## MEMORANDUM

TO:

Council, SSC, and AP Members

FROM:

Jim H. Branson

Executive Director

DATE:

November 27, /1981

SUBJECT: Free Port Status for the Foreign Fisheries

## ACTION REQUIRED

Informational unless the Council is asked to give a recommendation on a specific Alaskan port.

## BACKGROUND

At the late September Council meeting, John Schmeidtke of Nordstern, A.G., asked the Council to support a free port in Alaska for foreign vessels to offload their catches for further transshipment.

Chris Dawson of the State Department will be prepared to discuss the general procedures for designating free ports. A key requirement is the identification of a specific port to be opened so that port security and other sensitive issues may be evaluated at higher levels in the Department of State.

CP