

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Ecosystem Committee

Tuesday, March 27, 2012 9-10am

By teleconference: (907) 271-2896, or

In person: Old Federal Building, 605 W 4th Ave
NPFMC conference room, Room 205,

DRAFT AGENDA

1. NMFS-Council EFH Consultation Process

- Council has asked for the Ecosystem Committee to comment on whether the Council should specify criteria for NMFS about when to involve the Council in EFH consultations from other agencies
- Jon Kurland has provided two letters to the Council (in November and January) reporting on the EFH consultation process, the second of which provides some suggested language for broad, flexible criteria:
 - The extent to which the activity would adversely affect EFH;
 - The extent to which the activity would adversely affect Habitat Areas of Particular Concern or other areas established by the Council to protect sensitive habitat features;
 - The extent to which the activity would be inconsistent with measures taken by the Council to minimize the potential adverse effects of fishing on EFH; and
 - The extent to which the activity would conflict with Council-managed fishing operations.
- The letters are available at <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/habitat/>.

2. Planning for Ecosystem Committee meeting on national and international ecosystem-based management best practices

- Short discussion of logistics and planning for proposed meeting