

July 15, 2010

Professor Tony J. Pitcher
Peter Wall Institute of Advanced Studies
6331 Crescent Road
Vancouver, BC, Canada, V6T 1Z2

Dear Dr. Pitcher,

Please find attached a manuscript titled “*Assessing the knowledge-base for commercially exploited marine fishes and invertebrates with a new global database of stock assessments*”, that we wish to submit for review to Fish and Fisheries.

This work is the first global compilation of stock assessment data since the pioneering work of our late colleague Ransom A. Myers in the 1990s and we believe that it will make an important contribution to fisheries research. We are committed to making the database used for the analyses available to other practitioners and feel that Fish and Fisheries is the best journal to reach our intended audience of fisheries scientists.

We would like to propose the following 3 reviewers for this manuscript:

1. **Dr. Rainer Froese** - Leibniz Institute of Marine Sciences, Düsternbrooker Weg 20, 24105 Kiel, Germany - Phone: +49 (431) 600 4579, Fax: +49 (431) 600 1699 - Email: rfroese@ifm-geomar.de
2. **Dr. Keith Sainsbury** - Division of Marine Research, CSIRO GPO Box 1538, Hobart, Tasmania 7001, Australia - Phone: +61 3 6232 5369, Fax: +61 3 6232 5199 - Email: Keith.Sainsbury@csiro.au
3. **Dr. Randall Peterman** - School of Resource and Environmental Management, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada V5A 1S6 - Phone: (778) 782-4683, Fax: (778) 782-4968 - Email: peterman@sfu.ca

These individuals conduct research in themes related to the global status of fish stocks and have not been associated with the present work. Dr. Froese provided us with a detailed taxonomic list of fish species from FishBase but was otherwise not involved in any of the analyses. The material contained in the submitted manuscript is original and has not been submitted to other journals.

We look forward to hearing from you regarding this manuscript submission.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ricard
(ricardd@mathstat.dal.ca)
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Dalhousie University
Halifax, NS, B3H 4J1
Canada

cc: C  il  n Minto, Marine and Freshwater Research Centre, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, Dublin Road, Galway, Ireland

cc: Olaf Jensen, Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University, USA

cc: Julia Baum, National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, University of California in Santa Barbara, USA