

---

# E STAFF TASKING

DIANA EVANS, OCTOBER 2024



# COMPONENTS OF AGENDA ITEM

1. Committee and Upcoming Meetings
2. Staff tasking memo
3. Preliminary December and February agendas
4. Optimizing SSC agenda time
5. Chum and Programmatic engagement feedback



# UPCOMING MEETINGS

Advisory Group	Dates/Location	Draft agenda topics (may change)
Charter Halibut Management Committee	October 25, 2024 Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive final 2023 harvest estimates / preliminary harvest estimates for 2024</li> <li>• Recommend charter management measures for analysis</li> </ul>
BSAI Crab Plan Team	early Nov 2024 (T) Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSRKC harvest specifications</li> </ul>
Bering Sea FEP Climate Change Taskforce (CCTF)	Nov 6-7, 2024 Juneau, AK / virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recap workshop, workplan, process, progress, and outcomes</li> <li>• Develop recommendations for moving forward and for a Council climate workplan</li> <li>• Draft a final report</li> </ul>
Joint BSAI/GOA Groundfish Plan Teams	Nov 12-15, 2024 Seattle, WA / virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review Ecosystem Status Reports (ESRs)</li> <li>• Stock assessment review and final specifications for groundfish</li> </ul>
IFQ Committee	end Nov/Dec 2024 (T) Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review IFQ Program Review Report</li> <li>• Develop Terms of Reference</li> </ul>
Charter Halibut Mgmt Committee	Dec 3, 2024 (T) Anch., AK / virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend 2025 charter management measures</li> </ul>
BSAI Crab Plan Team Modeling Workshop	Jan 14-16, 2025 Anchorage, AK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tools for constructing model-based indices of survey data</li> <li>• GMACS coding updates, model developments, and simulations</li> </ul>

\*\* Also Recreation Fishery Fisheries Roundtable – December 3, 2024 (T), *Monday of Dec Council meeting*

# STAFF TASKING MEMO

- Reminder: AP and SSC nominations for 2025 due by 10/31
- Normal tasking documents posted
  - 3 meeting outlook
  - Council staff - who does what
  - Groundfish workplan
  - Preliminary December and February agendas
- Description of projects in the 'items not yet scheduled' section of the 3 meeting outlook



# DECEMBER 2024 AND FEB 2025 MEETINGS

- **Preliminary** Dec and Feb 2025 schedules posted under Council's E Staff Tasking agenda – subject to change
- **Dec: AP scheduled for Tuesday through Fri**
  - Groundfish and NSRKC harvest specifications & charter halibut measures
  - Other actions:
    - *Crab C shares discussion paper*
    - *Program Reviews: IFQ, Amendment 80*
    - *BSFEP Climate Change Taskforce final report*
- **Feb Special Meeting: AP scheduled for Tues through Fri**
  - 2 issues – Chum salmon bycatch, Cook Inlet salmon specs



# OPTIMIZING SSC AGENDA TIME

- SSC has ~15 days of agenda time per year; can't keep adding meetings
- Increasingly, insufficient agenda time for the SSC to take up all the issues it would normally review
  - Trend is unlikely to change, esp as proposed legislation increases SSC tasks
- SSC/Council leadership have been working on other solutions
- But need to set expectation that SSC will not be able to review everything
  - Include all when possible
- Intent is to provide transparency about how those decisions are made
  - Opportunity for feedback



## TYPES OF SSC AGENDA ITEMS (1/2)

- a) all harvest specifications and related documents (SAFE reports, Plan Team reports, ESRs, Econ SAFE and ACEPO, spatial management policy analyses) – **HIGHEST PRIORITY**
- b) initial review management analyses (peer review to ensure that the best scientific information is available for the Council to make its policy decisions) – **CASE BY CASE**
- c) LAPP reviews and other retrospective reports of Council actions – **ONLY WHEN debuting LAPP reviews for new programs or using a new format**
- d) ecosystem and climate reports (FEP team and taskforce reports and products, climate/IRA work) – **PRIORITY, AS POSSIBLE**



