

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Clarence G. Pautzke  
Executive Director



ESTIMATED TIME 1 HOUR
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DATE: January 31, 1997

SUBJECT: Staff Tasking

**ACTION REQUIRED**

Review status of current tasking and provide direction as necessary.

**BACKGROUND**

At the December 1996 meeting this was a major agenda item and the Council engaged in a lengthy discussion of current tasking, 1996 groundfish proposals, Magnuson-Stevens Act provisions, and major issues/analyses on the horizon. The attached Item D-3(a) is a revised summary of Council tasking which incorporates Council direction from that meeting.

**STATUS OF COUNCIL TASKING**

February 3, 1997

	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>	<b><u>TASKING</u></b>
<b>REPORTS:</b>			
1	Research Priorities	Review in February 1997	Council/Center/Region
2	Ecosystem Considerations	Report in Feb 1997	Council
3	Pollock "B" Season Change	Discuss in February 1997	Council/Region
4	Generic Bycatch Measures	Discuss in June 1997	Council
5	GOA Management Area Boundaries	Discuss in June 1997	Council/Region/Center
6	Gear Storage Areas/Gear Conflicts	Report in June 97	Region/ADF&G
7	Western GOA pollock deliveries by vessel size classes	Report in April 1997	Council
8	Board of Fish Groundfish/Crab Issues	Meet/discuss in Feb 1997	Council
9	Halibut Subsistence Program	Report in February 1997	Council/NMFS/IPHC
<b>MAGNUSON-STEVENS ACT REQUIREMENTS:</b>			
1	IFQ/CDQ Fee Program & NAS Studies	Report in February 1997	Council/Region
2	Central Lien Registry	Report in February 1997	RAM
3	Vessel Buyback Program	Report in April 1997	Council/Industry
3	Essential Fish Habitat Guidelines	Review in February 1997	Region/Council/Center
<b>REGULATORY AMENDMENTS:</b>			
1	Halibut Charter Management	Initial analysis in Feb 1997	Council
2	Seamount Restrictions	Final Rule pending	Region
3	'C' Season for fixed gear cod	Developing Proposed Rule	Region

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>TASKING</u>
4	Directed Fishing Standards adjustments	Review in April 1997	Region
5	Electronic Reporting Requirements (a) Observer data  (b) General reporting	(a) Final rule on Dec 2 Effective July 1, 1997 (b) Final action in Dec 1996 PR in preparation	Council/Region
6	"Slime and Ice" Accounting	Final action in Dec 1996 PR in preparation	Region
7	IFQ Program Amendments	Initial Review in April 1997	Region/Council
8	Reduce MRB for sablefish in GOA	PR on Jan 6, 1997; Comments due by Feb 5	Region
9	Seabird avoidance regulations	PR in preparation	Region
<b>PLAN AMENDMENTS:</b>			
1	Halibut/Sablefish IFQ Sweep-up	Final Rule pending	Council/Region
2	BSAI Halibut Ownership Caps	Proposed Rule on Dec 2 Comments by Jan 2, 1997	Council
3	Comp. Rationalization Plan (a) License Limitation/CDQ (PSC trading) (b) IFQ Program for BSAI pollock (c) IBQs/VBAs	(a) PR in preparation (b) Discussion in Feb 1997 (c) Discussion in Feb 1997	Council Council Council/Center/Region
4	Scallop FMP/future amendments	Discuss in September 1997	Region/Council/ADFG
5	Total Weight Measurement in Groundfish Fisheries (a) Scale certification (b) Application to at-sea processors (non-CDQ)	(a) PR pending (b) PR in preparation	Region/Council
6	Demersal Shelf Rockfish License Limitation Program	Initial Review in April 97	ADFG
7	Amend Overfishing Definitions	Approved by SOC Effective Jan 9	Center/Council/Region
8	Forage Fish Prohibition	Final action in April 1997	Region

	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>	<b><u>TASKING</u></b>
9	Crab PSC Cap Analysis (a) bairdi (Am 41)  (b) opilio (Am 40)	(a) PR on Dec 2 Comments by Jan 30 (b) Action in Dec 1996 PR in preparation	Council/ADFG/Center
10	Halibut Area 4 Catch Sharing Plan	Discuss in February 1997	Council/IPHC/Region
11	BSAI Improved Retention/ Utilization	Final Action in Sept 1996 PR in preparation	Region/Council/Center
12	GOA Improved Retention/ Utilization	Report in Dec 1996 Initial Review April '96	Center/Region/Council
13	Groundfish Plan Update	In progress. Initial review in spring 1997	Council/Region
14	Limited Processing for Catcher Vessels	Discuss in September 1997	Center/Region/Council
15	Pelagic Shelf Rockfish (a) dusky/ black rockfish separation (b) Mgmt authority to State	(a) Final action in Dec 96  (b) Review in April 1997	Council/Center/Region  Council/Region/ADFG
16	Streamline Specs Process & FMP Updates	Review in Sept 1997	Council/Region
17	2% Jig Allocation for BSAI Atka mackerel	Initial review in April 97	NMFS/Council
18	Inshore/Offshore & Pollock CDQ Program	Discuss in April 1997	Council
19	Modified Observer Program	Review alternatives in April 1997	Region/Council/OAC

**OTHER ACTIONS:**

1	April 24, 1994 Scallop Control Date	Published on June 15, 1994	Region
2	Halibut Charter Control Date	Never published in F.R.	Region
3	Skipper License Reporting Program	Report in April 1997	Council/Region

**COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

1	Observer Advisory Committee	Meet in Spring 1997	
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**ACTION**

**STATUS**

**TASKING**

2	Ecosystem Committee	Discuss in February 1997
3	Crab Rebuilding Committee	Meet as necessary
4	IR/TU Committee	Meet as necessary
5	Enforcement Committee	Meet as necessary