

MODEL EVALUATION WORKGROUP REPORT ON SALMON METHODOLOGY
REVIEW PROCESS AND PRELIMINARY TOPIC SELECTION

The Model Evaluation Workgroup's (MEW) list of topics for potential review* with responsible party in parentheses:

1. Provide documentation on the development of the new Chinook Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM) base period. (MEW)
2. Review and update the FRAM documentation and User Manual that is currently on the Council website. (MEW)
3. Evaluate postseason metrics of model performance for FRAM. (MEW)

The MEW supports this task, but is requesting clarification from the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) whether the focus of this topic is a pre- versus post-season FRAM comparison or a post-season FRAM validation exercise using alternative data sources; i.e. genetic stock identification (GSI) or exploitation rate analyses conducted by the Chinook Technical Committee (CTC) of the Pacific Salmon Commission, or possibly, both.

4. Conduct the technical analysis needed to inform a change of the salmon management boundary line from latitude 40° 05' (Horse Mt.) five miles north to latitude 40° 10'. (Salmon Technical Team-STT)

The MEW requests to be briefed on this item to determine potential FRAM implications, but defers to the STT as the primary advising body on whether this topic should be added to the list of potential Methodology Review items.

5. Marine fishery impacts of Upper Columbia River Summer Chinook in FRAM. (MEW)

With the implementation of the updated Chinook FRAM base period, there was an increase to impacts of Upper Columbia River Summer Chinook in Council area fisheries, particularly in areas South of Cape Falcon. These impacts increased to levels higher than expected based on information from other data sets, including GSI and coded wire tag-based exploitation rate analyses conducted by the CTC. The MEW recommends an investigation into the causes of these increases, through coordination with the FRAM Base Period Workgroup and Columbia River fishery managers, to determine whether a resolution to this issue will involve simple updates to data inputs or a more complex approach that will require Methodology Review.

Additionally, the MEW discussed the possibility of organizing a FRAM workshop. This workshop would be designed to provide members of the SSC, STT, and MEW with a detailed understanding of the FRAM model in order to facilitate the model evaluation process.

The MEW also noted that there are currently two vacancies (one Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and one Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission) on the workgroup. The MEW

*Items 1-3 are carry-over items from previous methodology review task lists.

would consider it beneficial to have those vacancies filled so that the range of knowledge and expertise within the workgroup can be expanded.

PFMC
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