

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
E1 Staff Tasking – Arctic Exploratory Fishing
June 12, 2017

The Council moves to request that staff develop a discussion paper that reviews relevant international fishery agreements (North Pacific, North Atlantic, Antarctic, etc.) and provisions regarding exploratory fishing. The paper should identify how these agreements define exploratory fishing, lay out any management measures applied to exploratory fishing under each of these agreements, discuss any problem areas and challenges for management as well as successes, and describe any “best practices” or “lessons learned” that might be applied to the Central Arctic Ocean. The Council intends to amend the Arctic FMP to incorporate guidance on the exploratory fishing that would inform the Council's precautionary approach to opening commercial fisheries in the Arctic.