

Working Group on Stock Assessment (WGSA) Terms of Reference

The working group is composed of one or more members from each Party, and subject to approval by CSRS designates one official chairperson who shall preside over the working group and act as the primary representative for the working group. The working group will report annually to CSRS on progress of its work that will include proposed changes in membership.

The primary goal of the Working Group on Stock Assessment (WGSA) is to assess and report on the status of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout.

Subject to approval by CSRS:

The WGSA shall on an annual basis

- provide estimates of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout catches, hatchery releases, and spawner escapements at agreed upon temporal and spatial scales;
- update historical estimates as appropriate;
- coordinate the maintenance, standardization, and access to databases;
- provide information for outreach materials for the website and other media, as required.

In addition, the WGSA shall

- provide comprehensive overviews and report on Pacific salmon and steelhead trout stock status approximately every 5 years and data updates (minimal changes to analysis or text) approximately every two years;
- investigate ways to measure and forecast the abundance and status of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout in the North Pacific Ocean;
- promote publication of results on the stock status of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout;
- complete tasks appropriate to the working group identified in the current Science Plan