Summary

Meeting dates	January 22, 2016
Agenda item:	North Pacific Fisheries Management Council's Bering Sea Halibut Management – Briefing
Presenter(s):	Bill Tweit, Special Assistant to the Director
Background summary:  Department staff will brief the Commission on the recent North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC) decision regarding management of halibut bycatch in Bering Sea fisheries and a description of the NPFMC next steps on halibut bycatch management.	
Policy issue(s) you are bringing to the Commission for consideration: None, briefing only.	
Public involvement process used and what you learned: The NPFMC has an extensive public involvement process that includes numerous well- organized stakeholder groups. The Council took public comment on this action at two meetings, and then National Marine Fisheries Service will receive additional public comment through the NEPA process that accompanies this action.	
Action requested: None, briefing only.	
<b>Draft motion language:</b> N/A	
Justification for Commission action: N/A	
Communications Plan: N/A	
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