

## UPDATE ON RECFIN DATA IMPROVEMENTS

Situation: In response to concerns expressed by West Coast industry and fishery managers, the system for collecting data on the West Coast recreational fishery has undergone substantial revision in 2003. Accompanying that revision has been an increase in federal support for the West Coast Recreational Fishery Information Network, from \$1.022 million in the 2002-2003 grant year to \$2.2 million for the 2003-2004 grant year. A presentation will be provided on the revisions to the recreational data collection system. A summary for the changes for California is attached (Exhibit D.7, Attachment 1).

On a number of occasions the RecFIN program has approached the Council requesting complete specification of all data elements it would like included in the centralized RecFIN data repository. While some responses have been received, the responses have not been comprehensive. In order to ensure that the centralized data repository meets fishery management needs, the Council may want to consider the utility of a joint meeting between representatives from the RecFIN program, stock assessment scientists, the Groundfish Management Team, and others who rely on the data to support the fishery management system.

### **Council Task:**

#### **1. Discussion and provide guidance, as appropriate.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Exhibit D.7, Supplemental Attachment 1: California Recreational Fisheries Survey: A Plan to Collect and Estimate Recreational Fishing Catch and Effort.

### **Agenda Order:**

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. RecFIN Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion

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