

River Herring Technical Expert Working Group (TEWG)

Stock Status Subgroup Webinar/Conference Call

February 19, 2015

9:30-10:30 am

Summary

I. Overview

The Stock Status Subgroup of the River Herring Technical Expert Working Group was established to “consider and test appropriate stock status methodologies to quantitatively assess river herring populations rangewide” in order to help contribute to the expected products of the TEWG. Kevin Sullivan and Michael Bailey, co-chairs of the Stock Status Subgroup, convened a call on February 19, 2015, to continue discussions and develop outcomes for the TEWG. The draft agenda for the meeting included topics such as: 1) discuss individual rankings of research priorities; and 2) discuss future meetings. This meeting summary includes the primary discussion topics and outcomes to contribute to future TEWG discussions. The information provided below reflects individual expert opinion and not consensus.

II. Key Topics

Following is a list of individual expert opinion provided by Stock Status Subgroup members or the public on various overarching topics. Some ideas have been combined where appropriate.

- Mike Bailey briefly reviewed the summary of individual expert opinion rankings from the eight subgroup members that submitted information. Mike and Kevin averaged the ranks for the spreadsheet. For example, the number one ranked needs is the creation of a standardized sampling document. NOAA Fisheries and ASMFC continue to discuss various outcomes of the TEWG such as this to further progress on river herring in collaboration with partners. Members provided some ideas if ASMFC and NOAA Fisheries pursued this particular suggestion (e.g., involve Technical Committee). Many members were appreciative of Mike and Kevin’s efforts, and no additional comments were provided. Mike noted that the document can be updated as needed.
- Kevin and Mike are working on a white paper of the Stock Status Subgroup progress to support the River Herring Conservation Plan.
- Mike and Diane noted that they have contacted speakers for a future meeting to share their valuable experience with similar data poor species assessment and management approaches (e.g., Tom Miller, Jamie Gibson, possible speaker from the west coast).

- The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council is interested in obtaining a biologically-based cap and is looking to get their Scientific and Statistical Committee more involved. Jason Didden added that a member(s) from the SSC may want to participate in the Stock Status Subgroup calls and he will follow-up with Kevin and Mike if so.

III. Key Outcomes

Below is a list of individual expert opinions provided by participants related to specific threats, data gaps, research projects, conservation actions, information to be considered and/or monitoring (i.e., the identified research projects and/or conservation actions). Some ideas have been combined where appropriate. These outcomes are listed in no particular order, and those related to other subgroups are also included in the “Cross-Cutting Issues” section below).

a. Data Gaps

- Please see Sullivan and Bailey’s Synopsis of Subgroup Research Suggestions

b. Research Projects

- Please see Sullivan and Bailey’s Synopsis of Subgroup Research Suggestions

c. Monitoring

- Please see Sullivan and Bailey’s Synopsis of Subgroup Research Suggestions

d. Information to be Considered:

- Standardized sampling document from State of Salmon website.

IV. Next Steps

The Stock Status Subgroup discussed the following next steps:

- Kevin, Mike and Diane will follow-up with identified speakers for future meetings (see above).
- Kevin and Mike will continue to work on a white paper on the Stock Status Subgroup progress.
- Jason will reach-out to Kevin and Mike about possible participation of member(s) of the MAFMC SSC in the Stock Status Subgroup.
- A draft meeting summary will be distributed.

V. Cross-Cutting Subgroup Issues

The following cross-cutting subgroups issues were discussed and will be further considered by the TEWG and its Ecosystem Integration Committee.

May 1, 2015

- There is overlap with some of the research suggestions for the Fisheries and Stock Status Subgroups so coordination is important.

VI. Participants

a. Subgroup Members

The affiliation of each member can be found on the subgroup roster available at the TEWG Fisheries Subgroup website:

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/protected/riverherring/tewg/fisheries/index.html>

Genine Lipkey
Adrian Jordaan
Jason Didden
Michael Bailey
Kiersten Curti
Ben Gahagan
Eric Hilton
Diane Borggaard

b. Other Participants

Edith Carson

VII. Meeting Materials

The following materials were provided to support the meeting. Additional information can be found at the TEWG Stock Status Subgroup website:

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/protected/riverherring/tewg/stocks/index.html>

- a. Draft Agenda
- b. Stock Status Subgroup individually ranked research priorities