MEMORANDUM

TO:

Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM:

Chris Oliver

Executive Director

DATE:

March 25, 2013

SUBJECT:

Staff Tasking

ACTION REQUIRED

Review tasking and committees and provide direction.

BACKGROUND

Committees and Tasking

The list of Council committees is attached as <u>Item D-2(a)</u>. <u>Item D-2(b)</u> is the three meeting outlook and <u>Item D-2(c)</u> provides a review of the items in the "on-deck circle" from the 3-meeting outlook. An updated work plan for implementing the programmatic groundfish management policy is attached as <u>Item D-2(d)</u>. An updated project and staff workload table is attached as <u>Item D-2(e)</u>. The Council may wish to discuss priorities for completing ongoing projects, as well as any new tasks assigned during the course of this meeting.

In February 2013, the Council asked the Ecosystem Committee to receive a briefing from ADFG staff involved in the permitting process for Norton Sound gold mining operations, and then consider whether any alteration is needed to the Committee's February recommendations with respect to the Council's potential involvement in EFH consultation on this issue. The Committee met by teleconference on March 19, and following discussion with the ADFG area manager in Nome, reaffirmed its February recommendations with respect to this issue, as reflected in the attached minutes (attached as Item D-2(f)). The Committee also discussed ecosystem-based management planning, with respect to the Council's task to the Committee to develop a draft workplan of next steps for moving forward with ecosystem issues, targeted for October. The Committee laid out tasking for the next couple of Committee meetings, to meet this goal.

Also attached are comment letters regarding staff tasking issues.

ESTIMATED TIME 4 HOURS