

Action Memo

File Number: BYC 14-003

Agenda Date2/3/2014

Agenda Number:D-3

Eric Olson, Chairman Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Chinook Salmon Economic Data Report from AFSC

ESTIMATED TIME: 2 hours

ACTION REQUIRED: Review report, action as necessary

BACKGROUND

This report provides an update the Council on the status of the Amendment 91 Chinook Salmon Economic Data Report (EDR) program and related data collection measures implemented in relation to Amendment 91 to the BSAI Groundfish FMP. The Amendment 91 EDR program is managed primarily by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC), with support from NMFS Alaska Region, and is administered in collaboration with Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). The EDR is a mandatory reporting requirement under 50 CFR 679.65 for all entities participating in the American Fisheries Act (AFA) BSAI pollock trawl fishery, including vessel masters and businesses that own or lease^{*} one or more AFA-permitted vessels active in fishing or processing BSAI pollock, CDQ groups receiving allocations of BSAI pollock, and representatives of Sector entities receiving allocations of Chinook salmon prohibited species catch (PSC) from NMFS.

- A review of the Council's objectives and process for the development and implementation of this data collection;

- Summary of details regarding the administration of the 2012 Chinook EDR data;

- A summary of empirical results from the 2012 Amendment 91 data collection;

- A report on ongoing collaborative efforts between industry members and NMFS and Council staff to implement the EDR program, minimize EDR submitter burden, and ensure data quality standards and that the Council's stated objectives for the data collection program are met; and

- A discussion of the benefits and challenges of the data collection during 2012 and 2013.

AFSC staff will be available to provide a presentation of the report.

* For the sake of clearer exposition, "vessel owners or leaseholders" as a group are referred to collectively as "vessel owners" hereafter in this report, except where a relevant distinction pertains.