



Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

2009 Annual Report

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62ND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

To the Congress of the United States
the Governors and Legislatures of the Five Compacting States
—Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, and Alaska—

2009

By the Commissioners of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
in compliance with the State enabling acts creating the Commission
and Public Laws 232; 766; and 315
of the 80th; 87th; and 91st Congresses
of the United States
assenting thereto.

Respectfully submitted,
PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
Randy Fisher, *Executive Director*

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PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION MEMBERS 2009

State	Commissioners	Advisors	Coordinator
Alaska	Sue Aspelund Stephanie Madsen Bryce Edgmon	Terry Johnson Don Lane Matthew Moir Gabe Sam Joe Childers	Herman Savikko (ADFG)
California	LB Boydston Thomas Harman John McCamman	Jim Caito Robert Fletcher Donald K. Hansen Mike McCorkle Roger Thomas Kate Wing	Marija Vojkovich (CDFG)
Idaho	Cal Groen Joe Stegner Cameron Wheeler	Sharon Kiefer Virgil Moore Ed Schriever	Pete Hassemer (IDFG)
Oregon	Ed Bowles Jeff Feldner Betsy Johnson	Wayne Butler Steve Fick Liz Hamilton Paul Heikkila Rod Moore Brad Pettinger Frank Warrens	Caren Braby (ODFW)
Washington	Phil Anderson Brian Blake Harriet A. Spanel	Mark Cedergreen Marion Larkin Irene Martin Bill Robinson Terry Wright	Michele Culver (WDFW)

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO THE PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION ANNUAL MEETING

Adapted from remarks by Randy Fisher, Executive Director

Good morning and welcome to the 62nd annual meeting of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Each year I contact our commissioners and advisors about what they would like to have on the agenda for this meeting. They provide me with topics that are of concern to them for the year.

An overriding concern this year is the state of our oceans – what’s happening with energy projects which we’ve seen in the past. For example, what’s the latest on the energy projects we’ve heard about in the past. What about spatial planning, the subject of a lot of discussion in Washington, D.C.? What about acidification of the ocean and the dead zones that we’ve been hearing so much about?

There was also concern about the troubled economy and the effect that’s having on the states and their ability to manage their fishery resources. And so, this morning, you’ll hear a panel of state directors talking about how they’re trying to handle the shortage of funding.

Over the next day and a half, you will hear presentations related to all these issues, and we hope that they will inspire questions and discussion.

I think it is important that we all understand the context of our West Coast and Alaska fisheries.

The West Coast and Alaska annually yield about 6.5 billion pounds of commercially caught fish. The United States, as a whole, annually averages about 9.2 billion pounds. You can do the math. On the West Coast, we account for 70 percent of the total U.S. landings each year. In 2008, Alaska led all states in the volume of U.S. commercial landings at 4.5 billion pounds. In terms of net value, in 2008, Alaska also ranked first. Washington ranked 5th in value, and California ranked 9th. Alaska and the West Coast account for about 50 percent of the dollar value of the U.S. fishery.

Between 2003 and 2007, the average monthly employment in the Alaska seafood industry has been 16,000 to 20,000 jobs. If you extrapolate that to the West Coast, that’s another 3,000 to 5,000 jobs.

In 2008, if you followed the big money in Alaska and on the West Coast, you would find that landings of Pacific trawl fish is about \$815 million a year. That includes Pacific Cod, Flounder, Ocean Perch, Pollock, and Rockfish. Pacific Salmon – including Alaska catch – averages about \$395 million. Dungeness, King and Snow Crab landings are valued at \$340 million. West Coast and Alaska Halibut valued at \$217 million.

In 2008, in terms of recreational fisheries on the West Coast and Alaska, there were almost 1.1 million marine fishery participants who took 4.3 million trips, catching almost 13 million fish. In Alaska, they had some 990,000 marine recreational participants taking nearly 1.5 million trips and catching over 2.5 million fish. The West Coast and Alaska account for about 8 percent of the trips taken in the U.S.. The Atlantic accounts for 61 percent and the Gulf for 30 percent.

As you know, on the West Coast and Alaska, many of our trips are related to salmon, so I looked at what’s happening in our hatchery production.

In 2007, based on information we have in our coded-wire tag program, Alaska and the West Coast released 1.7 billion salmon and steelhead from their hatcheries. We coded-wire tagged just under 50 million fish, which represents 3 percent of those fish. Alaska accounted for 81 percent of all releases, followed by Washington at 13 percent, California at 3 percent, Oregon at 2 percent, and Idaho at 1 percent.



As we all know, even though we produce and release a large number of fish, we still have problems as illustrated by the salmon season closures on the Klamath and Sacramento rivers.

We have completed the Sacramento Salmon Disaster Program payments. Last year, we wrote 7,789 checks and paid 2,438 West Coast permitted salmon fishermen just under \$64 million. We paid West Coast processors just over \$18 million; salmon-related businesses just under \$47 million, and charterboat operators were paid \$24 million.

Was this program a success? If the goal was to distribute money rapidly into coastal communities, it was a great success. Would we want to do it again? Not really. One really interesting figure that came out of this – and this is actually kind of astonishing – we received 296 garnishments and we paid out just a little over \$4 million in garnishment payments. That means that basically maybe some kids got some money that they weren't getting otherwise.



If you look at our financial status, you will see that last year, we put on the street about \$214 million. We anticipate that in 2010, we will be back to more a normal level, which is around \$47 million for the year.

So what do I see coming down the track in 2010?

We're going to continue our work on obtaining an exemption from the Federal Angler Registry card. We believe our RecFIN program meets the requirements for an exemption, and we will continue to push to get that exemption.

Over the last couple of years, we've been working with the states on electronic fish tickets. Oregon is currently accepting e-tickets from a number of buyers. Both Washington and Oregon are comparing electronic whiting data to existing paper tickets. We're in the process of contracting for the design of a web portal and backend database for E-tickets so that buyers can submit directly to it. We hope this system will also be used for compliance monitoring, logbooks and LAPPS as they come online, and we'll have some discussion about that with Dr. McIsaac at the Pacific Fishery Management Council.

We will continue to be involved with the states and NMFS to develop and implement a coastwide fixed gear log. We will also have coastwide pelagic and highly migratory species logbooks. The expectation is that these will also be electronic.

In Alaska, we continue to collect and verify data for the crab rationalization program. This year, we added catcher processors, and next year, we will start on the Pollock fleet Salmon bycatch.

We have contracted with a company that is currently collecting in-person economic data with all vessels that have Federal limited entry permits. We hired the same company that did this work for us two years ago. This company will also be gathering input/output data from seven West coast communities to help us understand the role of fisheries in those communities, as well as the impact on fish management policies.

In a related project, we distributed funds to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to help them understand the impact of fishery regulations on crews and employment in Alaska.

As I mentioned today, you'll hear from Dr. McIsaac on Pacific Fishery Management Council activities and LAPPS. There are all sorts of challenges to this program and some of them have to do with funding and monitoring. I'm confident over the next year and possibly at this meeting, we will be involved in a number of conversations about the future direction of that program.

This morning you will hear from Brad Gilman, John Oliver, Deputy Director for NMFS, and the state directors on recent developments in their states. This afternoon, we'll hear about Six-Gill sharks, invasive species, Council activities, marine

jurisdictions and Humboldt Squid. The day will conclude with dinner at the Space Needle. For those of you who are interested, we understand it's for sale.

Also, since there are a number of new faces. I think it's a good opportunity for me to introduce some of our senior staff who are here and tell you a little about what they do, in case you have some particular questions, you'll know where to get answers. Dave Hansen sits on both the Pacific and the North Pacific Council. He's been very instrumental in chairing a number of committees on those councils. Since we're in a position of being neutral territory, it's a really good opportunity for Dave to help work through some difficult issues that the Council is dealing with. Russell Porter handles all the recreational data for the West Coast. He also handles the world famous Pikeminnow program. For those of you that want to go out and get \$8 a fish, he'll be happy to pay you for those. Russell has just recently been



given the opportunity to manage a number of staff at the dam facilities up and down the Columbia River. We look forward to continuing to solve some of the problems we were having there. Dave Colpo is responsible for the commercial catch data that we deal with, both in Alaska and on the West Coast. He has a potpourri of programs that he's responsible for that range from electronic fish tickets, as I mentioned, to managing West Coast observer programs. The bulk of Stan Allen's work is in California where we have a number of habitat, marking, coded-wire tag, and recovery projects with California Fish and Game. Stephen Phillips is our invasive species expert. You'll hear from him later today. He's also involved with coastal cutthroat and U.S. Canada groundfish. Pam Kahut is "moneybags". She's the one we keep happy. She has the best office in the building and nobody messes with her. So if you have any questions about financial matters, Pam is the person you need to talk to. George Nandor manages the coded wire tag program for us. He has a display outside in the lobby on that program.

Van Hare and Todd Kaehler are the experts in how to operate the computer equipment and slide shows, if you have questions. I think that covers everyone on our staff.

