

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

STAFF ACTIVITY

The staff has been consolidating comments on the two Council management plans, assisting with editing and rewriting the salmon troll plan, developing DEIS's and summaries on a full time basis since the last Council meeting. Mike Hershberger made two trips to Juneau to work with drafting teams on the salmon troll plan, Gulf trawl plan, and tanner crab plan. We have hired a part-time typist to help with this workload, she will continue through next month when all of the management plans must be retyped, two for submission to the Secretary and one for public review.

First drafts of the troll salmon plan with draft EIS's have been sent to NMFS, Washington, D.C. for initial review. We hope that we will be able to have a notice of availability for the troll salmon plan in the Federal Register by the third week in October, with distribution of the plan scheduled for that same period.

BUDGET

There is a financial statement under Tab 3. We will end the fiscal year with a healthy balance on our letter of credit. This may be reduced if the contract with ADF&G for management

plan development is extended using this year's monies. The contract balance is approximately \$53,000. The budget for fiscal 78 administrative funds has been submitted to NMFS for \$640,457.00, as approved by the Council at the last meeting. This includes \$50,000.00 in "pass-through" money to the State of Alaska. We have been asked to delay submitting a budget for programmatic funding (\$786,000.00 as approved by the Council at the last meeting) until we get further direction from the NOAA office of grants.

RESEARCH CONTRACTS

NMFS has approved our contract proposals for the continent of origin of salmon in the Japanese landbased fishery and the U.S. Trawl Observer Program. The third contract for fiscal 77, the computer enhancement program with ADF&G, has been approved in principal but NMFS is still trying to decide whether they want to fund it themselves, or if it should be funded through the Council.

The RFP's for Council research contracts in FY 78 are still being rewritten. They should be finished with SSC input at this Council meeting. A herring workgroup met in the Council offices after the last Council meeting to identify those research areas that need funding by the Council. Some herring research is already funded by NMFS and ADF&G. That report should be ready this week. It appears that the expected research needs unfunded at this date will be approx-

imately \$100,000 for FY 78. The Council had estimated \$80,000 for this particular study.

FOREIGN FISHING VESSEL PERMITS

A representative of NMFS central office will be in Anchorage next week with a portable Computer head to show us how to access data on foreign permit applications, permits issued, etc. This material is being programmed on a daily basis and will be available to the Council if we decide we want it. So far, we have not had any need for constant updating of foreign permit status. Depending on the cost, it may not be worthwhile trying to tie into this system.

CLAM MANAGEMENT PLAN

The clam management plan drafting team plans to meet in the Council offices in Anchorage for their initial drafting session the last week in September or the first week in October. Rod Kaiser, ADF&G shellfish biologist, has been appointed as leader of this drafting team.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

We have ordered a bigger copier for the Council offices. The one we have now is working well over capacity and we badly need one with a collater and the capability of printing

on both sides. With it, we hope to be able to do the necessary copies of the first two management plans to send to the Secretary for review, without having to go to a printer.

We have set up another secretarial station in the Council offices for the part-time typist.

The Fish and Game Advisory Board for the Kuskokwim area, at a meeting in Kipnuq on September 2 and 3 recommended a total closure on commercial herring fishing in Bristol Bay and the Yukon/Kuskokwim area.

We have signed a contract with Alaska Sound Labs to handle the public address system and recording at Council meetings for the next year. Five firms bid on this contract. Alaska Sound Labs, lowest bidder, got the contract at \$694.50 for a two day meeting, including tapes of the meeting, and at \$252.00 per day for anything over two days.