


MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Chris Oliver 
Executive Director

DATE: March 26, 2013

SUBJECT: Update on BiOp Analytical Methods (SSC ONLY)

ESTIMATED TIME 16 HOURS (All C-3 a, b, c items)

ACTION REQUIRED

(b) Review analytical methods proposed for evaluating proposed SSL mitigation measures in upcoming BiOp

BACKGROUND

On March 8, 2013 NMFS released a preliminary draft of the Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures for Groundfish Fisheries in the BSAI Management Area EIS. The Preliminary Draft EIS was available for download from the Council website, and electronic copies on USB drives were sent to those who requested them.

Any proposed action that is different from status quo will require consultation under Section 7 of the U.S. ESA, and preparation of a new Biological Opinion. Ms. Brandee Gerke, NMFS AKR Protected Resources Division will present the proposed analytical methods for the new Biological Opinion to the SSC for review.