MEMORANDUM

TO:

Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM:

Chris Oliver to

Executive Director

DATE:

September 29, 2009

SUBJECT:

Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands crab issues

ESTIMATED TIME
10 HOURS
(all C-4 items)

ACTION REQUIRED

(a) Identify preliminary preferred alternative for exemption from regional delivery requirement

BACKGROUND

At its June 2009 meeting, the Council received a staff report summarizing the status of an analysis of alternatives for providing an exemption to regional landing requirements in the event that compliance with those requirements is prevented by unavoidable circumstances. The exemption is intended to address safety risks, potential loss of resource (through excessive deadloss), and extreme economic hardships that may arise if deliveries under regional landing requirements applicable to Class A individual fishing quota (IFQ) are delayed or prevented by extreme ice conditions or other uncontrollable circumstances. To avoid potentially insurmountable administrative burdens, the alternatives would establish a system of civil contracts between harvesters, processors, and regional representatives, as the means of defining the exemption. The Council received an analysis of alternatives at its February 2009 meeting. At that time, the Council requested stakeholders to propose revisions to alternatives to address concerns raised in public testimony. At this meeting, stakeholders had preliminary suggestions concerning possible revisions, but failed to reach any consensus concerning changes to the alternatives. As a result, the Council took no action on this matter, but strongly urged stakeholders to exercise their collective best efforts to arrive at a consensus recommendation for a preliminary preferred alternative prior to this meeting. Industry will present a report of its progress to date.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item:

(A-D)

1 Joe Sullivan, State other, ICEPAC, NPCA, St. Pa 2 Heather Mc Carty, Evert APREDA, Dutch Harbor 3 Anderson, F 4 Kort MESTANLEY GOLDEN KING (MR HMVET) 6 LAMMY COTTON APICNA / Ax Am Con 17 Dick Tice want NSEDC 8 DANE FRASEN ADAK COMM. DEV. COND. 9 Steve Minor NPCA 10 S. Parivs Kaspirah Cu. B Flynolka Try Kaherva 11 Frank Kotty & Kathing McGird and Try Colleged and thes 12 Mateo Par Soldan Cu-B Apaul Island entities 13 14 15 16	ns A
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NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.