

Fall 2023 SSC comments

Start date for assessment / survey data (SSC – Oct 2023)

- For the inclusion of trawl survey data, the SSC suggests crab assessment authors and the CPT be more explicit about best practices for which standard years are included for bottom trawl survey data. The SSC suggests that the years recommended by the Groundfish Plan Teams would be a good starting point, which specify using the following bottom trawl survey data years:
 - Aleutian Islands: 1991 - present (standard gear)
 - Eastern Bering Sea: 1982 - present (standard gear, grid, and design), 1987 - present for species that inhabit the northwest corner of the survey (which was added in 1987 for snow crab and walleye pollock)"

Stock	Starting year / survey	Proposed changes?
BBRKC	1975 / NMFS BS trawl	1985 (evaluated in 2023)
Tanner	1975 / NMFS BS trawl	
Snow	1980? / NMFS BS trawl	
SMBKC	1978 / NMFS BS trawl	
PIBKC		
PIRKC		
NSRKC		

Response to all previous recommendations

"The SSC requests that the CPT develop a process for ensuring that authors have provided a response to all previous (including at least the last assessment) SSC recommendations, even those for which no work has been completed, so these requests can be more easily tracked over time."

- Authors should be tracking comments in SAFE and proposed model docs
- CPT member with minutes assignment look at least recent SSC minutes to confirm author is addressing them
- Addressing minutes can just be a comment on expected timeline for the work if applicable.

- Risk tables for crab – getting a presentation at this meeting on groundfish use. Potential for draft risk tables in May?
- The SSC suggests that the CPT and crab authors continue to evaluate whether VAST or similar approaches, when specified carefully for individual crab stocks (i.e., the choice of error distributions and number of knots) might provide more robust survey time-series.
- Assessment authors available for questions during final specification presentations to the SSC