

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 review by the Highly Migratory Species and Ecosystem subcommittees of an analyses of drivers of albacore distribution and availability to fisheries in the California Current. This review would be a half-day webinar in December or January. The SSC subcommittees would provide feedback similar to the regular review of California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) indicators that occurs during the September Ecosystem subcommittee meeting. The subcommittees will receive a report from the CCIEA team for discussion at the webinar and report to the full SSC in March. The SSC will convey its recommendations in a statement to the Council in March.

The SSC proposes a review by the Salmon Subcommittee of the final rebuilding plans for five salmon stocks. The SSC recommends that this review occur in January, to allow the Salmon Technical Team (STT) to incorporate feedback prior to the March briefing book deadline.

The SSC recommends that revisions to the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Groundfish Stock Assessments be discussed by the Groundfish Subcommittee by webinar on December 19. The SSC proposes a two-and-a-half day Groundfish Subcommittee meeting in January in Seattle. The agenda for this meeting would be the skate catch reconstruction for the 2019 assessments, finalizing the accepted practices guidelines, and finalizing the report on Review of Proposed Sigma Methodologies and the Rockfish Steepness Prior. Members of the coastal pelagic species subcommittee will participate remotely in the discussion of sigma.

The SSC recommends that the Council consider the new sigmas for adoption at the March Council meeting. The SSC recommends that the Council review science reports with the skate catch reconstruction and the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Groundfish Stock Assessments at the April Council meeting.