MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson
Executive Director

DATE: December 4, 1985

SUBJECT: Status of Contracts and Programmatic Funds

ACTION REQUIRED

Information only.

BACKGROUND

Currently the Council is only supporting Groundfish Data Monitoring, Contract 84-4, from programmatic funds for $145,000 with ADF&G. The objective of this project is to enhance the ability of ADF&G to provide timely, high quality fisheries catch data from shoreside deliveries of groundfish. The information will be aggregated by ADF&G and input to PacFin for reporting to state, federal and Council groundfish managers. A progress report was received September 13 and has been forwarded to the SSC for review.
The Finance Committee met the morning of December 11, 1985, with the following members in attendance:

William Aron       John Harville       Donald Rosenberg
Donald Bevan       Robert McVey       Judy Willoughby
Jim Branson        Clarence Pautzke    John Winther, Chairman
Fred Gaffney        John Peterson

The Committee met for a briefing on the budgets of the Alaska Region and the Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center.

Mr. McVey reviewed the 1986 funding for the Region, which is $3,492,000. This figure has changed little in recent years and provides a basis for discussion of future Regional budgets. Some additional resources have been requested to cover certain needs that became clearly evident during 1985. Other issues of budgetary concern are the State of Alaska's reductions in the groundfish data and crab management program, and the need for domestic observer coverage. Mr. Branson was requested to write a letter of the Council's concern and support of an increase in the funding.

Dr. Aron then reviewed the NWAFSC budget, noting the funding level has basically remained the same since 1981. He stated that two-thirds of the Center's funding is used for Alaskan resources. The Committee requested Mr. Branson to write a second letter supporting an increase in the Center's funding, with particular emphasis on groundfish stock assessment.