

Answers to questions received during the Request for Proposals – Amendment 80 Economic Data Report Data Validation

Question 1. Will this engagement be annually bid?

Answer 1. Contracts will be written based on project funding which could lead to annual bids, continued or new contracts.

Question 2. Will a list of the licensed shareholders and their vessels be provided prior to submission of the proposal?

Answer 2. A list of Amendment 80 Vessels was posted in the Federal Register/Vol. 72, No. 178/ Friday, September 14, 2007/ Rules and Regulation page 52739 available at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/frules/72fr52668.pdf>. 2008 Quota share holders are available at http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/ram/amd80/A80_Owner_List.csv

Question 3. [*Company*] has a client in the Bering Sea fishery. Our client primarily fishes in the Pollock and Hake fisheries. Does this create a conflict of interest for [*Company*] if our client owns one of the 28 reporting vessels?

Answer 3. As long as you are not involved in the day-to-day operations of your client's business, there is no conflict of interest with conducting the data validation work.

Question 4. Under the heading of Non-random audits, you have referred to a range or set of parameters that will lead an EDR to be selected for audit. Can you provide those ranges to us in advance?

Answer 4. Once EDRs are submitted to PSMFC and data entered, NMFS conducts a statistical review to determine outliers which may trigger a non-random audit. It is impossible to know what the range, parameters or variables will be before the data is analyzed.

Question 5. Travel costs are to be accumulated and submitted for reimbursement per the RFP. Should our estimate of travel costs be included in our proposal, or will such costs be billed and paid outside of the proposed fee? If such costs are to be included, please advise us of the locations where we might be travelling to and the length of the visit.

Answer 5. This proposal is similar in nature to the Crab Rationalization EDR which has conducted data verification audits for the past 3 years. In that time, supporting documentation from submitters was sent via fax or mail and the audits were conducted without site visits. If the proposal includes site visits, assume all visits will be within Seattle city limits. Out of pocket expenses for travel to Portland and/or Seattle to meet

with Commission and NMFS personnel should be billed separately based upon actual costs incurred, and not included in the proposal.

Question 6. Please clarify the fisheries that are subject to Amendment 80 Economic Data Reporting. Will catch totals reported on the EDR include “by-catch” or incidental catch totals from other fisheries such as the Pollock or Salmon fisheries?

Answer 6. 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. Catch totals are not included in the EDR for Amendment-80 species or non-Amendment-80 species.