Welcome to our 62nd annual meeting here in Seattle, Washington.



PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING SUMMARY

September 2, 2009

The PSMFC Financial Statement and the Summary of the 2008 Annual Business meeting were approved unanimously by the Commission. The Commission moved to reaffirm all of its previous motions and/or resolutions, unless PSMFC rescinded or resolved them at this meeting. These included:

Tri-State Dungeness Crab Committee

PSMFC supports the Tri-State Crab Committee process.

National Marine Sanctuary Act

PSMFC supports the rights of individual states, subject to federal sanctuary management within their jurisdiction, to manage all resources and activities within the sanctuary.

Mitchell Act

PSMFC supports full funding of Mitchell Act hatchery facilities, including production facilities, monitoring and evaluation, screening and passage.

The Commission moved to add the following language: In addition, PSMFC supports Congressional efforts to provide \$10 million dedicated to hatchery reform activities in Mitchell Act hatchery operations.

States' Jurisdiction

PSMFC supports using its lobbying efforts to restore the pre-2005 state jurisdiction in the siting of liquefied natural gas or other energy facilities.

Pacific Salmon Treaty Funding

PSMFC recognizes the importance of adequate funding for the Pacific Salmon Treaty process and reconfirms its desire to have its Washington, D.C. representative support, monitor, and report periodically to member states on appropriations necessary to implement the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

Ocean Energy

In order to keep fisheries management agencies informed on meetings, processes and developments in ocean energy issues by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and other regulatory agencies, PSMFC will act as an electronic clearinghouse for information provided by the states to help with coordination and information sharing among the states.

The Commission adopted the following new resolutions during the business meeting.

Issue 1. Ocean Policy Task Force

The PSMFC appreciates that the attention the Administration has placed on the nation's oceans and the recognition of their importance. In order to ensure an effective outcome to development of additional ocean policy, the member states of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) respectfully request that the Ocean Policy Task Force define and utilize a comprehensive public process for developing an ecosystem framework for long-term conservation and use of our resources.

Further, the PSMFC requests that the Administration recognize the jurisdictions of coastal states and regional fisheries management councils and appropriately coordinates and coordinates with coastal states and regional fishery management councils in the development of this framework.

In addition, any ocean policy should be developed and implemented by statute or regulation rather than by Executive Order in order to maximize opportunities for an open and transparent public process.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 2. Ocean Acidification

The member states of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission support new funding for research on ocean acidification and its potential impacts to the coastal and marine ecosystems and fisheries of the West Coast and the North Pacific. We would also encourage the research be extended further north through the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea. In addition, the member states encourage collaboration and utilization of West Coast and Alaska universities' expertise and research capabilities.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 3: PCSRF (Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund)

PSMFC recognizes the significant contributions of the PCSRF in promoting salmon recovery and sustainability in Alaska, California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho and in promoting the recovery and sustainability of salmon and steelhead stocks. PSMFC urges NMFS and Congress to provide enhanced PCSRF funding in future budgets using \$90 million as the minimum. In addition, PSMFC does not support diminishment of PCSRF funding in the NOAA budget to support either current or new legislative or Executive Policy initiatives. PSMFC supports continued state-managed competitive processes to allocate PCSRF funds.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 4. Aquatic Invasive Species

Many Western states have moved beyond awareness to implementation of quagga and zebra mussel control measures. The most effective way to control the current spread requires coordinated state and federal efforts. PSMFC strongly requests that there be mandatory decontamination of watercraft and other equipment at known locations of quagga and zebra mussel infestations, as well as at other infested federal facilities. The PSMFC Commission directs PSMFC staff to work with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) Invasive Species Subcommittee and other entities to coordinate interstate implementation of individual state plans and programs. PSMFC encourages the states to adopt a feedback program to determine the efficacy of decontamination efforts and monitoring programs, including PSMFC staff coordination of region-wide monitoring information. In addition, PSMFC should support federal funding for quagga and zebra mussel inspection and detection measures.

Issue 5. Review of Listing Status of Steller Sea Lions

PSMFC encourages NOAA to finish their review of the listing status of the Eastern Pacific Steller sea lions.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 6. Federal Funding for West Coast Trawl Rationalization Program (IFQ)

PSMFC should seek funding in FY 10 that would help states transition to implementation of the West Coast Trawl Rationalization Program (IFQ), including costs of monitoring and enforcement. In consultation with the states, PSMFC should seek enhanced funding for the IFQ transition in FY 11, anticipating that the program's complexity and innovation will require additional financial support for the states and the affected private sectors.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 7. Ocean Energy Projects: Derelict Equipment, Habitat/Fish/Wildlife Monitoring and Restoration

PSMFC actively supports the states' involvement in and representation of states' interests in federal agency renewable energy

project development processes.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 8. National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit

PSMFC staff should monitor developments regarding the EPA discharge permit issue and if necessary, support lobbying efforts in support of legislation to exempt commercial and recreational fishing vessels from the requirement for federal discharge permits if the data shows that there is no significant impact.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

Issue 9. Marine Debris

PSMFC supports increased funding for NOAA's program for recovery of marine debris, including support of community partnerships, recovery of marine debris, marine debris recycling, and marine debris disposal. In addition, PSMFC supports development of a derelict vessel removal program with the understanding that it is funded independent of the marine debris program.

The proposal was adopted unanimously by the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 am.

Sue Aspelund, Alaska Commissioner, welcomed everyone to next year's annual meeting, which will be held in Alyeska, Alaska on August 22, 2010.

In attendance at this meeting, held on September 2, 2009, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Seattle, Washington, were:

Randy Fisher, Executive Director

Alaska Sue Aspelund, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Bryce Edgmon, Alaska House of Representatives
Eric Olson, Public Member

California LB Boydston, Public Member
John McCamman, California Department of Fish and Game

Idaho Cal Groen, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Joe Stegner, Idaho State Senator

Oregon Ed Bowles, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Jeff Feldner, Public Member
Caran Braby, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Washington Phil Anderson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Brian Blake, Washington State Representative
Harriet Spanel, Washington State Senator

ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENT

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission presents an annual award that honors an individual, agency, or organization from the host state for their outstanding contribution to sustainable fisheries.

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
2009 Award
for outstanding contributions in support
of Pacific coastal marine fisheries resources
was presented to:
MARION LARKIN



It gives the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission great pleasure to recognize the contributions of Marion Larkin. He has been serving the interests of Washington State on the Pacific Fishery Management Council's Groundfish Advisory Panel for a period that spans more than 20 years. Mr. Larkin has played a critical role in the recent rationalization of the West Coast trawl fishery and has been a strong advocate for resource conservation. In presenting his award, Phil Anderson said that Mr. Larkin always puts the resource first and tells it like it is when providing guidance to the state.

ALASKA FISHERIES INFORMATION NETWORK



The **Alaska Fisheries Information Network (AKFIN)** provides a framework that consolidates and supports the collection, processing, analysis, and reporting of a variety of information important for management of North Pacific fisheries. Funding is provided by an annual grant award from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. These funds support an AKFIN Support Center (AKFIN-SC) and an annual subcontract with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) for related tasks.

The AKFIN-SC is a cooperative data program that maintains a fisheries information system composed of state and federal data for Alaska fisheries. Information is aggregated from the ADFG Division of Commercial Fisheries, Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC), NMFS Alaska Region, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), and PSMFC.

Highlights of work completed by the AKFIN-SC in 2009 include:

- **Modifications to the NPFMC Comprehensive Datasets** – The comprehensive datasets are a set of views and tables that are generated using a compilation of base data. Supplemental or auxiliary data from the agencies and AKFIN-built data sources combined with database logic have been incorporated to further define the records and associated entities. These datasets are the source for all data requests and AKFIN reporting tools. Modifications to these datasets this year included:
 - *Fish Tickets* – Incorporated new internal data sources. Added new fields and updated naming conventions. Modified logic for `pcod_fed_season` field. Documentation updated.
 - *Blend/Catch Accounting(CA) (to include Prohibited Species Catch)* - Incorporated new CA and PSC sources. Added new fields and updated naming conventions. Modified logic for `goa_processing_sector` field. Documentation updated.
 - *Weekly Production Reports* – Added historic vessel information. Restructured and renamed dataset. Added `cdq_flag` field.
 - *Observer Reports* – Incorporated a modification to the source. Added new fields and updated naming conventions. Modified logic for `obs_processor_id` field. Documentation updated.
 - *ENCOAR (ITO and Commercial Operators Annual Reports)* – Added vessel information and other fields. Updated documentation.
- **Fisheries of the U.S. (FUS)** - The 2008 FUS report suite is a series of views and tables provided to the NMFS Headquarters. The data submitted provides the Alaska feed that is compiled into a larger process for reporting on national fisheries statistics. Six sources are provided to include: AK Landings by Distance from Shore, AK Landings by Disposition, AK Landings by Port, Vessel Licensing Data, Halibut by State, and Kodiak Fishmeal Data. This data product is provided on a yearly basis.
- **AKFIN Business Intelligence (BI) Project** - AKFIN purchased software, installed, and implemented Oracle Dashboards/Answers, an Ad-Hoc web-based database reporting and analysis tool. The initial focus was to deliver data to the Alaska Fisheries Science Center social science economists, and stock assessment staff. In February a two day training session was held in Seattle at the science center. Current efforts are focused on developing a suite of standardized reports, supporting metadata, and dashboards for the specific groups.
- **PacFIN Data feed** - The PacFIN data feed details in season groundfish data for the state and federal systems. Three data feeds are provided on a monthly basis, Summary data for shore-based plants based on ADFG data, detailed data for shore-based plants (for use in identifying confidential records), and summary data for at-sea processors based on NMFS catch accounting data. This data product is provided on a monthly basis. Results from the data feeds can be viewed at <http://www.psmfc.org/pacfin/npfmc.html>.
- **Economic Data Report (EDR) Data Project** - Worked on and completed several projects in support of the Economic Data Reporting system.
 - Created a new Fish Ticket View that connected EDR information to Fish Tickets from all years.
 - Created locations within the EDR framework to rank the EDR information on a tabular level and record rankings on a sector by sector basis.