## TYPES OF SSC AGENDA ITEMS (2/2)

- e) research priorities and other data collection-related items (e.g., survey changes, ADP, EDR changes, SSPT reports) – **PRIORITY**
- f) Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) applications and sometimes final reports – **CASE BY CASE**
- g) national or regional guidance with a scientific component that affects Council management (e.g. National Standard guidelines, Regional Climate Action Plans) – **PRIORITY/ CASE BY CASE**
- h) scientific presentations or workshops that are informational but important learning for SSC members to provide better advice to the Council in future (e.g., annual SSC workshop; marine mammal status updates) – **CASE BY CASE**
- i) anything else that the Council requests the SSC to review (e.g., crab conservation plan). – **HIGH PRIORITY**

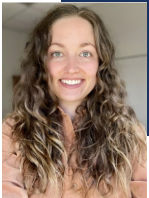




---

# Chum Salmon Bycatch Outreach and Engagement Considerations

KATE HAAPALA, OCTOBER 2024



# REMINDER – RELATED COUNCIL ACTIONS IN APRIL 2024

## Chum Salmon Bycatch >>

- Council modified management alternatives
- Requested additional analysis
- Next review is scheduled for February 2025

## Programmatic Evaluation (II)

- Council received a presentation on engagement planning
- Expressed interest in two-way engagement on the PEIS
- Supported delaying formal scoping *until after the next initial review of the chum salmon bycatch DEIS*

### *Current status*

- Agency held 2 preliminary engagement sessions in April, May
- Relevant comments at Council climate workshop in June
- Next step tentatively scheduled for April 2025, formal scoping to follow



# PRUPOSE OF THE DISCUSSION PAPER

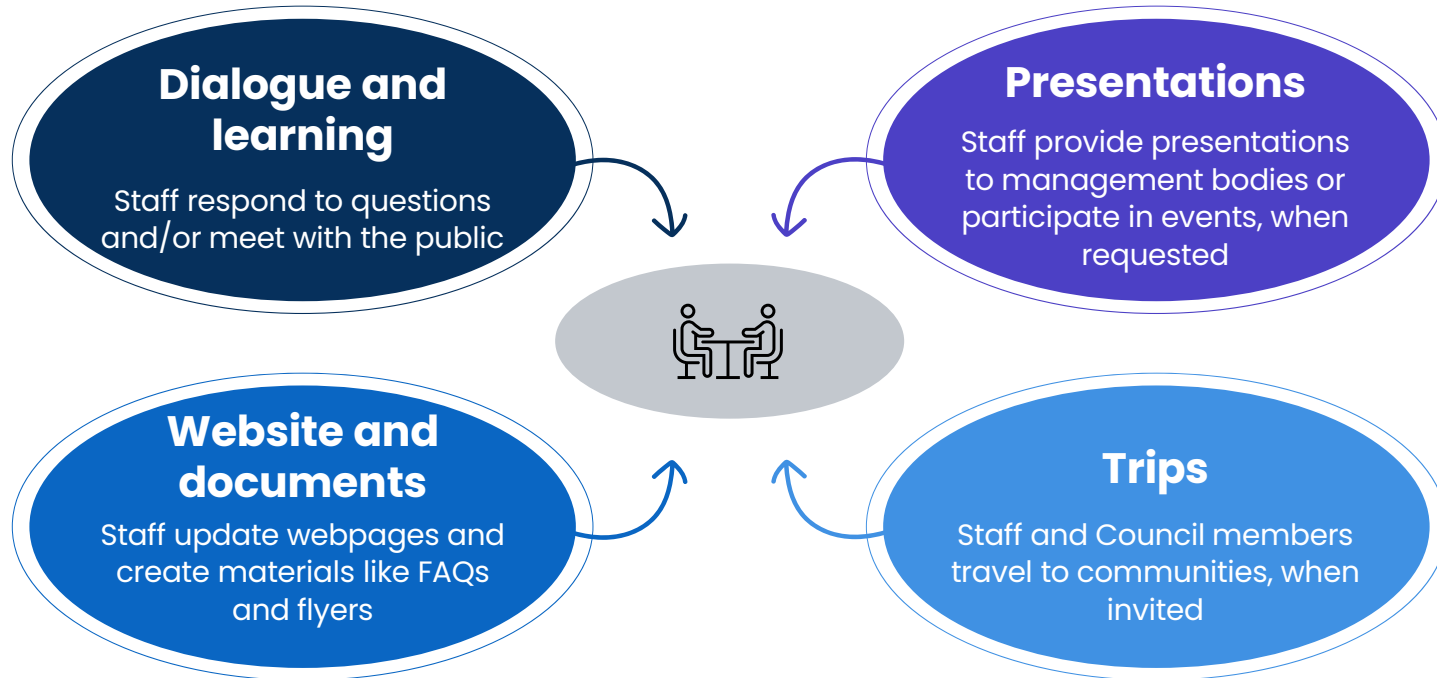
- Staff are looking for input from the Council
- Provides a means of public input and discussion
- Transparency on staff's plan for near-term engagement
- Council may provide direction, but no action is required



