

Action Memo

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Dan Hull, Chairman David Witherell, Executive Director

SUBJECT:

Draft Agenda for Plan Team Workshop - SSC review

STAFF CONTACT: Diana Stram (NPFMC)

ACTION REQUIRED: SSC review of draft agenda for BSAI Assessment Methods Workshop

BACKGROUND:

In November 2017, the BSAI Groundfish Plan Team had extensive discussions of methodology, goals, and objectives of ensemble modeling in conjunction with the review of the Bering Sea Pacific cod assessment. Specifically, the Team recommended that consideration be given to holding a workshop which would address whether ensemble modeling is an improvement to current methods at the NPFMC, and if so how to implement it. In addition, issues related to the Plan Team recommending an ABC below the maximum permissible for this stock as well as other NPFMC assessments could be addressed. In December, the SSC concurred with the BSAI Team's suggestion and requested to review the draft agenda.

A subcommittee of BSAI Plan Team members has met to draft the agenda and to organize chairs for the workshop. The draft agenda for SSC review is attached. Allan Hicks, a member of the BSAI Plan Team, will be available to present the workshop objectives and draft agenda to the SSC.