- Created locations within the EDR framework to rank the EDR information a row by row basis (ongoing)
- Created a transaction logging system that records when information is changed inside of the EDR schema, who changes it, what it was changed from, and changed to.
- Combined the Pots Registration Data with EDR data.
- Combined the Confidential Interview Form data with EDR data.
- Developed database Metrics for the EDR database.
- Crab EDR Database Views.
- Created Amendment 80 DB.
- Created Amendment 80 Fillable PDF form.
- Crab EDR Data Requests from NPMFC.

• **Various Value-added Data Submissions -**

- Gulf of Alaska Fixed Gear Recency Motion: Created non-trawl views and documentation for RAM to assist them with implementing the related Council motion.
- Completed 2008 Alaska Department of Labor (DOL) data feed and documentation.
- FAO, Small Fisheries Data: Request from NMFS-HQ for data containing the percentage of small-scale fisheries attributed to Alaska Commercial Landings for the top 12 species.
- Reprogrammed the AFSC Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) request and resubmitted the data for 1998 – 2008.
- Updated *GOA Rockfish Pilot Program Initial Review* in February tables 7, 8, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23.
- Developed CV and CP sideboard queries and created tables (tables 34,36,38,39) for GOA Rockfish Pilot Program Initial Review prepared by Council staff member for February meeting.
- Developed queries and composed dataset for PCOD landings by sideboarded LLPs for Trawl in the Month of July used in relation to the *GOA Rockfish Pilot Program Initial Review* prepared by Council staff for February meeting.

AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES



Highlights for the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission's **Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Program** in 2009 include:

1. The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) continue to lead the effort for zebra and quagga mussel rapid response planning Columbia River Basin. In 2008, The "Columbia River Basin Interagency Invasive Species Response Plan: Zebra Mussels and Other Dreissenid Species" (the Plan) was completed with the goal of coordinating a rapid, effective, and efficient interagency response in order to delineate, contain, and when feasible, eradicate zebra, quagga, and other dreissenid mussel populations if they are introduced in Columbia River Basin waters. The Plan recognizes that a dreissenid invasion is an environmental emergency and any hope of containment necessitates fast action. The provisions of this Plan are intended to enhance agency coordination beginning with the discovery of an infestation by implementing containment and control efforts as soon as an infestation is discovered. In October 2009 the plan was signed by the Province of British Columbia (other signatories include and the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, the USFWS and Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission). The plan can be viewed at <http://100thmeridian.org/ColumbiaRT.asp>.
2. On April 29 and 30, 2009, PSMFC and the USFWS, in collaboration with the Idaho Department of Agriculture held a third "table-top" exercise in Boise, Idaho to evaluate the Plan. The exercise scenario conducted over two days, included a confirmed finding of dreissenid veligers in Lucky Peak reservoir near Boise, Idaho. The first day consisted of field training for divers deployed to detect the presence of adult mussels following the discovery of veligers. On April 30, a two-part table-top exercise was conducted. In the morning session, state subject matter experts assessed the dreissenid find and developed treatment strategies. The recommendations developed from this session were presented to policy makers for discussion and approval during the afternoon session.
3. Zebra and quagga mussels are spread on trailered watercraft moving from an infested to uninfested waterways. For the past three years, the PSMFC has been providing training for boating law enforcement personnel and others in order to successfully intercept, inspect, identify, contain and decontaminate trailered watercraft suspected of carrying zebra mussels. In 2009, PSMFC continued this trainings throughout the western United States. The program has now trained nearly 2000 individuals from 90 agencies in 12 western states. Go to <http://www.aquaticnuisance.org/wit> for further information on this program.
4. Since 2007, more than 70 State, Federal and local government agencies and organizations in the western United States have implemented watercraft interception programs designed to prevent contaminated watercraft from being launched in unaffected waterways. Most of these programs use similar methods for screening, inspecting and decontaminating suspect watercraft, but there has been very limited coordination between these diverse efforts. The implementation of region-wide uniform minimum protocols and standards for watercraft interception programs is considered essential by nearly all state, federal, tribal and local agencies and organizations involved in this effort because they will increase effectiveness, understanding, cooperation and public support. To address this issue, the PSMFC, at the request of the Western Regional Panel (WRP) on Aquatic Nuisance Species, developed the document, *Recommended Uniform Minimum Protocols and Standards (UMPS) for Watercraft Interception Programs for Dreissenid Mussels in the Western United States*. For further information go to: <http://www.aquaticnuisance.org/wit>
5. Throughout the year, PSMFC provided administrative support and staffing for numerous ANS interjurisdictional efforts, including the Columbia and Missouri River Basin 100th Meridian Initiative Groups; the Pacific Ballast Water Group; and the Green Crab Technical Group.
6. PSMFC also conducted education and outreach work focusing on zebra and quagga mussels and other aquatic nuisance species in the Missouri and Columbia River basins and California. Activities included distributing educational materials at sportsmen's shows, boat ramps, marinas, schools, etc., as well as through print and electronic media.
7. Finally, PSMFC continues to provide support for monitoring of: veliger and adult zebra mussels (Portland State University, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks), green crab (Oregon State University, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, University of California, Davis), non-indigenous gastropods (South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, Oregon) and hull fouling (Portland State University).

ECONOMICS FISHERIES DATA PROGRAM/ ALEUTIAN ISLANDS CRAB ECONOMICS PROJECT



The **Fisheries Economics Data Program (EFIN)** is a cooperative data collection effort to address the needs of fisheries managers and industry for economic data and information for the West Coast and Alaska. This project is conducted by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission as part of a cooperative agreement with the National Marine Fisheries Service and with the help of the Pacific and North Pacific Fishery Management Councils. The goal is to provide reliable and timely data to assist with the monitoring and measuring of the economic performance of the harvesting and processing components of West Coast and Alaska fisheries.

In 2009, EFIN worked on:

- **2008 Fuel Report:** Continued collection and maintenance of the West Coast and Alaska monthly fuel price survey. An annual summary was sent out to survey participants and other interested parties.
- **Web page maintenance:** Continued to collect data and update the EFIN web page. Updates include Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Consumer Price Index (CPI), Producer Price Index (PPI) and Employment Cost Index (ECI).
- **Tri-State Crab Website maintenance:** Archived previous year's website and created a new website for the 2008-2009 season that was updated with reports from California, Washington and Oregon.
- **Fish Ticket (FT)-Fish Ticket Line (FTL) monthly Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) table updates:** Continued download and creation of "user friendly" West Coast fish ticket tables for local PSMFC use.
- **Web page maintenance for:** *"Bycatch characterization in the Pacific halibut fishery: A field test of electronic monitoring technology"* project.
- Several PacFIN reports have been recreated and tested using Oracle Discoverer to provide dynamic user friendly reports. The Discoverer Project was presented at the annual PACFIN meeting in Portland, OR.

Streamer Line project: In 2000, in an effort to reduce the taking of seabirds, including the endangered short-tailed albatross, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission signed an agreement providing funds to help longliners install seabird deterrent devices on boats fishing the Bering Sea and North Pacific off the coast of Alaska. As of December 31, 2009, 307 pairs of lines were shipped in 2009.

Alaska Crab Rationalization Program 2009

The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) functions as the Independent Third Party Data Collection Agent (ITPDCA) for the **Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Crab Rationalization Program**. The purpose of the economic data collection is to aid the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in assessing the success of this Program and provide data to aid in developing amendments necessary to mitigate any unintended consequences. Specifically, the data will be used to examine two aspects of the program: 1) the distribution of benefits between harvesters and processors arising under the harvest share/processor share allocations and arbitration system, and b) the distribution of landings of different harvest share types.

