

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON STATUS OF THE  
RATIONALIZED TRAWL FISHERY

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) received a presentation by Dr. Todd Lee and Ms. Erin Steiner, National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) regarding the mandatory Economic Data Collection (EDC) program for participants in the groundfish catch shares program. The EDC was reviewed by the Economics and Groundfish Subcommittees on April 7, 2013 in Portland.

The EDC program provides comprehensive economic data for shorebased catcher vessels which was previously collected through voluntary cost-earnings surveys and new, previously unavailable data for motherships, catcher vessels delivering to motherships, catcher processors, and first receivers/shorebased processors. The EDC achieved a 94 percent response rate in 2011; survey data are subject to double-key entry and other data validation methods. The data represent best available science and are directly relevant to evaluating the economic performance of the catch share program and for analyzing management alternatives considered in the Specs process.

Dr. Lee briefed the SSC regarding the Pacific Coast Groundfish Trawl Social Study, a study conducted separately from the EDC by NWFSC social scientist Ms. Suzanne Russell. This study involved voluntary surveys and interviews of groundfish fishery participants in 2010 and 2012 and may be a good source of information regarding the short-term social impacts of the catch share program. The SSC would like to review this study as a potential source of information for the five-year review of the catch share program.

PFMC

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