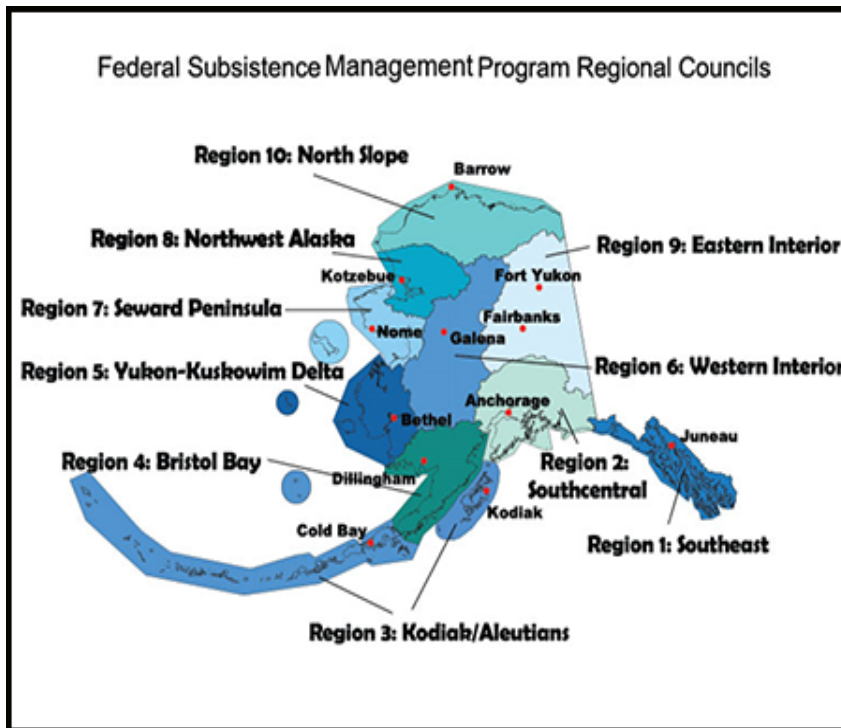
# DIFFERENT TYPES OF OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Informal

