

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members
FROM: Chris Oliver
Executive Director
DATE: March 15, 2011
SUBJECT: AFA Impacts on Bering Sea Cod Trawlers

ESTIMATED TIME 8 HOURS (all D-2 items)
--

ACTION REQUIRED

Receive discussion paper on AFA impacts on Bering Sea cod trawlers

BACKGROUND

At its December 2010 meeting, the Council tasked staff to prepare a discussion paper on the Bering Sea (BS) winter Pacific cod fishery to determine if participating American Fisheries Act (AFA) vessels are adversely impacting participating non-AFA trawl catcher vessels. The Council tasking originates from a request by the Independent Cod Trawlers Association, who claimed that implementation of the AFA caused increased competition on the BS winter Pacific cod grounds to the point of adversely impacting their traditional winter cod trawl fishery (letter attached as **Item D-2(d)(1)**). A discussion paper addressing this issue was prepared and is attached as **Item D-2(d)(2)**.