

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members, Scientific and Statistical Committee,
and Advisory Panel

FROM: Jim H. Branson *JMB*
Executive Director

DATE: July 18, 1980

SUBJECT: Status of Contracts 77-5 "An Observer Program for the Domestic Groundfish Fishery in the Gulf of Alaska (and in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island Area)" and 78-5 "Assessment of Spawning Herring Capelin Stocks at Selected Coastal Areas in the Eastern Bering Sea."

ACTION REQUIRED

Council approval of final reports.

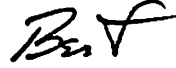
BACKGROUND

Contract No. 77-5 with ADF&G will expire on September 30, 1980. The draft final report for the Gulf of Alaska section of the program was submitted in April to the SSC and certain members of the AP. The SSC is reviewing the draft at this meeting and will report to the Council. Given SSC concurrence, the Council may approve the report. The report on the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island program is due 1 August 1980 and should be available for SSC review in August and Council review in September.

The final report for Contract No. 78-5 (except for the infra-red photography section) was reviewed by the SSC and we anticipate their approval at this meeting. Given the SSC's concurrence, the Council may approve the report for final payment and distribution. The infra-red photography section is due in September, 1980.

Conclusion number 4 should emphasize that each stratus[#] must have this "number of trips sampled." This is pointed out in the text, but the impression left by the conclusion page is that "n" trips will be adequate regardless of the level of expansion of the domestic fleet. This would be accurate only if the expanded fleet fished a homogeneous population.

Sincerely,



H. A. Larkins
Division Director