The NPFMC is interested in ensuring that it will be able to adequately assess the impact of the program on affected parties, which includes harvesters, processors and communities. Existing data collection programs have not provided the information required to understand the economic performance of crab fishermen, let alone to determine how this performance has changed after rationalization or what aspects of these changes are specifically attributable to crab rationalization. This data collection program will substantially reduce the types of analytical difficulties that were encountered in the past when attempting to examine the effects of the halibut/sablefish Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program and the American Fisheries Act.

At the beginning of this program in 2005, historic Economic Data Reports (EDRs) were collected for the years 1998, 2001 and 2004. In each subsequent year, we have collected data using an annual EDR. Historical EDRs captured pre-Program

implementation data for comparison to the economics of harvesting and processing before and after Program implementation. The annual EDR captures economic data on an annual basis at the conclusion of each calendar year's crab fisheries. The 2008 EDR was collected in June and July 2009. Participation in the data collection program is mandatory for all participants in the BSAI crab fisheries. Any owner or leaseholder of a vessel or plant that harvested or processed crab in any of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands crab fisheries during 2008 were required to submit an annual report.

EDRs were mailed to crab processing plants and vessels, collected, tracked, reported to Restricted Access Management (RAM) for permit and quota issuance, and reviewed for completeness. The EDR data was entered, archived and submitted to NMFS for analysis. PSMFC hired AKT, LLC to conduct random and outlier audits on the 2008 annual EDRs. These audits are being conducted to verify the quality of data collected in the EDRs as well as to provide guidance on improving future EDRs. This process is repeated every year for the previous year's fishery.

AKFIN built a relational database to house data, standardized variables and conducted metric analysis to help describe data. Reports and Forms are being built to allow permitted researchers access to the data.

Amendment 80 Economic Data Reports

Amendment 80 was adopted by the NPFMC in June 2006. The final rule implementing Amendment 80 was published in the Federal Register on September 14, 2007. This action allocates several Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) non-pollock trawl groundfish species among trawl fishery sectors, and facilitates the formation of harvesting cooperatives in the non-American Fisheries Act (non-AFA) trawl catcher/processor sector.

The Council adopted Amendment 80 to meet the broad goals of:

- (1) improving retention and utilization of fishery resources by the non-AFA trawl catcher/processor fleet by extending the groundfish retention standard (GRS) to non-AFA trawl catcher/processor vessels of all lengths;
- (2) allocating fishery resources among BSAI trawl harvesters in consideration of historic and present harvest patterns and future harvest needs;
- (3) authorizing the allocation of groundfish species to harvesting cooperatives and establishing a limited access privilege program (LAPP) for the non-AFA trawl catcher/processors to reduce potential GRS compliance costs, encourage fishing practices with lower discard rates, and improve the opportunity for increasing the value of harvested species; and
- (4) limiting the ability of non-AFA trawl catcher/processors to expand their harvesting capacity into other fisheries not managed under a LAPP.

The groundfish species in the BSAI directly affected by Amendment 80 include:

- Atka mackerel
- Aleutian Islands Pacific ocean perch
- Flathead sole
- Pacific cod
- Rock sole
- Yellowfin sole

In addition, Amendment 80 would modify the management of halibut and crab prohibited species catch (PSC) limits.

PSMFC has been designated by NMFS to be the Data Collection Agent (DCA) for the Amendment 80 EDR program. The first annual Amendment 80 EDRs were collected in June 2009 for the 2008 calendar year.

EDRs were mailed to catcher processors, collected, tracked, reported to RAM for permit and quota issuance, and reviewed for completeness. The EDR data was entered, archived and submitted to NMFS for analysis. PSMFC hired RSM McGladrey, Inc. to conduct audits on the 2008 annual EDRs. These audits are being conducted to verify the quality of data collected in the EDRs as well as to provide guidance on improving future EDRs. This process is repeated every year for the previous year's fishery.

AKFIN built a relational database to house data, standardized variables and conducted metric analysis to help describe data. Reports and Forms are being built to allow permitted researchers access to the data.

PACIFIC FISHERIES INFORMATION NETWORK (PACFIN)



The **Pacific Fisheries Information Network (PacFIN)** is the nation's first regional fisheries data network. Funded by a grant from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), PacFIN is a joint federal and state project focused on fisheries data collection and information management. PacFIN provides timely and accurate data to aid effective management of fisheries and fishery resources.

In 2009 the PacFIN Office processed 556 datafeeds from eight data sources and responded to at least 126 requests-for-information. Various selections of standard PacFIN reports were generated weekly or monthly and uploaded to the PSMFC and PacFIN website.

Following are highlights of PacFIN central office activities in 2009:

LE Trawl Permit Data Requests

In support of the approaching Transferable Individual Quota (TIQ) program PacFIN staff developed retrieval programs for use by WDFW, ODFW and CDFG to allow them to respond to requests from individual Limited Entry Trawl permit holders for historical catch by permit.

Quota Species Monitoring (QSM) Subsystem

A change to the Quota Species Monitoring (QSM) program adding arid "UI" (unknown area) to the QSM area group (VNCLEK-MT) was implemented to accommodate lags in logbook area reporting. This enhancement assures inclusion of all landings where reporting is exclusive to this area group and individual area detail is not required. The QSM sub-system was also updated with Harvest Guidelines data for 2009 during this period.

Fisherman License data addition

Development work to obtain fisherman license data from Washington and California and include it in the PacFIN database was completed during this period. A new fisherman_license field was added to the Fish Ticket (FT) table. This task required modifications to various production programs and database tables and the source data specification. The FT table has been populated with historical data from WDFW and CDFG and both agencies are now providing this data item in their monthly datafeeds. The state of Oregon does not collect this data type and will therefore not participate.

At-Sea Whiting

An additional field to match USCG vessel codes to ADFG vessel codes was added to a materialized view from the source NMFS/AFSC NORPAC database. Modifications to accommodate this change were made to PacFIN export/import data acquisition software as well as the PacFIN NPAC4900 destination table on the prowfish server. This data system allows PacFIN to report on the Pacific Coast At-Sea Pacific Whiting fishery.

Federal Buy Back Program data

Work continued on longstanding price reconciliation issues between PacFIN dollar value estimates and buyer reports from the Federal Buy Back program. At issue is the difference in methodologies between price estimates to best value fisheries and price estimates to best estimate the actual cost to buyers involved in the Buy Back program. Work is continuing with PacFIN data providers to improve catch disposition coding in order to produce the best estimate possible of actual buyer costs in the targeted fisheries.

A secondary goal of this project is to identify discrepancies between PacFIN calculated revenues and Buyer calculated revenues that occurred which were not due to pricing. Other data issues, specific to state agency reporting protocols have also been addressed in an effort to provide the best available data in support of the Buy Back program.

Also, new software was developed during this period to include Pacific Coast At-Sea Whiting fishery landings data in the OMI Buy-Back Fee table in support of the Federal Buy Back program. Software development to estimate the value of the landings delivered to mother ships was initiated.

PacFIN Web Updates

A project to re-develop the PacFIN website was completed during this period. The programming language was utilized in conjunction with XHTML to increase efficiency and decrease the number of web pages that need to be maintained. Security has been increased and individual, password protected accounts have been created to allow for more directed access. The website has been launched for public use with good reviews. A website procedures document has been written to assist with its upkeep. Additional features are under development.

The Web Access system that allows approved users to extract data from the database using a web application was re-developed using SQL*Net. This task was driven by changes to the host web server and included the conversion of all extract html query forms and modifications to web access code lists and stored procedures. Development and testing of web-based retrievals using the Oracle Discoverer tool continued during this period.

NPAFC annual reporting modifications

The program used to produce annual catch summaries for North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) reporting was enhanced to include a new reporting category for Sharks, Skates and Dogfish.

Internal procedures documentation

The PacFIN production "Data Procedures" document was re-written to update procedural changes and additions.

A project to catalog and describe over 4000 Oracle SQL and PL/SQL scripts was initiated during this period. This effort was undertaken at the request of the Pacific Coast Fisheries Data Committee (PCFDC) from the November 2008 PCDFC meeting.

Training

PacFIN staff continues to pursue training opportunities to better serve the PacFIN user base including HTML courses, independent study of the PHP programming language and learning and working with the Oracle Discoverer tool.

Meetings and Seminars

The Annual Pacific Coast Fisheries Data Committee (PCFDC) meeting was held November 9th and 10th in Portland, OR. PacFIN staff attended and made presentations.

Internal System Upgrades

A number of internal system upgrades related to maintaining the success of current production applications were performed including code list change monitoring, database performance improvements, new production automation and retrieval scripts, new documentation and metadata. Jointly contracted services were established during this period to provide database administration (DBA) support for the AKFIN/PacFIN projects, including: disaster recovery; Oracle software maintenance services to apply critical patches and database upgrades when necessary; database monitoring to include regularly scheduled checks of logs; backup procedures; and statistics and consultation regarding performance, upgrades and database tools and functionality.



