

## REPORT OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Dr. David Hanson provided a legislative update to the Budget Committee. The federal fiscal year 2001 funding has not been fully resolved yet. The situation now appears that there will be no increase in Council funding. If the appropriations are final by the end of the week, an update will be provided when the status of legislation is presented.

Dr. Donald McIsaac presented the Budget Committee with an Executive Director report that included three items: (1) the status of calendar year 2000 expenditures and year end projection; (2) the status of calendar year 2001 grant submission; and (3) the schedule of Budget Committee meetings for 2001.

The Budget Committee discussed the calendar year 2000 expenditure projections and options for fully utilizing the available funds. As a result of the discussion, the committee passed two motions requesting the **Council to authorize** the following actions: (1) increase the Pacific Sates Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) liaison contract by \$20,000 from CY2000 funds to cover additional work provided by Dr. Dave Hanson in meeting Council liaison needs; and (2) provide the Executive Director discretion in spending up to \$20,000 in excess of year-end budget category projections for such things as replacement of broken or obsolete computer equipment or other necessities.

The staff will be preparing a calendar year 2001 grant application for level funding (pending confirmation of the final legislation) for submission to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in the next couple of weeks. State contracts will be funded at the calendar year 2000 level.

The Budget Committee passed a motion to schedule its 2001 committee meetings only at the June, September, and November Council meetings. These three meetings should generally be sufficient to complete needed budget oversight. This base schedule would not preclude calling additional Budget Committee meetings if the need arises.

The status of the Groundfish Strategic Plan facilitation contract was discussed and determinations made concerning expenditure of the remaining funds (approximately \$12,000). The Budget Committee recommends the **PSMFC authorize** \$5,000 be provided to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as a partial refund of its \$10,000 contribution to the Strategic Planning. The Oregon contribution was made prior to finding additional non-state funding for the Strategic Plan. The committee recommends remaining funds be used to support the initial meetings of the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee which are expected to begin in the near future.

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