MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Chris Oliver
Executive Director

DATE: January 25, 2013

SUBJECT: AFA Vessel Replacement GOA sideboards

ACTION REQUIRED

Initial review of AFA vessel replacement GOA sideboards

BACKGROUND

On October 12, 2010, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 was signed into law. Section 602 of the Coast Guard Act addresses the replacement and removal of vessels eligible to participate in the Bering Sea pollock fishery under the American Fisheries Act (AFA). An analysis was prepared and presented at the October 2012 Council meeting to clarify AFA vessel replacement provisions of the Coast Guard Act and to prevent AFA vessels that are replaced or rebuilt from increasing fishing effort beyond historical catch levels in the Gulf of Alaska. At that meeting, the Council requested the analysis be revised per SSC comments and brought back to the Council for initial review. The updated initial review was mailed to you on January 22. The executive summary of the analysis, which includes the full suite of alternatives and options, is attached as Item C-2(d)(1).