

## **Working Group on Stock Identification (WGSi) 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 Identification (WGSi) is to provide a forum for developing, standardizing, and disseminating genetic and biological data of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout in the North Pacific Ocean and to increase knowledge of anadromous stock-specific ocean distribution and migration.

Subject to approval by CSRS:

The WGSi shall on an annual basis

- develop, standardize, and disseminate genetic baseline and other data relevant to stock identification on high seas anadromous stocks that are accessible among member nations;
- facilitate and disseminate statistical techniques for analysis of genetic data on high seas anadromous stocks;
- provide information for outreach materials for the website and other media, as required.

In addition, the WGSi shall

- encourage and coordinate development of new genetic technologies and protocols;
- investigate migration routes of anadromous stocks and evaluate potential impact of climate change on these routes;
- determine origin of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout confiscated during enforcement operations;
- develop a consensus on genetic baselines for Pacific salmon and steelhead trout that are necessary to monitor stock-specific ocean distributions and abundance;
- cooperate with other working groups to examine stock-specific ocean distribution and migration behavior of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout;
- promote publication of results of Pacific salmon and steelhead trout genetic stock identification that contribute to knowledge of their ocean distribution and migration behavior;
- coordinate with other working groups to archive and make available genetic databases generated from science plans;
- complete tasks appropriate to the working group identified in the current Science Plan.