

## STATUS OF BYCATCH ESTIMATE

Situation: Ms. Cyreis Schmitt, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), will brief the Council on the status of bycatch estimates for Pacific halibut in the Council-area groundfish trawl fishery. NMFS and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) staff have been working on a revised bycatch estimation method using data collected from the Oregon Enhanced Data Collection Program.

The methodology and halibut bycatch estimates for the 1999 groundfish trawl fishery in International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Area 2A waters should be completed just prior to the September Council meeting. The report will be provided to the Scientific and Statistical Committee for review with the intent of providing estimates to the IPHC to use in establishing the 2001 halibut fisheries.

**Council Action: None. Information only.**

Reference Materials:

1. Estimates of Pacific halibut bycatch in IPHC Area 2A in 1999 (Exhibit D.2, Supplemental NMFS/ODFW Bycatch Report).

PFMC  
08/30/00