (Fri) 27) hosted at the SWFSC in La Jolla, California.

The SSC recommends that the GFSC hold a one-day in-person meeting for further review of the groundfish harvest specification flexibility topic (i.e., Agenda Item F.5 November 2025) on Monday, March 2, 2026 in Sacramento, CA prior to the March 2026 Council meeting.

The GFSC anticipates conducting a Groundfish Stock Assessment Methodology Review meeting during 2026 for the commercial fishery-dependent index standardization topic adopted at the September 2025 Council meeting ([Agenda Item G.4, Supplemental NMFS Report 1, September 2025](#)). The review meeting is anticipated as an in-person meeting, with a web broadcast for remote listening and public comment.

The SSC Salmon Subcommittee notes that a Salmon Methodology Review is anticipated to occur in October 2026, if needed, and that an in-person meeting would be preferable. A peer review, in

which some or all members of the Salmon Subcommittee would participate, is also being discussed for June of 2026.

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.

Proposed Workshops and SSC Subcommittee Meetings for 2025 and Beyond <i>Italic items are noted as potential or preliminary</i> <i>Shaded rows indicate newly added items since the prior statement</i>							
Workshop/Meeting		Potential Dates	Sponsor/ Tentative Location	SSC Reps.	Additional Reviewers	AB Reps.	Council Staff
1	Ecosystem Status Report Science Topics Review	December 18 or 19, 2025	Council/Virtual	Ecosystem Subcommittee	N/A	EWG EAS	Lyons
2	<i>Supplemental Review for Widow Rockfish</i>	<i>January 20 and 22, 2026</i>	<i>Council/Virtual</i>	<i>SSC</i>	<i>CIE</i>	<i>GMT GAP</i>	<i>TBD</i>
3	<i>Process Review of 2025 Groundfish Stock Assessment Cycle</i>	<i>January 21 and 23, 2026</i>	<i>Council/Virtual</i>	<i>Groundfish Subcommittee</i>	<i>CIE</i>	<i>GMT GAP</i>	<i>TBD</i>
4	CPS Methodology Review: SWFSC/NWFSC Integrated Survey	February 23-27, 2026	Council/ SWFSC La Jolla/ Broadcast	CPS Subcommittee	CIE	CPSMT CPSAS	Bernaus
5	<i>Groundfish Harvest Specifications Flexibility Topic Review</i>	<i>March 2, 2026</i>	<i>Council/ Sacramento</i>	<i>Groundfish Subcommittee</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>TBD</i>
6	<i>Sacramento River Fall Chinook Peer Review</i>	<i>June 2026</i>	<i>California/ Council/Hybrid</i>	<i>Salmon Subcommittee</i>	<i>CIE/TBD</i>	<i>STT SAS</i>	<i>TBD</i>
7	<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>TBD</i>
8	<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</i>
9	<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</i>