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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Fishery Resource Analysis and Monitoring Division
Northwest Fisheries Science Center
2725 Montlake Boulevard East
Seattle, Washington 98112

May 28, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR: F/NW – Mr. Robert Lohn
FROM: *U. Varanasi* F/NWC – Dr. Usha Varanasi
SUBJECT: 2002 FRAM Division Fishery Resource Survey Activity
off Washington, Oregon, and California

This memorandum is to inform you of research activity to be conducted by the Fishery Resource Analysis and Monitoring (FRAM) Division off Washington, Oregon, and California in the summer of 2002. We will be conducting a resource assessment survey to characterize the relative abundance and distribution of the deepwater slope groundfish species complex, i.e. Dover sole, sablefish, shortspine thornyhead, longspine thornyhead, and other species in that zone. This survey will be carried out aboard four chartered commercial trawlers and will employ quantitative bottom trawl sampling techniques according to a stratified random survey design. The vessels will operate in pairs, the first pair starting its operations near Cape Flattery, Washington in late June and working its way southwards over the next five weeks to conclude at San Diego, California. The second pair of vessels will start in mid-August and follow the same north-to-south pattern over the next five weeks.

This activity is official National Marine Fisheries Service research directed at assessing the status of fishery resources managed under the West Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan. Cruise plans for this survey are on file with FRAM Division at the Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC). By this memorandum, I am approving and authorizing the research to be conducted. The vessel names, radio call signs, and planned dates of operation are listed below:

<u>VESSEL NAME</u>	<u>CALL SIGN</u>	<u>DATES</u>
Captain Jack	WBP 9045	6/20 – 8/1
Ms. Julie	WDA 7365	“
Excalibur	WAW 2731	8/15 – 10/15
Sea Eagle	WBI 3471	“

If you have any concerns or need any additional information, please contact Dr. Elizabeth Clarke at (206) 860-5616 or Teresa Turk at (206) 860-3460.

cc: F/NWC4 - L. Jones
F/NWC4 - E. Clarke
F/NWC4 - R. Methot
F/NWC4 - M. Lemon