MEMORANDUM

TO:

Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM:

Chris Oliver

Executive Director

DATE:

March 27, 2006

SUBJECT:

Crab Management

ACTION REQUIRED

Crab Overfishing Definitions update (SSC only)

BACKGROUND

Progress continues on refining alternative overfishing definitions for the BSAI crab stocks. An interagency working group has been providing updates to the SSC on a periodic basis to solicit their advice on the direction of the analysis. At their last report in October 2005, the SSC suggested that a workshop be convened to assist the workgroup in moving forward in their analysis. An inter-agency workshop was convened in Seattle, February 28-March 1st to provide input to the working group on specific aspects of the analysis. A CIE review is scheduled for late April to review the draft analysis of revised overfishing definitions. The analysis as well as results of the CIE review will be presented to the Crab Plan Team at their May 16-18 meeting in Seattle. A preliminary review of the analysis by the SSC is scheduled for June 2006.

ESTIMATED TIME 1 HOUR