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

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) discussed potential changes to Council Operating Procedure (COP) 4 regarding the make-up of the SSC and offers the following comments.

The SSC recommends that the treatment of alternate members be consistent between agency and at-large seats. COP 4 states that alternates for specific SSC meetings may be designated if members representing Federal, state, or tribal agencies are unable to attend. However, designees are not authorized for at-large SSC members. The SSC recommends that either no alternates be permitted for any members or that all members be permitted to have alternates.

The SSC recommends that at-large seats have staggered terms, rather than all serving concurrently. More frequent openings as staggered at-large terms expire would allow for more opportunities to increase SSC diversity and add expertise in emerging areas.

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