PIT Tag Information System
Columbia Basin | ptagis.org

The **Columbia River PIT Tag Information System (PTAGIS)** is a data collection, distribution and coordination project. Over 2.4 million juvenile salmonids were marked with passive integrated transponder (PIT) tags for the 2009 out-migration through the Columbia and Snake River systems,

similar to the number of fish tagged for the 2008 migration year (Tables 1 & 2). In 2009, one million unique tagged fish were detected at one or more locations, generating over 1.5 million detection events (Table 3). One fish can generate many interrogation records as it passes through multiple PIT tag antennas at one or more detection sites. Almost 13.5 million interrogation records were reported to PTAGIS in 2009 (Table 4).

TABLE 1

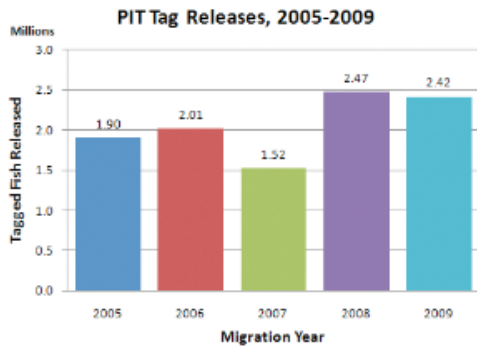


TABLE 2

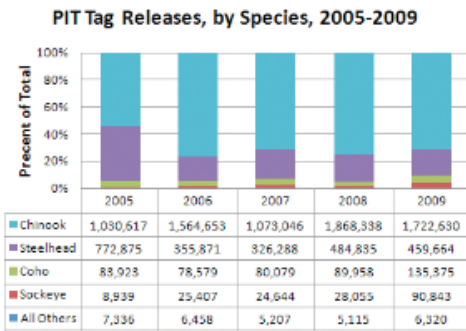


TABLE 3

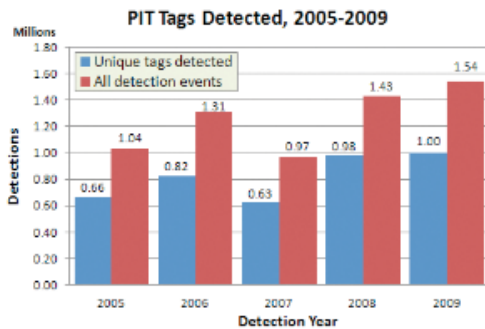
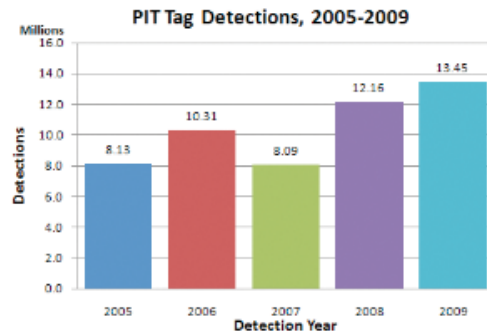


TABLE 4



In 2009, almost 300 registered account holders accessed the PTAGIS database. These users completed over 13.5 thousand queries, and retrieved almost one billion rows of data.

Registered PTAGIS Users	Queries Completed	Records Retrieved
290	13,612	996,823,890

The PTAGIS project provides researchers in the Columbia Basin the opportunity to target and collect specific PIT-tagged fish as those fish pass through the detection facilities at six main-stem dams on the Snake and Columbia rivers. This process of selecting and diverting individual PIT-tagged fish is called Separation by Code. In 2009, the PTAGIS project supported 13 Separation by Code projects for eight agencies. PTAGIS managed a combined total of more than 1.3 million PIT tags in the look-up databases at seven of the eight of the Separation by Code sites in the Columbia Basin.

Request #	Project ID	Agency Participants	ProjectTitle
1	BPA:00-GS-75064	WDFW	Estimate SARs for endemic stock hatchery steelhead released in SE Washington and NE Oregon rivers.
2	Refer to Project Title	Nez Perce Tribe (NPT)	Johnson Cr. Project #199604300; LSCRCP agreement #14110-3-j010; Imnaha R. SMP project #199701501
3	Refer to Project Title	IDFG	LSRCP M&E #14110-6-J009: Clearwater/Sawtooth/Pahsimeroi hatchery spring/summer Chinook
4	USFWS: 2005-002	USFWS	Evaluate spring Chinook salmon releases from Kooskia National Fish Hatchery
5	BPA:00-GS-75064	ODFW	Smolt outmigration timing and survival for LSRCP steelhead from the Grande Ronde and Willowa basins.
6	FWP:1991-028-00	NOAA-Fisheries	Monitor wild Salmon River Chinook salmon migrations.
7	Refer to Project Title	NOAA-Fisheries & Corps of Engineers	Chinook salmon transportation and life history studies.
8	Refer to Project Title	NOAA-Fisheries & Corps of Engineers	Evaluate modified turbine intakes at BON PH2
9	FWP:1996-200-00	Fish Passage Center	CSS - Comparative Survival Study
10	Refer to Project Title	IDFG	BPA project numbers 199401500 and 200301700: Lemhi River watershed monitoring and evaluation.
11	RM&E: RPA 52&54	Corps of Engineers	Snake River sockeye Pilot transportation evaluation
12	FWP: 199102900	NOAA-Fisheries, NPT, & USFWS	Research, monitoring, and evaluation related to recovery of the Snake River fall Chinook salmon ESU
13	BPA:2002-053-00	WDFW	Asotin Creek RM&E Project



The **Recreational Fisheries Information Network (RecFIN)** is a cooperative effort between the state fishery agencies in Washington, Oregon, and California, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The four goals of RecFIN are as follows:

- Develop and implement a State/Federal cooperative program for a coast-wide marine recreational fisheries data system;
- Coordinate collection, management, and dissemination of Pacific coast marine recreational fishery data;
- Provide the data in a central location on a timely basis in the format needed to support state and federal work on Pacific marine recreational fisheries; and
- Reduce and avoid duplication of data collection efforts between RecFIN members.

The database contains recreational fishery data for the years 1980-89 and 1993 to the present. The primary source of data in the RecFIN database comes from the following five state sampling programs: Oregon: Oregon Recreational Boat Survey (ORBS) and the Oregon Shore and Estuary Boats Survey (SEB); Washington: Washington Ocean Sampling Program (OSP) and the Washington Puget Sound Boat Survey; California: California Recreational Fisheries Survey (CRFS). These programs are funded by NMFS along with state agency funding in all three states. The survey is spread out over about 800 fishing sites coastwide in the three states. Of these sites, about 57% are in California, 10% in Oregon and 33% in Washington state.

In 2009:

- The state of California and PSMFC conducted the CRFS in California in 2009. Over 100,000 angler trips were sampled during the 12 month sampling program.
- PSMFC provided partial funding for sampling in Oregon and Washington through RecFIN. Sampling was conducted by the states. A total of about 40% of all ocean boat angler trips were sampled in Oregon in 2009, where sampling occurred from March through October in 2009.
- The state of Washington conducted their Ocean Boat Survey and the Puget Sound Boat Survey in 2009. Sampling occurred throughout the year in Puget Sound and from April – early October on the coast. Sampling rates were at about 40% of all ocean boat trips.
- Two states utilized their angler license frame for estimation of fishing effort in certain modes of fishing. These include Puget Sound Boat trips in Washington and shore and private access and night boat effort in California. All other modes of fishing in the three states are estimated from direct field counts.

All catch and effort information for each sampling month from the various surveys are loaded into the RecFIN database maintained at PSMFC with a one-month lag time. Access is available to the catch and effort information for all three states on the PSMFC website or at: www.recfin.org. Detailed explanations of the sampling conducted, sampling methodology and estimation statistics of the various sampling programs along with catch and effort estimates by month are available on the RecFIN website [www.recfin.org]. During 2010, the RecFIN website will complete its new look with revisions to provide easier access to catch and effort data and include updates to match recent management changes by the states and the Pacific Fishery Management Council.

In 2009, three Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) pilot surveys were funded by NMFS on the Pacific coast and the funds were passed through the RecFIN grant. The first survey was a dual frame methodology study in Washington state designed to test direct effort counts, license frame effort estimates and random dialing of coastal households to make effort estimates by mode. This pilot survey will be completed in CY 2010. In California, funding was provided for a Shark Survey design in Southern California and Albacore sampling design for an upgraded Catch Per Unit of Effort (CPUE) survey to assist with stock assessment for California, Oregon and Washington. Once these two surveys are designed, pilot testing of the designs may be done in 2010- 2011.



The **Regional Mark Processing Center (RMPC)** serves federal, state, tribal and private fisheries agencies of the entire Pacific coast by processing and exchanging coded wire tag (CWT) release, recovery

and associated catch sample information. The RMPC adopts new data formats and implements software, hardware and personnel enhancements, in order to meet evolving CWT informational needs by the Pacific Salmon Commission and other agencies, in support of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. In addition, the RMPC has the responsibility of serving as the single United States database to exchange CWT information with Canada in Pacific Salmon Commission format on a regular basis. The RMPC maintains the U.S. database and coordinates the acquisition and validation of these data from the various agencies. Over 50 million coded wire tagged fish are released Pacific coast-wide every year, with approximately 1,200 different coded wire tag codes.

