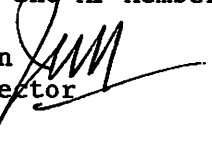


MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC, and AP Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson 
Executive Director

DATE: May 17, 1984

SUBJECT: Status of Contracts and Proposed Projects

ACTION REQUIRED

- (a) *Contract 83-1: Social and Cultural Aspects of the Pacific Halibut Fishery - Final approval.*
- (b) *Joint Venture Analysis: Final approval.*

BACKGROUND

Current Council contracts are listed below with information on the contractor, funding amount, percent expended to date, duration, objective, and status.

Current Council Contracts

*83-1: Social and Cultural Aspects of the Pacific Halibut Fishery
(Langdon, \$26,500, 94%, January 1 to July 31, 1983)

Objective: To gather social, cultural and demographic information descriptive of the contemporary Pacific halibut fishery important to management decisions.

Status: An Executive Summary is available for review at this meeting. Given final approval, the final report will be made camera ready and distributed.

83-2: ADF&G Plan Maintenance
(ADF&G, \$60,000, 26%, July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984)

Objective: To support liaison between ADF&G and the Council by funding personnel travel to Council activities and providing support for such other activities as computer compilation and data analysis, etc.

Status: Work is proceeding satisfactorily; no progress reports are required.

83-4: Joint Venture Trawl Logbook Program
(ADF&G, \$33,400, 0%, September 1, 1983 to September 30, 1984)

Objective: To provide interview coverages at three major ports (Kodiak, Akutan, and Unalaska/Dutch Harbor) to support the joint venture logbook program.

Status: A progress report has been given to the SSC for review.

84-1: Sea Lion Pup Census Adjacent to Shelikof Strait
(ADF&G, \$16,548, 0%, October 1, 1983 to October 31, 1984)

Objective: To provide an estimate of the total number of sea lion pups produced at the major sea lion rookeries in and adjacent to Shelikof Strait for comparison with similar counts made in 1978 and 1979.

Status: The pup census will be conducted this June.

84-2: Chinook Troll Data Analysis
(ADF&G, \$22,600, 16%, January 1 to September 30, 1984)

Objective: To provide a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the potential consequences of ADF&G changing the chinook accounting period.

Status: The analysis commenced in January.

84-3: Origin of Chinook Salmon Incidentally Caught in Foreign Trawls - Part II
(FRI/UW, \$40,000, 0%, May 1, 1984 to March 31, 1985)

Objective: To provide additional information on stock separation of chinooks caught incidentally to the foreign trawl fisheries.

Status: Funding has been approved by NMFS and a contract is now being drawn up.

Update on Programmatic Requests for FY/84

In December 1983 the Council, its Finance Committee, and SSC approved the following prioritized list of research projects for FY/84 programmatic funding:

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------|
| 1. | <u>Domestic Groundfish Monitoring</u> | \$145,000 |
| | Provide first year funding for a State of Alaska monitoring system including dock sampling and observers to collect catch and effort information on the domestic groundfish fishery. | |
| 2. | <u>Chinook Salmon Incidental Catch - Part II</u> | 40,000 |
| | Provide additional information on stock separation of chinooks caught incidental to the foreign trawl fisheries. | |
| 3. | <u>Bering Sea Herring Scale Analysis - Part II</u> | 60,000 |
| | A continuation of the ongoing stock separation studies on herring. | |
| 4. | <u>Fisheries Management Conference</u> | 10,000 |
| | Will provide the Council's share in cosponsoring this conference that will examine current problems and solutions in fisheries management. Total estimated cost is \$92,000. | |
| 5. | <u>ADF&G FMP Development</u> | 15,000 |
| | Provide support for ADF&G personnel participation in Council activities. | |

TOTAL \$270,000

Funding for Domestic Groundfish Monitoring and Chinook Salmon Incidental Catch - Part II has been approved by NMFS. The herring study has also been approved contingent on funding being available. We should know more by meeting time. The Fisheries Management Conference and ADF&G FMP Development were not approved because they did not meet the NMFS criteria for using programmatic funds. Funding for the conference is being sought elsewhere. ADF&Gs FMP support funding appears to be sufficient for the time being.

Status of Other Projects

*Joint Venture Analysis

This analysis of the short and long term effects of joint ventures on the entire domestic groundfish industry was requested by Larry Cotter in early 1982. In July 1982 the SSC recommended that the study be conducted by employing a graduate student to compile existing data and summarize the relevant analyses. This is being done at the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center under the supervision of Dr. Rich Marasco. The project is progressing satisfactorily and will be reported on at this meeting.

Lowell Wakefield Fisheries Symposium on Non-fishing and Fishing Induced Changes in King Crab Populations

The Council in September approved contributing \$4,000 from administrative funds to co-sponsor the Lowell Wakefield Symposium which is tentatively scheduled for January 1985 in Anchorage.

Groundfish Monitoring Program

This project has been approved for \$145,000 by NMFS. Its basic intent is to develop a solid domestic data system to allow adequate monitoring of the U.S. groundfish fishery, especially in light of the diminishing foreign presence in the FCZ. A steering committee met in Juneau on May 15, 1984 and a report is available under agenda item D-4(c)(3). It is proposed that tasking for this project be defined in September after data needs are thoroughly examined over the summer.

Programmatic Requests for FY/85:

In March 1984 the SSC reviewed two proposals for programmatic research: a study on brown king crab submitted by A.J. Paul of UA/IMS and a study on gear-marked salmon submitted by ADF&G. The SSC recommended holding these two proposals in abeyance and gave higher priority to funding offshore herring research. Thus, two proposals on herring research, \$400,000 for ship time and \$126,700 for scientific support, were sent to agency review and will be discussed at this meeting under agenda item D-1(c).

*Requires Council action at this meeting.