



State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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October 24, 2008

Dr. Donald McIssac, Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Dear Dr. McIssac:

It was recently brought to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's attention that the fecundity parameters in the 2007 black rockfish stock assessment that we authored were incorrectly specified.

We have since corrected the values and reran the model approved by the Council and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). The revised biomass estimates and ABCs, in general, are about 15% higher than those in the approved assessment, and the depletion level changed from 55% to 62% of B_0 .

At present, there are no management or conservation concerns for the northern black rockfish stock, as harvest levels have been and continue to be significantly lower than OY specifications. Therefore, we would recommend this correction be incorporated into the next northern black rockfish assessment.

Sincerely,

Philip Anderson
Deputy Director – Resource Policy

cc: Michele Culver
Corey Niles
Theresa Tsou