

# Pacific Marine Conservation Council

**"Dedicated to the health and diversity  
of our marine life and habitat"**

May 22, 2003

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PFMC

Dr. Donald McIsaac, Executive Director  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200  
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RE: FishResearchWest

Dear Dr. McIsaac,

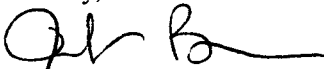
We are pleased to announce a reception at which Pacific Marine Conservation Council (PMCC) and our partners in ongoing collaborative research efforts will launch FishResearchWest.org, the first online, coastwide clearinghouse for information on collaborative fisheries research in Washington, Oregon and California. The reception will be held at the Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in Foster City on June 18, 2003 at 6:00 PM. All are invited to attend.

Links on FishResearchWest.org include contact information for interested scientists and fishermen of all gear types, fisheries research priorities, funding opportunities, logistical information, research news and others. As a result of our intent to establish a site that is both neutral and representative, the actual configuration has been developed through an intensive interview process with representatives of academia, fisheries management, and fishermen of various fishing gear types and geographic regions. In addition, via a splash page at FishResearch.org, the new site will link collaborative research efforts on the West Coast to those in New England for the first time.

The intent behind FishResearchWest is to match parties with interests in collaborative research, and identify a broad range of funding sources. We believe that bringing together the tools and the knowledge held by fishermen and scientists will lead to better science and improved fisheries management. With our partners in this endeavor, including the Institute for Fisheries Resources, NOAA Fisheries Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Oregon and California Sea Grant Extension Programs, and the Pacific Fishery Management Council, PMCC is now working to clearly define next steps towards the development of a coastwide collaborative research program.

Through FishResearchWest.org and a coordinated and comprehensive collaborative research program, it is our intent to provide a platform for formally merging the skills and knowledge of scientists and fishermen along the West Coast, with the primary goal of improving fisheries science. We believe that authentic collaborations between fishermen and scientists will lead to further discussion of tough questions, more provocative hypotheses, more creative and cost-effective fisheries research strategies, and joint ownership of results.

Sincerely,

  
Jennifer Bloeser,  
Science Director

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