Coded Wire Tag Overview Paper

George Nandor, Jim Longwill and Dan Webb authored a paper titled *Overview of the Coded Wire Tag Program in the Greater Pacific Region of North America*. The paper provides a brief history and explains how the coded wire tag program is implemented and used to manage salmon fisheries off the west coast. It is anticipated that the paper will become part of a compilation of papers describing various tagging, telemetry and marking methods used for the scientific study of fish. Copies of the paper are available from the RMPC web site at: <http://www.rmpec.org/publications.html>.

Database Upgrade

The Regional Mark Information System (RMIS) that houses the coded wire tag database was upgraded to version 4.1 in May, 2009. The upgrade is a result of direction from the Pacific Salmon Commission's Data Sharing Committee and the Data Standards Work Group. Significant changes include identifying fishery recoveries as coming from a mark selective fishery or not, or a mixed selective fishery, and the implementation of stable, non-changing ID numbers for all recovery records to allow better tracking of future changes or corrections.

Data Validation Issues

The CWT data load programs were upgraded to do more rigorous cross-table checks of tag releases in format version 4.1 when validating newly submitted tag recovery datasets. This is an ongoing project as data uploading errors are identified and corrected. The staff worked closely with several agencies to implement improved validation of new data before it is merged with RMIS and to correct historical data already in the database.

Data Integrity Issues

Significant time, again, was spent working with the various data reporting agencies to resolve various inconsistencies found in the CWT data sets. While the number of errors was relatively small, it took considerable effort to resolve the reasons for the errors and to then correct them.

RMPC Website

New updated information has been added to the RMPC website. Ten years of proceedings of the Northwest Fish Culture Conference are now available, numerous scientific papers related to the use of coded wire tags have been added and other relevant material is added as requested or the need arises. See: <http://www.rmpec.org>.

Missing Recovery Data

Lack of freshwater CWT recovery data for certain areas have been identified. The RMPC continues to work closely with the responsible agencies to coordinate the filling of those data gaps. Significant progress was made.

Annual Mark Meeting

The 2009 Mark Meeting was hosted by the Metlakatla Indian community and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and held in Metlakatla, Alaska. Key issues included discussions and updates on coast-wide mass marking, coded wire tagging and selective fisheries activities. Other issues discussed: implementation of the new version 4.1 format of the database; use of blank CWT wire, which is identified as "agency only wire", as a mark; PSC Data Sharing Committee activities; PSC Selective Fisheries Evaluation Committee findings and the accomplishments of the Data Standards Work Group meeting in providing direction for database version 4.1 and improved data validation.

Regional Coordination

RMPC staff participated in Pacific Salmon Commission committees and regional science and management teams to assist with coordinating coded wire tagging activities and providing CWT data. The RMPC continues working closely with Idaho Fish and Game in providing PSMFC staff to work on their hatchery data under a contract with the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan and with Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife to implement the coded wire tag recovery program in sampling sport, commercial and tribal fisheries for salmon and steelhead carrying coded wire tags under a Bonneville Power Administration funded contract. The recovered tags are read and decoded and the information is added to the RMIS database for use by the fish management agencies to make science based decisions regarding numerous populations of salmon and steelhead in the region.



The **StreamNet Project** continued to provide fish related data in a standardized and georeferenced format to data users in the Pacific Northwest. The project is funded by Bonneville Power Administration through the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program and cooperates with the region's fish and wildlife agencies.

The normal data sets in StreamNet were updated for the year. Declining project capabilities due to long term level funding threatened the ability of two project partners, WDFW and ODFW, to obtain all needed data updates, but the project was able to reschedule unspent funds to cover that work this year. Similar problems may be encountered in future years, however.

The project was reorganized this year by the Columbia River InterTribal Fish Commission being funded under the Columbia Basin Fish Accords. While its StreamNet work was moved into a separate contract, CRITFC maintained its direct participation in the project. All previous StreamNet work was accomplished as planned, and all work was reported to BPA in a combined report, illustrating that while the funding structure had changed, full project function was maintained.

StreamNet maintained ongoing coordination with a number of regional scale efforts. The project participated actively in the Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership, serving on the Steering Committee, the Data Management Leadership Team, and other work groups, including participating in the Data Portals Workshop. The project also developed XML based web services to deliver data directly to the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority for inclusion in the Status of the Resource report.

StreamNet supported several of its partner agencies in developing internal database system capabilities. Promoting such agency wide systems for managing internal fish data is part of the StreamNet strategy for improving the speed of data flow from the agencies to the regional database, and it will also improve data management capabilities within our partner agencies. The StreamNet website, www.streamnet.org, was redesigned this year, significantly simplifying the process of obtaining data. The approach included reducing the number of clicks required to access data, making all primary project functions directly accessible from the home page, and adopting a more convenient layout. This was a primary first step in a planned redesign of the database query system, which is being developed in 2010.

The project also published a white paper entitled *Considerations for Regional Data Collection, Sharing and Exchange*. This data sharing guide was designed to outline the steps needed to enable resource agencies to share their data effectively at a regional scale and to clearly state the roles that each kind of agency needs to play in making such sharing possible. The guide was written in non-technical language so that all readers could easily determine the steps necessary for sharing data and ensuring that important steps are not overlooked.

StreamNet remains committed to working with regional entities as they work toward improved data sharing on a wide scale in response to regional issues like reporting progress under the FCRPS Biological Opinion, high level data reporting, and coordinated monitoring and evaluation of fisheries resources.

CALIFORNIA DATA AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS (CALFISH)



The **California Cooperative Fish and Aquatic Habitat Data Program (CalFish)** website (www.calfish.org), a multi-agency cooperative fisheries information site, is designed to gather, maintain, and disseminate fish and aquatic habitat data and data standards, and provides access to a growing number of fish and aquatic habitat datasets, through both geographical and tabular queries. Many of the following projects have data/ information available through the CalFish site.

The **California Habitat Restoration Project Database** (HRPD) effort continued to maintain and add data for projects funded through the California Anadromous Fish Restoration Grants Program. Work also continued with CALFED, a state/federal partnership conducting restoration efforts in the Central Valley. HRPD data is made available via the CalFish website.

PSMFC continued to assist the California **Coastal Watershed Planning and Assessment Program** by providing field and technical staff and assistance to conduct stream habitat surveys and prepare watershed assessment plans for both the Northern and Southern coasts.

PSMFC continued work with the California Department of Fish and Game to assist them with the administrative aspects of conducting the **Adaptive Watershed Program**, which facilitates the completion of watershed, riparian, and stream habitat improvement projects to benefit salmon and steelhead streams of coastal California.

Continuing assistance was provided to the California **Ocean Salmon Program** by employing fisheries technicians at various coastal ports to sample commercial salmon fisheries, collect biological data and coded-wire tag information. Data collected are incorporated into the management and season setting for salmon fisheries coastwide. Due to salmon fishery closures in 2008, an abbreviated sampling program was conducted.

The **California Passage Assessment Database** (PAD) locates and documents anadromous fish passage "sites" in all California coastal watersheds. This multi-agency cooperative effort has led to better information on known (and suspected) fish passage issues, and ultimately the correction of them through prioritized restoration projects and funding. The PAD is available through the CalFish website.

PSMFC continues to provide technical assistance and field staff for collecting and compiling data on the movement and timing of juvenile Chinook and Coho salmon (and other species) in the **Humboldt Bay Tributary Estuary Sampling Program**.

PSMFC provides biological and technical support to hatchery staff (located at the Warm Springs Hatchery facility) for all spawning and rearing operations at the facility, and conducting biological monitoring of hatching, rearing, planting of fish, and adult returns from the **Russian River Coho Salmon Captive Broodstock Program**. The program produces and releases fish that are fit to survive and reproduce in the wild in order to meet the goal of producing self-sustaining Coho populations in the future.

PSMFC's GIS and Data Specialists assist the CDFG Marine Region and the Resource Legacy Fund Foundation with **Marine Nearshore Habitat Data and Technical Assistance**. These positions provide daily technical assistance to staff responsible for the management of California marine species, habitat, and fisheries.

With funding provided by the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR), PSMFC is assisting CDWR and CDFG with the **Feather River Monitoring** project. Work includes data compilation and analysis for the Feather River (and Central Valley).

PSMFC Fisheries Technicians on the **Upper Sacramento Technical Assistance** projects (Upper Sacramento River, Battle, Deer, and Mill Creeks) continue to assist CDFG with running fish traps, conducting salmon carcass surveys, and collecting biological data.

PSMFC continued work with the California Department of Fish and Game to assist them with the administrative aspects of conducting the **Aquatic Resource Assessment Program** by providing field technicians and research assistants to collect, compile, and analyze data and research on aquatic species, habitats, and natural communities.

PSMFC provides technical assistance and field staff for the **Coastal Restoration Monitoring and Evaluation** project. Staff monitors pending and completed coastal watershed restoration projects in California, collects habitat information, and compiles data. This information is used by managers to assess the success of restoration activities.

