

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members
FROM: Chris Oliver *DO for*
Executive Director
DATE: September 19, 2011
SUBJECT: Staff Tasking

ESTIMATED TIME 4 HOURS

ACTION REQUIRED

Review Rural Outreach Committee report; action as necessary.
Review tasking and committees and provide direction.

BACKGROUND

Rural Outreach Committee

The Rural Community Outreach Committee (committee) was appointed by the Council in June 2009. The primary purposes of the committee are: 1) to advise the Council on how to provide opportunities for better understanding and participation from Alaska Native and rural communities; 2) to provide feedback on community impacts sections of specific analyses; and 3) to provide recommendations regarding which proposed Council actions need a specific outreach plan and prioritize multiple actions when necessary. The committee has convened four times since it was established.

The committee met on September 13, in Anchorage, in order to receive updates from staff on general outreach efforts; receive an update on NMFS' progress on improving the tribal consultation process; and discuss several topics that may continue to improve outreach and communications with rural Alaskans. The committee was also tasked by the Council with reviewing the Bering Sea chum salmon bycatch outreach efforts and analytical schedule to-date, and discussing whether or what further outreach is necessary on this issue. (Note that both the Bering Sea chum salmon bycatch outreach plan and outreach report are posted on the Council website.) The committee also reviewed other ongoing and potential new projects that may warrant a targeted outreach effort.

The committee agenda is attached as **Item D-2(a)**, and the report will be handed out at the Council meeting. At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to review the Rural Community Outreach Committee report from September 13, and take action as necessary. Note also that Tim Andrew, of the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), has replaced Jennifer Hooper (also from AVCP) on the committee.

Committees and Tasking

The list of Council committees is attached as **Item D-2(b)**. An updated work plan for implementing the programmatic groundfish management policy is attached as **Item D-2(c)**. **Item D-2(d)** is the three meeting outlook and **Item D-2(e)** provides a summary of current projects and tasking. The Council may wish to discuss priorities for completing ongoing projects, as well as any new tasks assigned during the course of this meeting.