

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

605 W. 4th Ave. Suite 306 Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 271-2809 Fax (907) 271-2817

Action Memo

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Dan Hull, Chairman Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:

EFH 5-year Review update (SSC only)

ACTION REQUIRED:

Review and comment on plans for EFH 5-year update.

BACKGROUND:

The National Marine Fisheries Service and NPFMC have initiated a 5-year review of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) in Alaska in accordance with the EFH guidelines. The last 5-year review was completed in 2010. In April 2014, the Council was presented with a proposed approach to undertake the 2015 EFH 5-year review, evaluate and synthesize new information on habitat, and determine whether changes to the FMPs are warranted. The approach identified three primary areas of particular focus: the EFH description methods, the fishing effects model, and non-fishing effects. At this meeting, staff will present initial work results to the SSC.