

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS AND COUNCIL OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) discussed their personnel needs in light of the upcoming solicitation of nominations for at-large members. There is a particular need for economists given that two out of three economists currently on the SSC are at-large, and one has announced his intent to step down following this meeting. There is also a clear need to retain expertise in groundfish and stock assessments, given a large workload and also the fact that two National Marine Fisheries Service employees with groundfish assessment expertise on the SSC supervise many of the analysts on assessments before the Council, and thus often must recuse themselves from participating in discussions related to approval of assessments. Finally, the SSC notes that there has been a substantial decline in the number of women on the committee, and encourages the recruitment of women and minorities.

PMFC
09/15/15