


MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Chris Oliver 
Executive Director

DATE: September 29, 2010

SUBJECT: GOA Tanner Crab Bycatch

ESTIMATED TIME 6 HOURS

ACTION REQUIRED

Final action to close areas to minimize bycatch of Tanner crabs

BACKGROUND

In October 2009, the Council initiated an analysis to evaluate proposed area closures for the groundfish fishery to protect Tanner crab. There are four areas proposed for closure, all on the western side of Kodiak Island. Included in the alternatives are options to apply the closures year round or seasonally, and to trawl or pot gears. Additionally, some vessels may be exempted from the area closures if they meet specific conditions such as using approved gear modifications, or an increased observer coverage requirement.

The public review draft analysis was mailed to the Council in early September. The executive summary has been slightly revised, and is attached as Item C-5(1) (one change from mailing version, marked on page iv).