

## Description of the Process for Open Access Limitation FMP Amendment

Step	Dates
<b>Phase 1: Planning and Scoping</b>	<b>August 2006 – March 2007</b>
Draft Work Plan	
Determine type of NEPA (GC)	
Publish NOI (if EIS)	
Council meeting: scoping (COP 11)	November 2006
Finalize Work Plan	
<b>Phase 2: Identification of Alternatives and Document Development</b>	<b>March – June 2007</b>
IWG develops preliminary range of alternatives for Council consideration, with input from GMT, GAP, etc.	
IWG prepares preliminary analysis of alternatives	
NMFS provides consultation assessment memo (optional)	
Council meeting: adopt preliminary range of alternatives and preliminary preferred alternative (optional) for public review	April 2007
IWG prepares preliminary draft EA/EIS	
<b>Phase 3: Council Final Action</b>	<b>June – August 2007</b>
Council meeting: final adoption of preferred alternative	June 2007
Initiate section 7 consultation (optional)	
Finalize EA/DEIS	
If EIS, DEIS is filed with EPA initiating public comment period	
<b>Phase 4: Secretarial Review</b>	<b>July 2007 – February 2008</b>
Council transmittal of FMP	
NMFS transmits NOA & Amendment package to HQ, initiate Secretarial Review	
Rulemaking process initiated	
If EIS, FEIS published	
FONSI /ROD signed	
Secretarial approval of FMP amendment	
Final rule published	
<b>Permitting Process/Implementation</b>	<b>January – December 2008</b>
<b>Permits Issued</b>	<b>January 2009</b>