



# D1 Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Protocol and Onramps

October 2023 Council Meeting

## Action Memo

Council Staff: Dr. Kate Haapala  
Other Presenters: Dr. Sarah Wise (AFSC)  
Action Required: 1. Review final Local Knowledge, Traditional Knowledge, and Subsistence Protocol and onramp recommendations - take action as necessary  
2. Receive the June 2023 Taskforce meeting report

## BACKGROUND

Under this agenda item, the Council will review the final Local Knowledge (LK), Traditional Knowledge (TK), and Subsistence (collectively LKTKS) Protocol and related onramp recommendations developed by the LKTKS Taskforce under the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan. The LKTKS Protocol provides guidance and best practices for identifying, analyzing, and incorporating LK, TK, and subsistence information into the Council's decision-making process. The onramps are recommendations for the Council to consider changes to its current decision-making process to better incorporate these knowledge systems. The Council will also receive a presentation on the LKTKS Taskforce's June 2023 meeting, at which the Taskforce reviewed the input it received from the Council, its advisory bodies, analytical staff, and public comments from the 50-day extended review period.

**The Council is scheduled to take final action** on the LKTKS Protocol and onramp recommendations. In October, the Council could:

- a) **Take no action** – the LKTKS Protocol would not be adopted, and work on the onramp recommendations would not be initiated.
- b) **Adopt the LKTKS Protocol** – the Protocol would be implemented as a guidance document informing the Council's decision-making process.
- c) **Initiate work on any one or multiple onramp recommendations** – Council staff would begin work in response to initiated onramps.
- d) **Provide direction on future work** – if the Council adopts the LKTKS Protocol or initiates work on the onramp recommendations, it may also wish to consider whether to provide input on prior Taskforce recommendations (e.g., whether the Taskforce should disband, whether to initiate a 5-year periodic review of this work, among other things).

The Council is not required to adopt the LKTKS Protocol and initiate work on the onramp recommendations, and these materials may be considered separately. However, in preparing the LKTKS Protocol and onramp recommendations, the LKTKS Taskforce intended that these materials would be considered in conjunction. Together, the LKTKS Protocol and onramp recommendations provide the full suite of information for the Council to achieve its goals of better identifying, analyzing, and incorporating LK, TK, and subsistence information into its decision-making process.