

## STOCK ASSESSMENT IMPROVEMENT PLAN COMMENTS

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published a Stock Assessment Improvement Plan (SAIP) in 2001, which provided strategic guidance for stock assessment programs nationally. The SAIP recommended stock assessment standards such as production models for core stocks in the fishery and baseline monitoring for all stocks. The SAIP also recommended increases in budgets and staff resources to support stock assessment, and advocated more training, partnerships with academic and other institutions, and research to improve the quality of stock assessments.

NMFS has drafted an update to the 2001 SAIP, entitled, “Implementing a Next Generation Stock Assessment Enterprise: An Update to NOAA Fisheries’ Stock Assessment Improvement Plan” (Attachment 1) and is asking for comments on the plan. Dr. Richard Methot, NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center, will brief the Council on the updated SAIP.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviewed the updated SAIP at their April 2017 meeting and their report is in the advanced briefing book. The Council task is to review the draft SAIP, consider the SSC and other advisory body comments, and provide comments on the plan to NMFS.

### **Council Action:**

**Review and comment on the stock assessment improvement plan.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1: Executive Summary of “Implementing a Next Generation Stock Assessment Enterprise: An Update to NOAA Fisheries’ Stock Assessment Improvement Plan” (the complete document is available electronically on the Council web site).
2. Agenda Item C.5.b, SSC Report: Scientific and Statistical Committee Report on Stock Assessment Improvement Plan Comments.

### **Agenda Order:**

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| C.5 Stock Assessment Improvement Plan Comments  | John DeVore |
| a. NMFS Report  | Rick Methot |
| b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities                    |             |
| c. Public Comment   |             |
| d. <b>Council Action:</b> Review and Comment on the Stock Assessment Improvement Plan |             |