



PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

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October 5, 2005

RECEIVED

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PFMC

Dr. Donald McIsaac
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220-1384

Dear Don:

Over the past three years, RecFIN has made a number of substantive changes to its marine recreational data collection programs. I have periodically briefed the Council on progress made in this transition. However, the Council has not yet had the opportunity to review this new program in its entirety. To ensure that RecFIN is providing the Council with recreational statistics that address its management needs and conform with the best available science, the RecFIN Technical Committee suggests that a workshop be convened to: (1) allow the SSC to review RecFIN's marine recreational surveys and estimation methodologies, (2) obtain input from FMP teams, panels and stock assessment authors regarding their needs for recreational data and data documentation, and (3) develop standard communication channels and review procedures to ensure RecFIN's continued ability to produce technically sound and transparent estimates for the Council. With regard to the latter, we request Council guidance regarding the extent to which (a) the routine annual recreational catch estimates that RecFIN currently produces, and (b) periodic changes to survey or estimation methods that RecFIN may consider in the future should be subject to review. We also want the Council to feel comfortable with and provide guidance into the respective roles of the RecFIN Statistical Subcommittee and the SSC in reviewing RecFIN changes.

We would hope that the Council could suggest a date, location, and representatives for such a meeting that works in with the Council calendar. We would leave it to the Council or staff to assure appropriate representation of all pertinent Council bodies. We are open to suggestions as to the involvement of Groundfish, HMS, Salmon and CPS teams and advisory panel reps, stock assessment representatives, and SSC participation in such a meeting.

PSMFC would be happy to provide arrangements for such a workshop at a time and place convenient to the parties involved. Your thoughts and desires along with that of the Council on this suggestion are appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Porter". The signature is stylized with large, sweeping loops and a long horizontal tail.

Russell Porter
Senior Program Manager
RecFIN Technical Committee Chairman