

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Council, SSC, and AP members
FROM: Jim H. Branson
Executive Director
DATE: March 17, 1981
SUBJECT: Status of Contracts and RFP's

ACTION REQUIRED

Mainly informational. However, some items may be ready 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: The draft final report was received March 5, 1981 and distributed to the SSC Salmon Subgroup. Given SSC approval, final Council approval could come in March.

- 80-3: Seasonal Use and Feeding Habits of Walruses in the Proposed Bristol Bay Clam Fishery Area
(IMS at UA, \$97,220, 43%, 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 has been distributed to the SSC.

- * Council action may be required at this meeting.

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 progress reports for January and February, 1981, have been received. The project appears to be on schedule.

80-5: A Study of the Offshore Chinook and Coho Salmon Fishery Off Alaska.

(NRC, \$48,000 + \$10,000 travel, 100%, 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: Approved by Council in February.

* 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 March. The Council could also approve this contract in March.

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: Approved by Council in February.

* Council action may be required at this meeting.

Future Research

An RFP on Determinations of Stock Origins of Chinook Incidentally Caught in Foreign Trawls in the U.S. Eastern Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska FCZ is being developed by the SSC and may be available in March for Council approval.

An RFP for research to Study the Data and Feeding Habits and Food Requirements of Marine Mammals in the Bering Sea has been sent out for bids which are due on May 8, 1981.