METHODOLOGY REVIEW RESULTS

The Salmon Methodology Review is guided by Council Operating Procedure (COP) 15 and is a three-step annual process intended to help clarify the technical basis for Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) salmon management actions:

1. At the April Council meeting, the Council reviews the list of candidate topics identified and adopts preliminary topics.
2. At the September Council meeting, the Council is informed of the topics that will be ready for review in October, notified of any assistance needed from management entities to complete review materials, and adopts the final list of topics for review.
3. At the November Council meeting, after the methodology review is conducted, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Salmon Technical Team (STT) provide the results of the review and any recommendations for change.

Changes adopted by the Council in November are typically implemented in the coming season, or the Council may provide guidance for handling unresolved methodology issues, if necessary. During each March meeting, the STT will report on the status of all current estimation procedures and models used in analyzing the management options and identify any problems or potential changes to model inputs or parameters that could occur prior to completion of the annual preseason management process in April.

At the September 2025 meeting, the Council selected two topics for review:

1. Modification to the Oregon Production Index Hatchery (OPIH) coho salmon forecast methodology, including the index exponential-decay-weighting approach adopted for use in 2025 (with Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW & WDFW) as the responsible agencies); and

2. Technical revision to the marine survival forecast of the Oregon Coast Natural (OCN) coho work group harvest matrix (with ODFW as the responsible agency).

The 2025 Salmon Methodology Review meeting of the SSC Salmon Subcommittee (SSC-SC) and the STT was held online on October 9, 2025. Note that the review took place during the government shutdown, so SSC-SC and STT members who are federal employees were unable to participate in the review. The SSC and STT will report on the outcomes of the review at this meeting, where the Council may approve the use of any new methodologies based on the review.

Council Action:

1. **Approve the use of methodologies recommended from the Salmon Methodology Review, as appropriate, for use beginning in 2026.**
2. **Provide guidance, as needed, for any unresolved methodology issues.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.3, Attachment 1: Modification to the OPIH Coho Salmon Forecast Methodology (***Electronic only).***
2. Agenda Item G.3, Attachment 2: Technical Revision to the Marine Survival Forecast of the OCN Coho Work Group Harvest Matrix (***Electronic only).***
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

G.3 Methodology Review Results — Angela Forristall
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment
   c. **Council Action**: Adopt Final Methods for 2026 and Beyond, as Appropriate

PFMC
10/16/25