

RESEARCH AND DATA NEEDS/ECONOMIC DATA PLAN

Situation: On even numbered years the Council reviews and updates its research and data needs and economic data plan. The SSC takes a lead role in this process. In April, draft documents with revisions proposed by the Council staff were distributed to the SSC and other Council advisory committees. Comments from these entities are continuing to come in and are being routed to the SSC for compilation into a single proposed revised document for Council consideration. The SSC will report on its progress at the June meeting.

The Council operating procedure on this matter calls for approval of public review drafts at the June Council meeting with final adoption in September. This process also provides an opportunity at the June meeting for advisory panels and teams to comment on the proposed revisions as compiled by the SSC, just prior to a Council decision on whether or not the drafts are ready for public review. Because of the delay, even if draft documents are available by the June meeting, the Council and its advisory committee's will not have had a chance to thoroughly review the SSC's compilation of comments. It is in this context the Council will need to make a decision as to whether or not to send the documents out for public review. If sent out for review, there will be further opportunity for revision prior to final adoption. After final adoption, the next action on the biannual cycle is an early December meeting among the staffs of involved agencies to develop a consensus on high priority initiatives to address Council needs.

Council Action: Decide whether or not to send the draft revised research and data needs and economic data documents out for public comment.

Reference Materials:

1. Draft 2000-2001 Research and Data Needs (Supplemental Attachment H.5.a.).
2. Draft West Coast Fisheries Economic Data Plan (Supplemental Attachment H.5.b).

PFMC
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