PSMFC's **Southern California Habitat Assistant** identifies habitat restoration projects such as erosion control, removal of fish barriers, and removal of non-native vegetation, in order to improve fish habitat and establish funding for the projects.

PSMFC continues to provide fisheries technicians in Mendocino County to assist in conducting a project designed to develop, test, and implement the sampling scheme and field surveys described in the **CA Coastal Salmonid Monitoring Plan**.

PSMFC assisted in escapement surveys on the **Lower American River** to generate an estimate of spawners and their distribution, and conduct coded-wire tag surveys to accurately estimate occurrence of coded-wire tag (CWT) fish in river and to obtain detailed information on sex and spawning status.

In the **San Joaquin River Basin**, PSMFC assists in water temperature data collection, conducting Stanislaus River Chinook salmon carcass survey, spawning Merced River Hatchery fall-run Chinook salmon, reading coded wire tags, data entry, fish screening, and monitoring entrainment of salmon into water diversions.

PSMFC is working with CDFG and the CDWR Head Lab to determine the **Age Structure of Central Valley Chinook Salmon Populations** by conducting scale analysis, assisting in the field collection of scales in Chinook escapement surveys, using the aging data in combination with CWT recovery data to reconstruct the size of each returning brood year.

PSMFC assisted in successful completion of the third year of the **Central Valley Constant Fractional Marking Program**. The program is responsible for annually coded-wire tagging/adipose fin clipping 25 percent of the Fall Chinook salmon production in the Central Valley hatcheries.

At the **Coleman National Fish Hatchery**, PSMFC again provided seasonal personnel and services to assist the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with marking and coded-wire tagging approximately 1,100,000 juvenile Late-Fall Chinook salmon.

PSMFC provides technical assistance to ongoing **ROV Programs** of the Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and Marine Applied Research and Exploration (MARE) by collecting and analyzing data on fish abundances and habitat, maintaining and operating equipment, and producing reports which will enable the continued gathering of information to aid fisheries management and monitoring of nearshore marine species.

PSMFC provides administrative support to facilitate the completion of **Klamath River Adaptive Watershed Improvement Projects**, which includes projects that have an immediate benefit to salmonids in the Klamath River Basin below Iron Gate Dam to the Pacific Ocean.

PSMFC assists in the implementation of the **Heritage and Wild Trout Program** by providing technical staff, expertise, supplies, and support services to assist with conducting high priority native trout resource assessment projects.

PSMFC administrative support assists the **Americorps Watershed Stewards Project** in accomplishing habitat restoration projects.

Fisheries Technicians from PSMFC are working to eradicate non-native predators and conduct **Habitat Restoration of Mountain Yellow-legged Frogs and Lahontan Cutthroat Trout** in lakes and streams in the Sierra Nevadas.

PSMFC is working with CDFG and the Ecosystem Restoration Program to develop a long-term **Comprehensive Central Valley Adult Chinook Salmon Escapement Monitoring Plan** and **Central Valley Steelhead Comprehensive Monitoring Plan** to estimate population status and trends in abundance in a statistically valid manner. These plans are scheduled for completion in 2009.

PSMFC is working with the **Yuba County Water Agency, CDFG**, and other partners to implement field studies, monitoring, and other projects on the Lower Yuba River, including Rotary Screw Traps, Escapement Surveys, and the operation of the VAKI Riverwatcher Installation.

PSMFC provides personnel, materials, equipment, and services to the **NMFS Klamath Coho Salmon Monitoring** program as they coordinate with other research groups, conduct surveys, and report on data.

PSMFC provides fisheries technicians to assist the CDFG in conducting field surveys to monitor **Shasta River Juvenile Coho** in the upper portion of the Shasta River below Dwinnell Dam

PSMFC assists with **Constant Fractional Marking (CFM) at Iron Gate Hatchery** and provides staff and equipment to clip and tag 25 percent of all Chinook salmon released from the facility, which will provide critical harvest information to coastal Chinook life cycle monitoring programs.

Non-California projects:

PSMFC provides technical expert assistance for the development of monitoring and evaluation strategies to support the **NMFS Salmon Recovery Plan** implementation.

PSMFC provides data stewardship services for the **NMFS Habitat Restoration Project Tracking Database**.

PSMFC provides support for an **Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) Administrative Assistant**.

PSMFC provides personnel to assist the **IDFG Nampa Research Lab** with their fisheries research, field activities, and data management needs.

PSMFC provides technical and administrative support to implement the **IDFG Marking Program**.

COOPERATIVE AGEING PROJECT

The **Cooperative Ageing Project Lab located in Newport, Oregon**, was established to production age marine groundfish structures and is a collaboration between the NOAA Fisheries and PSMFC. The lab is located in Newport, Oregon at Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) facilities. Otoliths, collected from federal surveys and commercial catch, are the primary structures aged by this lab and are used in direct support of U.S West Coast stock assessments. Age data helps determine biological attributes of a population such as mortality rate, growth rate, age at maturity, etc. While this lab is primarily a production age reading lab, there are opportunities on an annual basis to conduct age-related research and assist in NMFS directed at-sea surveys.

In 2009, the work conducted by the Newport Ageing Lab included:

- Aged 34,888 otoliths from 10 species of U.S. west coast groundfish including the rockfish—greenstriped, splitnose, canary, Pacific Ocean perch and darkblotched; the flatfish—Dover sole, petrale sole and curlfin sole; and the roundfish—Pacific hake and sablefish. This includes all types of ageing; production, double reads for quality control, recalibration, training and research reads.
- Curlfin sole had never been aged by this lab before and the lab's ageing work is going to be part of a paper that will be submitted for publication in a peer reviewed journal.
- From NWFSC federal projects, the lab processed 4,710 otoliths from the hake at-sea fishery, 17,866 otoliths from the NWFSC slope/shelf survey and 2,513 otoliths from the hake acoustic survey. From the states, the lab processed 1,295 otoliths from California, 12,208 otoliths from Oregon and 1,982 otoliths from Washington.
- Five lab personnel attended the 2009 Committee of Age Reading Experts (CARE) meeting in Seattle, Washington. CARE is a cooperative effort between international, state and federal agencies dedicated to standardizing and improving age determination techniques and activities for Pacific Ocean fish species. Agencies involved include PSMFC, NOAA-NMFS AFSC, CDFO, ODFW, ADFG, WDFW, CDFG, and IPHC.
- Three lab personnel also attended the 2009 International Otolith Symposium in Monterey, California.
- Lab personnel coordinated and participated in otolith exchanges with Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries. The species exchanged were the roundfish Pacific hake and sablefish. These exchanges help ensure that each lab is utilizing the same ageing criteria. This becomes even more critical when two or more labs contribute age data to a single stock assessment.

FISH HABITAT EDUCATION PROGRAM



The PSMFC **Fish Habitat Program** works to protect habitat for salmon and other marine fish species. The Program supports conservation and restoration activities by watershed councils, helps promote essential fish habitat and ecosystem based management policies, and conducts watershed tours for decision makers. These programs are funded primarily by the Wallop-Breaux Sport Fish Restoration program managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Additional support for habitat conservation work comes from NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service which supports interstate work on marine debris, participation on the Pacific Fishery Management Council's habitat committee and the formation of a Pacific Marine Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation provides grant funding to support gillnet recycling work.

Work in 2009 included:

Marine Debris Work

The first year of renewed work through community based gillnet recycling coordinators has yielded large quantities of nets for recycling in Cordova, Dillingham, and Naknek, Alaska. Cordova collected and shipped 18,670 lbs for recycling; Dillingham shipped 15,000 lbs and Naknek 8900 lbs of net. Petersburg and Kenai's results to date have been smaller with Kenai collecting about 3000 lbs and Petersburg nets still being gathered for the season, but the program is set up for next year's efforts. Gillnet recycling is continuing in Astoria, Oregon and grant support will allow for more effective organization and support. In addition to those focus areas, Douglas and Ketchikan Alaska received guidance from the program and may set up their own collection programs.

PSMFC participates in the West Coast Governor's Agreement on Ocean Health Marine Debris Workgroup which drafted an action strategy in 2009 to deal with land-based debris and derelict fishing gear. The draft action strategy underwent public review. The first action based on the strategy will be a workshop in Seattle in early 2010 to further derelict gear activities.

Watershed Restoration Support

PSMFC administers a small grant program (from funds allocated by Oregon's Watershed Enhancement Board) that assists the Siuslaw and MidCoast areas of the central coastal region with on-the ground project funding. This work allows \$100,000 in state funds to go to small projects (\$10,000 and under) that meet priority basin needs.

