

Science Panel Requests for Analyses in the Short Term (April if possible, otherwise for W3)

1. Eric Ward should rerun his prospective analyses, assuming a 50:50 sex ratio in SRKW. **Rationale:** The current sex ratio of 45% males is likely a random event, and over the long term the expected sex ratio should be 50:50.
2. It would be worth summarizing results after 5 years, 15 years and 30 years. The key results are the relative differences in performance measures with and without fishing, not their absolute levels. **Rationale:** It doesn't make any sense to run forward for longer than 30 years, as the propagation of uncertainties leads to such a wide range of possible outcomes.
3. Could Eric Ward please provide the inter-birth intervals from the historical data to determine whether they differ between the SRKW and NRKW, and whether they have changed over time? **Rationale:** This provides further understanding of the factors causing differences in SRKW and NRKW population growth rates.
4. Could John Ford please provide information on the size selectivity of SRKW in winter (from the diet observations that he presented at W2)? **Rationale:** This may help to refine the fish abundance covariates used in Eric's analyses.
5. In prospective analyses of alternative fish management scenarios, it would be interesting to explore an alternative fish harvest policy which only reduces the harvest rate when Chinook abundances are below some appropriate benchmark. In the short term, it would be interesting to do a sensitivity analysis with an example benchmark level to explore this effect. **Rationale:** When there's lots of Chinook around for both killer whales and fishing boats, there is less likelihood of competitive effects. It may be possible to find a harvest policy which has less fisheries loss for the same benefit to killer whales.
6. Please provide Sandie O'Neill's analysis of contaminant data (just completed) which could help to inform the understanding of which regional stock groups are most important to SRKW. **Rationale:** This could lead to further refinement of the stocks included in Eric's model.