

E Staff Tasking
Council Motion on Ecosystem Committee
June 16, 2021

The Council supports the EC recommendation for staff to finalize plans for ongoing briefings with northern fur seal co-managers and researchers and schedule them on an ecosystem committee calendar.

The Council requests that the EC receive an update in October 2021 from the Alaska Regional Office Protected Species Division on the status of the Conservation Plan for the Eastern Pacific Stock of Northern Fur Seal, including information from the co-managers on the Pribilof Islands.

The Council requests that staff reach out to organizations addressing marine debris in Alaska to develop an overview of activities for committee review and consider whether a Regional Action Plan for Alaska would be useful.

The Council suggests that the discussion paper requested by the Council in April 2021 to summarize whether Council regulatory actions meet the OECM could be delayed until other projects to address OECMs are understood.

The Council requests that the EC continue to track how important ecological areas identified by tribes and NGOs can contribute to the EO 14008 discussion, and whether additional management measures can strengthen their resilience to climate change.

The Council tasks staff with developing a report on the status of research initiatives taking place in the GOA and the timelines associated with those projects.

The Council tasks staff with developing a report on the state of scientific understanding of forage fish ecology, coastwide, the status of research initiatives on forage fish ecology, and the timelines associated with those projects.

The Council requests the Ecosystem Workshop steering group meet again soon to continue planning.