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January 28, 2022

February 2022 Council Meeting - Agenda B3 - NOAA General Counsel's Report

Briefing Schedule Set in Litigation Challenging Amendment 14 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Salmon Fisheries in the EEZ Off Alaska (Salmon FMP)

The U.S. District Court for Alaska consolidated the two cases challenging Amendment 14 to the Salmon FMP – <u>Humbyrd v. Raimondo</u>, No. 3:21-cv-00247-JMK (D. Alaska), and <u>United Cook Inlet Drift Ass'n v. Nat'l Marine Fisheries Serv.</u>, No. 3:21-cv-00255-JMK (D. Alaska). The State of Alaska had moved to intervene in <u>United Cook Inlet Drift Association</u> and, on the same day that the Court consolidated the cases, the Court granted the State's motion. Finally, the Court established the following expedited schedule:

Plaintiffs' opening briefs are due on February 7, 2022; Defendants' and intervenor-Defendant's answering briefs are due on March 9, 2022; Plaintiffs' reply briefs are due on March 23, 2022; Oral argument is scheduled for April 15, 2022; and The Court intends to issue its decision no later than June 20, 2022.

