MEMORANDUM

DATE:   February 26, 2010

TO:    Don McIsaac

FROM:  Kelly Ames

SUBJECT:  Proposed May Groundfish Allocation Committee Meeting

At its April 2010 meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt final harvest specifications and a range of management measure alternatives for the 2011-2012 fisheries. Final action is scheduled for the June 2010 Council meeting. A key decision within the management measure alternatives is the two year allocation for overfished species that do not have formal long term allocations under Amendment 21. Specifically, the Council will need to decide trawl and non-trawl allocations as well as within sector allocations for canary rockfish, yelloweye rockfish, bocaccio, and cowcod. Further, the Council will need to adopt a petrale rebuilding plan.

Issues associated with these matters can be quite complex. It would seem efficient to have the Groundfish Allocation Committee hold a working session to develop recommendations on a final preferred alternative and other issues related to the biennial harvest specifications and management measures process for Council consideration at the June meeting. We recommend the Council consider a three-day meeting the week of May 10th (first choice) or May 17th.

KLA:rdd