MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Clarence G. Pautzke
Executive Director

DATE: September 20, 1988

SUBJECT: Salmon Fishery Management Plan

ACTION REQUIRED

Review draft FMP and approve for public review.

BACKGROUND

NMFS and the Salmon Plan Team have prepared the updated draft of the Salmon FMP. The current draft incorporates necessary provisions of the Pacific Salmon Treaty which established the Pacific Salmon Commission and its authority to set harvest limits and management regimes for salmon along the coast of western North America. The draft FMP also illustrates the coordinated management between the Alaska Board of Fisheries, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the National Marine Fisheries Service, and incorporates habitat and vessel safety sections required by recent amendments to the Magnuson Act.

Management measures incorporated in the plan are frameworked to follow decisions made by the Pacific Salmon Commission and the State of Alaska. The Council still needs to consider, however, whether to extend the fishery management unit westward of 175°E because management in that area by the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission potentially could be withdrawn.

The environmental assessment/regulatory impact review (EA/RIR) has not yet been completed; however, because there is no major regulatory change contemplated in the amendment FMP, no substantive analysis will be required.

The Council may wish to approve release of the draft FMP and soon-to-be-completed EA/RIR for public review before the December Council meeting so that a final decision could be made then, or wait until December before requesting public comment.