



Meeting Announcement

Trawl Gear Performance Standard Workshop

Purpose:

The NPFMC will host a workshop to engage with stakeholders and fishery participants on ways to revise the trawl gear performance standard so that it is clear, enforceable, and meets Council objectives. The trawl performance standard regulation prohibits the presence of 20 or more crab above a threshold size limit, at any time, while directed fishing for pollock using pelagic trawl gear. Variations of the performance standard apply in both the BSAI and GOA (see [regulation](#)).

This workshop is responsive to a June 2023 [Council motion](#). Staff from NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, NMFS Alaska Region, and NPFMC will provide a presentation including:

- Overview of existing regulations
- Council's recent motion including the request for the Enforcement Committee to consult with industry to identify ways to revise the pelagic trawl gear performance standard to be enforceable
- Enforcement-related challenges and effectiveness of bycatch reduction and bottom contact limitations
- Data analyses that have been performed, to-date.

Participants and stakeholders are asked to propose practicable and enforceable improvements to the existing trawl performance standards. Workshop attendees may propose novel standard/s that meet the Council's objectives.

The workshop will be held in a hybrid format – in-person at the NPFMC office in Anchorage, AK with virtual participation available. The workshop is not a formal meeting of the NPFMC [Enforcement Committee](#) but will be hosted and chaired by the Committee. Enforcement Committee members are encouraged to attend.

The Enforcement Committee tentatively plans to meet in February 2024 to consider the outcomes of this workshop and other information before relaying any recommendations on this matter to the Council. The Council will receive a staff report on the workshop during its October 2023 meeting.

Meeting Information:

Monday, October 2, 1pm (Alaska)

In-person: NPFMC Office (1007 West 3rd Avenue Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501)

Virtual: Accessible via Zoom (<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86885305977>)

Attendance and opportunities to comment are open to all public.

Written comments may be submitted to the meeting's [eAgenda](#) from 9/1/2023 through 10/1/2023. All comments submitted are part of the Council's public record.

Individuals who attend the workshop (in-person or virtual) will have opportunities to comment as moderated by the Enforcement Committee co-chairs.