PSMFC serves on the Alsea Stewardship Group, a multi-party group that works cooperatively with the U.S. Forest Service under federal stewardship contracting authority. This allows a portion of timber sale receipts (e.g., from thinning and commercial sales) to be retained in the Siuslaw National Forest for doing priority restoration projects as well as allowing a portion of the funds to be used on restoration efforts on surrounding private lands if there is a direct benefit to the forest watershed, fish and other species. During this year, in addition to participating in decision making, the program assisted the MidCoast Watersheds Council apply for grant funding for restoration and enhancement work on 55 acres of a recently acquired 122 acre conservation parcel. The project received funding (from U.S.F.S. Stewardship and Stimulus funds) for large wood placement in the marsh and stream, riparian restoration and planting, invasive plant control, and wildlife enhancement.

PSMFC continued to provide administrative and technical assistance and support to the MidCoast Watersheds Council to help further priority conservation and restoration efforts on Oregon's central coast as well as involve high school youth in natural resource crew work. The group does about a million dollars of work a year on priority restoration work on a whole basin basis, where possible, informed by limiting factor assessments.

In 2009, the Pacific Marine Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership received recognition as a candidate Fish Habitat Partnership. A FHP is a mechanism to focus attention on habitat restoration efforts for key species or areas and accelerate and assist project to restore and conserve habitat. Key partners from state, tribal, federal, and non-governmental groups from SE Alaska to California will be convened, with a workshop (anticipated in early 2010) that will develop a working strategy and organizational plan, identify data gaps and priority needs and work to find funding to put projects on the ground. The Fish Habitat Partnership is run by a national board, organized in 2006 (see www.fishhabitat.org). It is composed of

the USFWS, NOAA, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, The Conservation Fund, and others. It is modeled after the very successful North American Wetlands Conservation Act that has conserved migratory bird habitat throughout the U.S. and neighboring countries.

Watershed Tours

PSMFC's watershed tour program is aimed at getting state, county, and city decision makers, the media, funding entities, and restoration project planners together with agency officials and local restoration practitioners to view habitat protection and restoration efforts and highlight needs for continued support for priority projects.

Washington tours called 'Flying for Fish Habitat' are aerial tours conducted with the collaboration and assistance of Lighthawk, a non-profit group, which helps schedule volunteer projects and their planes. In the spring of 2009, the Flying for Fish Habitat Program coordinated seven flights for the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) over the Nisqually Estuary, South Puget Sound, the Skokomish River, and South Hood Canal. The goal of these flights was to encourage support from the Puget Sound Partnership for estuary restoration projects currently being funded and in need of more funding on the Nisqually and Skokomish. Experienced guides from the The Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Nisqually Tribe, Hood Canal Coordinating Council (HCCC), and Wild Fish Conservancy were used to narrate the flights. In the fall of 2009, 18 flights were conducted over the Samish Watershed to highlight water quality issues and their impacts on habitat for salmon and other species. Among other decision makers, the three Skagit County Commissioners were flown over the watershed and provided an orientation to the issues and value of this basin. Prior to the flights, there had been reluctance to reauthorize the Clean Water Program, the commissioners voted afterwards not only to refund the program, but to increase the property tax assessment to \$60 (almost double) and give 40% of that to work on the Samish. Additional flights were conducted to highlight the success of the flights on the Samish and organize film crew interviews with flight participants for the production of a video.

Two California ground tours were conducted in conjunction with the Institute for Fisheries Resources and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations. One tour was of the lower Mokelumne River and its highlighted restoration projects being done to help restore the heavily impact fall chinook run. In addition to riparian and juvenile habitat enhancement activities, screening of diversion canals and increased flow allocations for returning spawners were highlighted. In attendance were Assembly members or their representatives, as well as the media, and a Council of Governments representative. The Russian River tour included a mayor and landowners, including winery owners, and featured visits to the coho captive broodstock facilities, riparian habitat restoration efforts on vineyards, and restoration of gravel mining areas for fish habitat. PSMFC also helped sponsor a watershed tour in March for restoration practitioners at the 27th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference in Santa Cruz, California.

In Oregon, a watershed bus tour was conducted of the Calapooia and Santiam River Basins in conjunction with the Governor's natural resource office and three watershed councils working in these Willamette River subbasins where there are a number of listed salmon and recovery planning efforts underway. A dam removal project, erosion control and riparian restoration projects, and a wetland and stream channel enhancement effort were featured for local government representatives, the media, and landowners.



Net Collection site in Cordova, Alaska. Over 9 tons of clean gillnet web were recycled in 2009.



Aerial tours with decision makers provide information about the habitat problems and restoration efforts in a watershed and can build support for continuing efforts. This image shows a 140 acre estuarine restoration project being done by the Nisqually Tribe site in the lower left of the image, an important habitat for restoring Nisqually Fall Chinook. (Photo by Pam Goddard, PSMFC)

NORTHERN PIKEMINNOW MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



The **Northern Pike minnow Predator Control Program** is a joint effort between the fishery agencies of the states of Washington and Oregon, and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). This year, 2009, marked the 18th consecutive year of the program. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife operated the sport-reward registration/creel check stations throughout the river and handled all fish checked into the program. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife provided fish tagging services, population studies, food habit and reproductive studies, as well as exploitation rate estimates. The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission provided fiscal and contractual oversight for all segments of the Program and processed all reward vouchers for sport-reward anglers.

During the 2009 season:

- A program total of 142,002 fish were harvested in the sport-reward fishery.
- Vouchers for 139,924 fish of the 142,002 total catch were submitted for payment with rewards totaling \$868,660.
- Rewards were paid at \$4 for the first 100 fish caught during the season, \$5 for fish caught in the 101-400 range, and \$8 for all fish caught by an angler above 400 fish during the month of May. Tagged fish rewards were \$500.
- A total of 1,215 anglers who registered were successful in catching one or more fish in 2008. The 2009 season ran from May 1, 2008 through October 11, 2009.
- A total of 180 tagged fish were caught. Anglers were issued a special tagged fish voucher for all tagged fish brought to the registration station. The tag voucher was then sent in with the tag for verification and payment of \$500 was made for each tagged fish. This resulted in tag reward payments of \$90,000.
- System-wide exploitation in 2009 of northern pikeminnow 200 mm or greater in fork length was 12.8% which incorporated a tag loss of 9.2%. The 2009 estimated reduction in potential predation was 40% lower than pre-program levels based on the 2009 exploitation rate.

WEST COAST GROUND FISH OBSERVER PROGRAM



The **West Coast Groundfish Observer Program (WCGOP)** provides coast wide estimates of discards across groundfish fisheries throughout the year. The data used for these estimates are derived from data collected by observers at sea. These estimates are an important component to stock assessments and the management of groundfish stocks on the West Coast. Observers collect scientific, management, and other data through on-board interviews with vessel captains and crew, observations of fishing operations, measurements of selected portions of the catch and fishing gear and collection of biological samples.

2009 was the eighth year the WCGOP actively deployed observers in a variety West Coast groundfish fisheries. The program has standardized its sampling and vessel coverage plans while remaining flexible to the needs of an evolving sampling plan created by the WCGOP with help from stock assessment authors and the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC).

In January 2009, the program held its 8th Annual Observer Meeting in Portland. The two-day meeting is unique among observer programs and has helped the WCGOP work through some of the many issues related to sending biologist to sea alone to collect information. Observer feedback and input allow program staff to stay current with the issues that observers face day-to-day in performing their jobs.

In March 2009, the program completed training of 21 seasonal observers who were deployed throughout the coast to assist the 24 year round observers. Employing seasonal observers allows the program to efficiently match observer resources to meet the monitoring demands of the groundfish fisheries off the West Coast. From late March thorough October, the program operated with up to 45 active observers in the field collecting data.

Safety at sea is a high priority for the WCGOP. Every observer in the program is required to have completed safety training and/or a safety briefing within the past year. In October 2009 the program gathered the year-round observers in Newport, Oregon, for an annual safety briefing. Safety refresher training included: donning immersion suits, fire fighting, in-water safety exercises while wearing an immersion suit, fire drills aboard a commercial fishing vessel, and a variety of discussions to raise safety awareness. The program utilized a commercial vessel from the Newport groundfish fleet to conduct drills. US Coast Guard representatives answered a variety of questions about vessel safety and ran the observers through a simulated vessel sinking exercise. While there is no way to ensure safety aboard a commercial fishing vessel at sea, the program aims to promote awareness to avoid accidents and improve safety and survival skills in the case that an emergency occurs.

The table below shows the sea time observers were onboard each type of gear by state from January 2009-December 2009. A total of 3,153 days at-sea were completed in 2009.

State	Trawl	Longline	Pot	Shrimp	Open Access
California	554	194	59	16	145
Oregon	1431	46	8	191	182
Washington	231	87	0	1	8
Total	2216	327	67	208	335

The WCGOP Data Reports can be found at:
<http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/research/divisions/fram/observer/datareport/index.cfm>.



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Portland, Oregon

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (the Commission) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these basic financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission as of June 30, 2009 and 2008 and the changes in its net assets for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated March 29, 2010 on our consideration of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audits.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 3 - 6 is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplemental information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplemental information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of Federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audit of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

AKT LLP

Lake Oswego, Oregon
March 29, 2010

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