



# NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

605 W. 4th Ave. Suite 306  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 271-2809  
Fax (907) 271-2817

## Action Memo

**File Number:**ID 15-071

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**Agenda Date**12/7/2015

**Agenda Number:**E1

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**Dan Hull, Chairman**  
**Chris Oliver, Executive Director**

**SUBJECT:**  
Staff Tasking

**STAFF CONTACT:** David Witherell

**ACTION REQUIRED:**  
Review tasking and committees and provide direction.

**BACKGROUND:**

### Committees and Tasking

Attached is the list of Council committees, the three meeting outlook, an updated work plan for implementing the programmatic groundfish management policy, an updated project and staff workload table, and an updated table of projects associated with the Observer Program. The Council may wish to discuss priorities for completing ongoing projects, as well as any new tasks assigned during the course of this meeting.

Chairman Hull recently made several appointments to fill vacancies on committees as follows:

- Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee - Dean Fasnacht was appointed to the PNCIAC to replace Chris Pugmire for the remainder of his term as a representative of the processing sector.
- Recreational Quota Entity Committee - Ricky Gease, executive director of Kenai River Sportfishing Association was appointed to fill the vacancy created by Andy Mezirow's appointment to the Council.
- Charter Implementation Committee - Mike Flores was appointed to fill the 3A seat vacated by Ed Dersham.
- Observer Advisory Committee -- Luke Szymanski from the observer provider for the partial coverage contract, A.I.S., has been appointed to a seat on the OAC.
- Bering Sea Crab Advisory Committee - A newsletter call for nominations to replace Frank Kelty received no nominations.

The Council will appoint AP and SSC members, and the names will be announced at the end of the meeting.

### Observer Tendering

The Council has previously initiated an analysis to address potential bias in observer data from vessels delivering to tenders, by requiring each delivery to a tender to constitute a separate fishing trip for purposes of

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observer coverage selection, and changing the regulations to allow observers to be deployed directly from tender vessels rather than only from port. The analysis is currently scheduled for initial review in April 2016. In beginning the analysis, staff has identified other options and alternatives that may meet the Council's purpose and need, including one that would not require a regulatory analysis to implement. Given that there is considerable complexity and staff time involved in developing and analyzing the details of this analysis, staff suggests that it may be efficient to ask the Council to provide feedback on the revised suite of alternatives before proceeding with the full analysis. Staff recommends bringing back the purpose and need statement, alternatives, and a short background discussion to give context to the proposed changes for review at the February 2016 Council meeting.