

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) discussed future workload planning and has the following recommendations:

The SSC proposes a meeting of the SSC Groundfish and Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittees to review the steepness prior meta-analysis and new sigma methodologies, on November 1, 2018, the day before the full SSC convenes. These analyses and methodologies, if endorsed, could inform future stock assessments and harvest specifications. The meeting is proposed to start at 10 a.m. in San Diego, California to allow attendees to travel that morning.

The SSC proposes a review, which could be done by webinar, by the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) and Ecosystem Subcommittees of analyses of drivers of albacore distribution and availability to fisheries in the California Current, to be scheduled after the November Council meeting.

The SSC recommends the California and Oregon nearshore remotely operated vehicle (ROV) survey methodology review be scheduled on February 12-14, 2019, in Santa Cruz, California. Dr. Owen Hamel volunteered to be chair for this methodology review along with Dr. John Field, Dr. Rishi Sharma, Dr. Ole Shelton (tentative), and Dr. Theresa Tsou. Dr. Tsou suggested that the effort would benefit from participation by an additional Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) scientist with greater understanding of Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) survey design. The SSC recommends the Council pay the travel expenses for Dr. Tsou and an additional WDFW scientist to attend the review.

The SSC recommends that revisions to the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Groundfish Stock Assessments be discussed by the Groundfish Subcommittee by webinar after the November Council meeting as a first step, with an in-person follow-up meeting that includes stock assessment teams. The SSC recommends the follow-up meeting occur as day one of a two-day meeting in January 2019 in Seattle, in conjunction with a one-day catch reconstruction workshop focused on skates for the 2019 assessment cycle.

The SSC recommends that the Pacific sardine update assessment review be an in-person meeting of the CPS Subcommittee on March 5, 2019, the day before the full SSC convenes. This is proposed as a half-day meeting starting at 1 p.m.

The SSC recommends that a Groundfish Subcommittee webinar be held in August 2019 to review groundfish STAR Panel reviews and to recommend plans for the mop-up meeting, if needed. This webinar is proposed in the 2019-2020 Stock Assessment Terms of Reference.

The SSC has previously recommended that a Data-Limited workshop be held to determine whether new data-limited methods can be used in our harvest specification processes. As this meeting is

not currently viewed as necessary to support the 2021-22 harvest specifications process, and the CPS assessment prioritization should occur before this workshop is scheduled, the SSC recommends this workshop occur no earlier than 2020.

PFMC
09/09/18