

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Dear Reviewer:

The enclosed document – *Volume 1: Status of the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery through 2005, Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation: Stock Assessments and Rebuilding Analyses* (Volume 1 of the SAFE document) – provides individual stock assessments for bocaccio, cowcod, California scorpionfish, and cabezon. In addition, this volume contains the Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel reports associated with each of the four assessments, which summarize the issues that arose during the scientific peer review process, and the rebuilding analyses for bocaccio and cowcod.

Seven volumes collect the total of twenty-two stocks assessed in 2005 and approved by PFMC, in addition to their associated STAR Panel Reports. Seven of these stocks also have corresponding rebuilding analyses. With the exception of Pacific whiting, the stock assessments will be used as part of PFMC's biennial groundfish management cycle, informing decisions on harvest specifications and management measures for 2007-2008; Pacific whiting is assessed and managed under a separate annual process.

In all volumes, the assessments are printed without the appendices of data and control files. The complete assessments are available on the PFMC website or can be acquired by contacting the PFMC staff office directly.

Sincerely,



D. O. McIsaac, Ph.D.
Executive Director