Formal



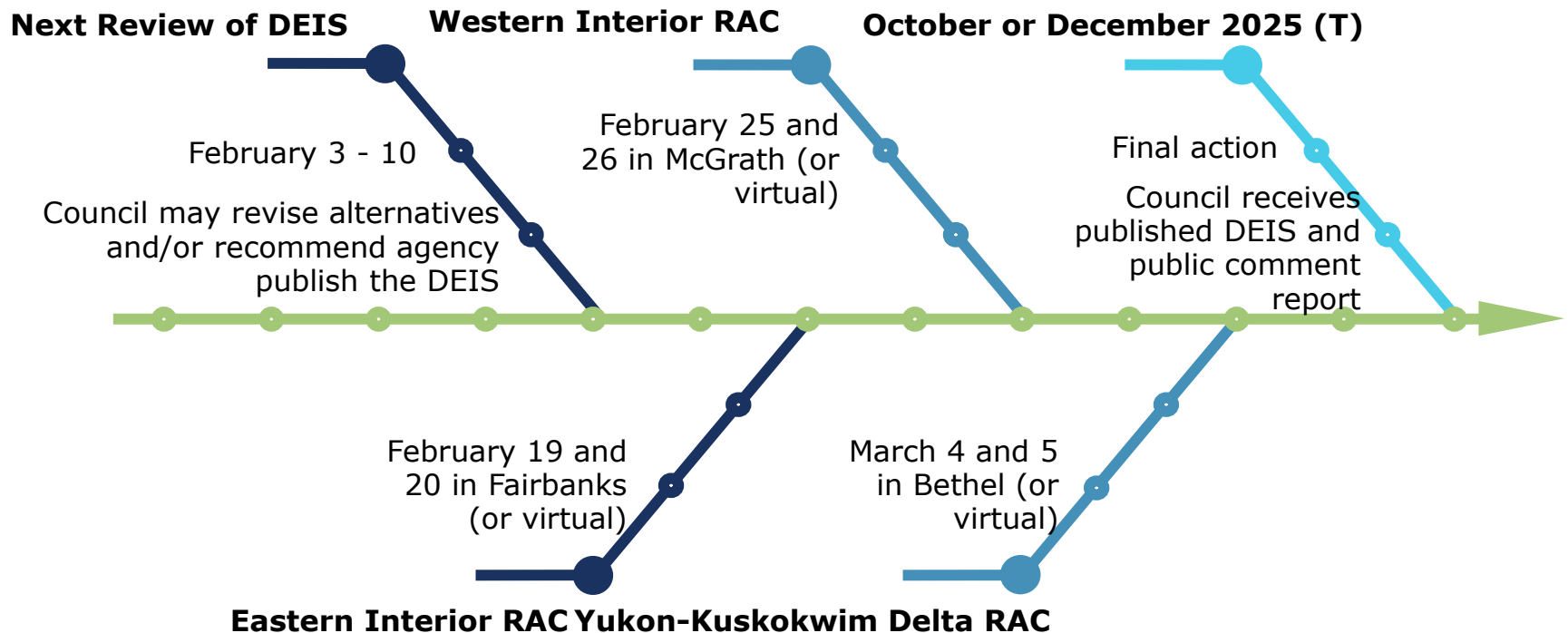
# STAFF RECOMMENDATION: RAC MEETINGS



- Regional Subsistence Advisory Councils (RACs)
- Prior experience with Amendment 91
  - Council and staff shared alternatives, impact analysis to-date, answered technical questions, and listened to input from RACs and residents
- Does not inherently limit the Council from considering other options and invitations



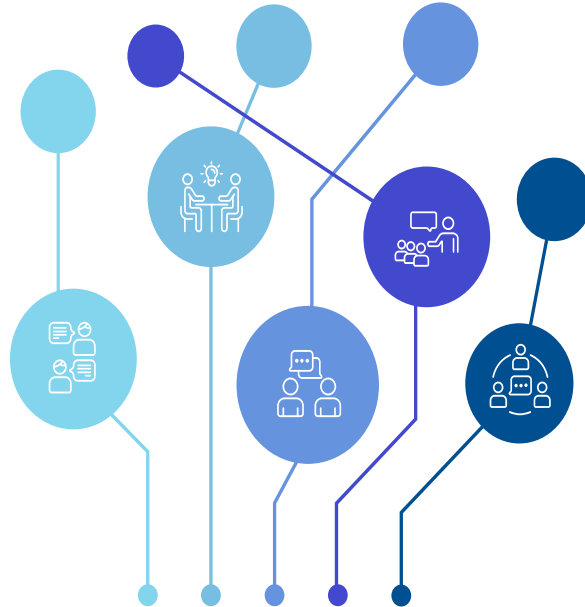
# STAFF RECOMMENDATION: WINTER 2025 RAC MEETINGS



# TRADEOFFS OF USING THE RACS AS A FORUM

## PROS

- Existing relationships
- Familiarity with issue
- Established venues, dates, and locations



## CONS

- Schedule leaves little flexibility
- Not Tribal governments
- Analytical tradeoffs



## NEXT STEPS AND POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

***Any outreach and engagement effort must be balanced with staff analytical workloads and funding constraints***

- With additional input, staff would contact RAC coordinators about interest and scheduling
- The AP may recommend an approach on how to move forward to the Council
  - Not pursue formal outreach and engagement at this time, unless formally invited
  - Consider the Winter 2025 RAC meetings
  - Some other venue or approach





# QUESTIONS?

NO AP ACTION REQUIRED

Recap of potential AP discussion items:

- Chum and/or Programmatic engagement opportunities
- Optimizing SSC agenda time
- Future scheduling/timing
- New tasking

DIANA EVANS

[DIANA.EVANS@NOAA.GOV](mailto:DIANA.EVANS@NOAA.GOV)

KATE HAAPALA

[KATE.HAAPALA@NOAA.GOV](mailto:KATE.HAAPALA@NOAA.GOV)

*Council analytical staff experts  
also available for questions*

*Feedback always appreciated.  
Email [npfmc.admin@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.admin@noaa.gov)*