

**Description of the Process for Open Access Limitation FMP Amendment & Draft Timeline**

[**Note:** This is a hypothetical timeline that assumes the Council began work immediately as the number one priority and ignores coordination with other high priority ongoing efforts such as IQ, intersector allocation, response to MSA reauthorization, etc.]

<b>Step</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>Phase 1: Planning and Scoping</b>	<b>August 2006 – March 2007</b>
Draft Work Plan	September 2006
Determine type of NEPA (GC)	September 2006
Publish NOI (if EIS)	October 2006
Council meeting: scoping (COP 11)	November 2006
Finalize Work Plan	November 2006
<b>Phase 2: Identification of Alternatives and Document Development</b>	<b>March – June 2007</b>
Interagency Work Group (IWG) develops preliminary range of alternatives for Council consideration, with input from GMT, GAP, etc.	April 2007
IWG prepares preliminary analysis of alternatives	April-May 2007
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	May-June 2007
<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)	
If EIS, DEIS sent from Council office	August 3, 2007
If EIS, DEIS received by NMFS HQ	August 6, 2007
If EIS, DEIS submitted to EPA	August 10, 2007
If EIS, EPA publishes DEIS NOA, 45-day comment begins	August 17, 2007
<b>Phase 4: Secretarial Review</b>	<b>July 2007 – February 2008</b>
Council transmittal of FMP	July 30, 2007
NMFS transmits NOA/Am. package (Pr. Rule/PRA) to HQ	July 30, 2007
Am. NOA publishes with 60-day comment period	August 3, 2007
Proposed Rule publishes, 30-day comment period	August 29, 2007
End of 30-day comment period on Proposed Rule	September 28, 2007
If EIS, end of 45-day public comment period on DEIS	October 1, 2007
End of 60-day comment period on Am. NOA	October 2, 2007
If EIS, FEIS sent from Council office	October 19, 2007
If EIS, FEIS received by NMFS HQ	October 26, 2007
If EIS, FEIS submitted to EPA	November 2, 2007
If EIS, FEIS NOA published, 30-day cooling off period begins	November 9, 2007

If EIS, FEIS 30-day cooling off period ends	December 9, 2007
FONSI /ROD signed	December 12, 2007
NMFS transmits Final Rule package to HQ; PRA clears	December 14, 2007
Secretarial approval of FMP amendment	January 24, 2008
Final rule published, 30-day APA cooling off period	January 31, 2008
APA cooling off periods ends, rule effective	February 29, 2008
<b>Permitting Process/Implementation</b>	<b>January – December 2008</b>
Send out information/permitting applications or qualifying letters	January 2008
Deadline for applications	February 2008
Send out 2 <sup>nd</sup> notice for applications	February 2008
2 <sup>nd</sup> deadline for applications	March 2008
NMFS decision	April 2008
Appeals process	May-June 2008
NMFS final decision	July 2008
FPO limited entry annual permit renewals	September 1, 2008
Permits issued for 2009	October-December 2008
<b>Permits Issued</b>	<b>January 2009</b>