

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
THE INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Dr. Phil Levin (NWFSC) briefed the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) on the current status of the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA), and emphasized that the IEA team wishes to make its products more accessible and useful to the Council. He outlined plans for a series of workshops to identify IEA products that would be most useful to the Council and to review those products.

The IEA aims to provide scientific information for a wide audience. Products of potential interest to the Council include ecosystem indicators and associated reference points, the impacts of fishing for forage species, and analyses of the cumulative impact of fisheries, among others.

The SSC supports holding an initial workshop with the following goals:

- list the products which are being developed as part of the IEA;
- identify which IEA products are likely of greatest interest to the Council, taking account of the priorities in the Council's Research and Data Needs document as well as any priorities for Fishery Ecosystem Plan initiatives identified during this meeting; and
- develop approaches to reviewing different IEA products.

The workshop would take place over two days, likely during Spring 2013. It would be chaired by the leaders of the IEA and include participation by members of the SSC ecosystem sub-committee. The workshop would produce a report addressing the three goals listed above, which would then be presented to the Council. The results of the workshop, and subsequent Council deliberation, would allow planning and initiation of the much more substantive process of reviewing those IEA products identified as of most interest to the Council.