

E - Staff Tasking
Council Motion on Amending the Salmon FMP
October 11, 2022

The Council requests that staff develop an analysis for a new amendment to the Salmon FMP for initial review at the December 2022 Council meeting with the following purpose and need statement. Staff should update the previous final review draft considered by the Council in December 2020 to reflect recent events and identify possible variations on the alternatives analyzed in that document that meet the purpose and need. This action is necessary now to make timely progress and allow for NMFS to implement an FMP amendment before June 2024.

Purpose and Need

The Council intends to amend the Salmon FMP to manage salmon fishing in the Federal waters of upper Cook Inlet. Federal management must be consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, including the required provisions for an FMP specified in section 303(a). This proposed action is necessary to bring the Salmon FMP into compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act consistent with the 2016 Ninth Circuit decision and the recent summary judgment opinion of the Alaska District Court in *UCIDA et al. v. NMFS*.