

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council, SSC, and AP members
FROM: Jim H. Branson
Executive Director
DATE: February 20, 1981
SUBJECT: Status of Contracts and RFP's

ACTION REQUIRED

Mainly informational. However, some contracts and RFP's are up for final approval.

BACKGROUND

Current Council contracts and RFP's are listed below with contract information on the funding amount, percent expended to date, duration, contractor, objectives, and status. Those contracts and RFP's requiring Council action at this meeting are indicated with an asterisk.

Current Council Contracts

79-4: Analysis of Southeastern Alaska Troll Fisheries Data
(ADF&G, \$54,604, 52%, September 28, 1979 to March 1, 1981)

Objective: To evaluate the use of various troll data for time and area management of the Southeastern Alaska troll salmon fishery.

Status: Behind schedule. The draft final report, due January 1, 1981, will be submitted about February 24. Given SSC approval, final Council approval could come in March.

* Council action may be required at this meeting.

80-3: Seasonal Use and Feeding Habits of Walruses in the Proposed Bristol Bay Clam Fishery Area
(IMS at UA, \$87,220, 24%, April 1, 1980 to September 1, 1981)

Objective: To assess the distribution and abundance of walruses in inner Bristol Bay monthly for one year and describe their feeding habits near and in the clam fishery area.

Status: The third quarterly report for October-December 1980 was received January 12, 1981 and is being reviewed by the SSC.

80-4: To Expand and Enhance the Domestic Commercial Fisheries Catch Data Reporting System Off Alaska.
(ADF&G, \$145,300, 42%, June 1, 1980 to December 30, 1981)

Objective: To enhance the quality and timeliness of domestic catch data required for fisheries management by developing and implementing a flexible and responsive data reporting system for catch summaries.

Status: The eighth monthly report for December 1980 was received on January 14, 1981.

* 80-5: A Study of the Offshore Chinook and Coho Salmon Fishery Off Alaska.
(NRC, \$48,000 + \$10,000 travel, 90%, May 14 to October 31, 1980)

Objective: To evaluate the available information on the chinook and coho salmon fishery and resource off Alaska from Cape Suckling to Dixon Entrance and the relationship of that fishery and resource to other fisheries on the same resource.

Status: Behind schedule. A draft final report was sent to the SSC in December for review. SSC comments were sent to NRC in mid-January and it is possible that the SSC will approve the report in February. The Council may then approve the contract for final payment.

* 80-6: A Study to Determine the Applicability of Limited Entry in the Halibut Fishery Off Alaska.
(Tetra Tech, \$41,494, 80%, May 27 to October 31, 1980)

Objective: To gather the information necessary to determine the applicability of limited entry in the halibut fishery by examining catch distribution, analyzing economics of the fishery, determining the impacts of limited entry, and estimating the amount of gear and vessels which could harvest efficiently the halibut OY.

Status: The draft final report is undergoing its second review by the SSC, who could give final approval in February. The Council could also approve this contract in February.

* Council action may be required at this meeting.

81-2: Processing of Fisheries Data
(ADF&G and CFEC, \$55,000, 0%, October 1, 1980 to December 31, 1981)

Objective: To enhance capabilities of ADF&G and CFEC to provide harvest and processor data for 1977-79 to the Council.

Status: First quarterly report is due on April 1, 1981.

* 81-3: Halibut/Crab Pot Study
(IPHC, \$50,000, 0%, August 1, 1980 to January 31, 1981)

Objective: To determine if a difference in halibut catch per effort exists between top entry and rectangular crab pots under experimental conditions.

Status: A redrafted final report is undergoing SSC review and could be approved in February. The Council may approve the contract for final payment in February.

Future Research

The following two RFP's are being developed by the SSC at their February meeting and could be available in February for Council approval.

- * 1. To Design an Experiment to Evaluate the Accuracy of Herring Aerial Survey Biomass Estimates
- * 2. Determinations of Stock Origins of Chinook Incidentally Caught in Foreign Trawls in the U.S. Eastern Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska FCZ.

A third proposal for research to Study the Data on Feeding Habits and Food Requirements of Marine Mammals in the Bering Sea has been revised and sent out to a marine mammal workgroup for review. Given approval, it will be circulated to the SSC in March for SSC and Council approval at the March meetings.

* Council action may be required at this meeting.