ALASKA GROUNDFISH FISHERIES

PROGRAMMATIC SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



PUBLIC COMMENT ANALYSIS REPORT AVAILABLE ON ALASKA GROUNDFISH FISHERIES 2003 DRAFT PSEIS

Project Newsletter No. 12 February 2004

On August 29, 2003, NOAA Fisheries released a revised Draft Alaska Groundfish Fisheries PSEIS for public review. The public comment period ended November 6, 2003. During the review period, NOAA Fisheries received 13,400 public comment letters. The project team reviewed each letter and the results of that review have been captured in the March 1, 2004 Draft Comment Analysis Report. This report serves as a synthesis and summary of all the public comments received on the 2003 draft PSEIS. The team has responded to these comments and they are included in the report. A number of comments resulted in revisions to the Draft PSEIS. These comments will result in a higher quality and more complete Final PSEIS when it is released later this year.

This document is available for public information only. It will be reviewed by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and NOAA Fisheries prior to the March 29-April 9, 2004 Council meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. During this meeting, the Council will make its final recommendation on a PSEIS preferred alternative. Following the meeting, the Comment Analysis Report and the PSEIS will be finalized. If you would like to read and print this document, you can find it on the NMFS Alaska Region website at http://www.fakr.noaa.gov. If you would like to receive a paper copy, please contact Steve Davis at (907) 271-3523. Paper copies will also be available at the Council meeting.