REPORT OF THE AD HOC FULL RETENTION COMMITTEE

The Council’s Ad Hoc Full Retention Committee (Committee) met in Portland, Oregon on August 6, 2001. The Committee discussed a number of the issues surrounding any potential program requiring full retention of catch in the West Coast groundfish fishery. These issues included:

- Which species to include.
- Coastwide versus pilot program.
- Disposition of revenue generated by surrender of overages.
- Calculation of fair market value.
- Impacts upon vessels and processors from the requirement to handle nonmarketable catch.
- Integration with the newly implemented Observer Program.
- How to create incentives for compliance, or disincentives for noncompliance.
- Monitoring and enforcement issues.

The Committee felt that these, as well as other issues, need to be further developed. The committee believes that full retention measures should be included in the Council’s "toolbox" and would like to see work on the issue remain above the workload priority line. The committee feels it would be useful to meet over the winter after information becomes available from the rockfish retention measures in the Washington exempted fishing permit program, or any full retention program that might be developed as part of the NMFS Observer Program. Having such information in hand should provide insight into the issues already discussed by the Committee or illuminate other issues which the Committee has not yet identified.

PFMC
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