**SSPT working draft:**

**Organization of EDR draft alternatives**

**to be forwarded to the NPFMC**

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*This document is for discussion purposes only. Please contact Sarah Marrinan (*[*sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov*](mailto:sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov)*) with questions.*

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council’s Social Science Planning Team (SSPT)[[1]](#footnote-1) has been tasked to help the Council consider revisions to its Economic Data Report (EDR) programs while incorporating public input. The SSPT intends to report back to the Council with a range of options to further consider for analysis. This range will include the alternatives explicitly listed in the [Council’s Feb 2020 motion](https://meetings.npfmc.org/CommentReview/DownloadFile?p=1d14dd02-387e-4d61-9ff5-9e6071686ce2.pdf&fileName=C4%20MOTION.pdf) on EDR revisions and incorporate direction from the [Council’s April 2019 motion](https://meetings.npfmc.org/CommentReview/DownloadFile?p=695c22f1-5139-4ea6-a7c4-7c92b5428cd2.pdf&fileName=D5%20MOTION.pdf) which outlines potential holistic changes to the EDRs. This range of alternatives will also be annotated to incorporate stakeholder and SSPT feedback on reporting burden and data utility, as well as any other context that can help the Council focus its options for further analysis.

**This is a working document which suggests an organization for EDR changes. This document describes a simplified range of EDR changes for consideration, but this is only for the purposes of further discussion by stakeholders and SSPT. The alternatives described are not comprehensive of all alternatives the SSPT could develop for the Council to consider.**

*Alternatives are mutually exclusive (at this point). Alternatives and options that are underlined were part of the Council’s Feb 2020 motion; however, these alternatives and options have been somewhat reorganized in this form.*

Alternative 1. No action, status quo

Alternative 2. Smaller changes to existing EDRs (generally, under the current purpose and need statements)[[2]](#footnote-2). Make the following revisions, where needed, in the EDR sections of the crab or groundfish FMPs and in the EDR regulations. *(components not mutually exclusive)*

Component 1. Revise authorizations for third party data verification audits under the existing programs and reduce burdens associated with this process. Amend regulatory language in all EDR programs to authorize third party data verification audits in cases of noncompliance.

Component 2. Revise requirements for aggregation of data across submitters and blind formatting in all EDR programs to make those data aggregation and confidentiality protections comparable to the requirements under other data collection programs.

Component 3. Revise EDR collection period to every (options: 2 years; 3 years; or 5 years)

Component *[x]: Any additional small changes to one or more existing EDR programs, for example: pre-populating some data cells (for an individual/business’s EDR, based on information provided in the previous year’s EDR); adopting a minimum threshold requirement (e.g. lbs. landed or processed) to trigger EDR requirements, eliminating or revisiting certain questions*

Alternative 3. Holistic changes to EDRs (reconsider existing purpose and need statements)

*Option [x]. For example, if the intention is for EDR data to more routinely inform Council decision documents, an EDR that is (relatively) consistent across fisheries may increase the utility for decision-making and analytical purpose while balancing considerations of reporting burden.*

Alternative 4. Remove reporting requirements for *(components not mutually exclusive)*

Component 1. GOA Trawl

Component 2. Crab RATZ

Component 3. Amend 80

Component 4. Amend 91

1. The SSPT is an interdisciplinary group of social scientists with backgrounds in anthropology, sociology and economics. The group was established by the Council to improve the quality and application of social science data that informs management decision-making and program evaluation. For more information see: https://www.npfmc.org/committees/social-science-planning-team/ [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The purpose and needs statements for each program are listed in the following document: https://meetings.npfmc.org/CommentReview/DownloadFile?p=f2c662f3-bd07-4d9d-b822-22022fc34b94.pdf&fileName=EDR%20Purpose%20and%20Need%20Statements.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)