

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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AGENDA

Ecosystem Committee

February 6, 2017 - Seattle, WA

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Ecosystem Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at the Renaissance Hotel in Seattle WA. The meeting will take place from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Teleconference will be available.

- I. Early review of Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) 4 hours

The Bering Sea FEP Team co-chairmen, Diana Evans (Council staff) and Dr. Kerim Aydin (NMFS) will lead a presentation and discussion of the preliminary draft of the Bering Sea FEP core document, which is being prepared for the Council's review in April 2018. Feedback from the committee will be incorporated into the draft document for the Council.

- II. Process to facilitate ecosystem input from Bering Sea communities 2.0 hours

At the October 2017 Council meeting, the Council directed the ecosystem committee to discuss ways for Bering Sea communities to provide input to the Council with ecosystem issues and concerns. At this meeting, the committee will begin scoping how to structure that process, through the FEP or other vehicles. The committee will consider ways to identify potentially affected communities and consider forums for those communities to provide ecosystem information. Public input (written or verbal) on effective mechanisms for the Council to solicit that information is appreciated.

- III. Report on plans to update the Northern Fur Seal Conservation Plan 0.5 hour

Mr. Jon Kurland (NMFS) will provide a brief update on the Conservation Plan for the Eastern Pacific Stock of the Northern Fur Seal. A full report from the co-management meetings on St. Paul and St. George, and agency plans to update the Conservation Plan will be provided at a later committee meeting.

- IV. Arctic exploratory fisheries discussion paper 1.5 hours

Steve MacLean (Council staff) will present a discussion paper summarizing how other regional fishery management organizations (RFMOs) define and address exploratory fisheries. The committee may make recommendations to the Council for consideration in a future action to amend the Arctic Fishery Management Plan (FMP) to define criteria related to exploratory fisheries.

Total 8 hours