

Development of Environmental Impact Statement for Steller Sea Lion Measures based on Court Order 5/31/12

Project Components	2012												2013												2014			
	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb			
Council Meetings	Council reviews Terms of Reference for CIE review of Biop		Council reviewed NOI and preliminary range of alternatives, established and tasked SSL committee						Scoping Meeting in conjunction with Council meeting		Council may review SSL Committee recommendations, Scoping Report, and CIE review of Biop. Council recommends alternative SSL protection measures for analysis in EIS				Council reviews preliminary draft analysis, recommends preliminary preferred alternative, and recommends release of draft analysis to public											Council review CAR and published draft EIS. Take final action on preferred alternative		
SSLMC			Reconstitute and identify SSLMC members	Org. Meeting	June 14-15, 2010 BiOp, EIS red's, Legal issues, Review new scientific information re SSLs, fish, stocks, etc.	Seattle 17-18 and TBA 30-31 Draft scoping comments & begin draft alternative		TBA 5-6, Continue draft scoping comments and alternative	TBA 17-18 Scoping meeting in conjunction with Council meeting	TBA 7-9, Finalize SSLMC Alternative. Deliver to Council before Council meeting				Review preliminary draft EIS. Comments to Council														
ESA Documentation	NMFS contracts for CIE review of Biop				Conduct CIE Review			Panel Review Aug. 1-2, Complete Review, CIE Steering Committee review of document	NMFS releases CIE review of Biop Sept. 7						Commence ESA consultation based on preliminary preferred alternative, if NMFS determines alternative is different from status quo					Complete consultation*								
NEPA			Publish NOI to Prepare an EIS		Scoping for EIS					Scoping Report to Council and post on NMFS website		Develop preliminary draft EIS		Preliminary draft EIS to Council	Revise preliminary draft EIS	Publish Draft EIS with preliminary preferred alternative, comment period beginning May 15.	60 Day Comment Period ends July 15.	Complete response to comments, develop CAR			Complete Final EIS				Publish final EIS by last week of February			
Rule making																											Start rulemaking for 2015 implementation	

Abbreviations
 NOI=Notice of Intent
 CIE=Center for Independent Experts
 SSL=Steller sea lion
 EIS=environmental impact statement
 NEPA=National Environmental Policy Act
 CAR=Comment and Response Report
 JAM=jeopardy discontinued avoidance or adverse modification of critical habitat
 Council=North Pacific Fishery Management Council
 NMFS=National Marine Fisheries Service
 ESA=Endangered Species Act
 TBA = Location to be announced

* Assumes that the preferred alternative would not result in JAM