



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
*National Marine Fisheries Service*  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, AK 99802-1668

January 5, 2023

Mr. David Witherell  
Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
1007 West Third, Suite 400  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear Mr. Witherell:

We have approved Amendment 52 to the Fishery Management Plan for Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crabs (FMP) for (RIN 0648-BL50). Amendment 52 and the final rule would remove the use of third-party audits, data aggregations, and blind formatting to improve the usability, efficiency, and consistency of the data collection programs and to minimize cost to industry and the Federal government. The final rule will also remove the EDR requirements for the GOA trawl fisheries and eliminate the compliance burden to participants.

A final rule to implement Amendment 52 accompanies the FMP amendment and should publish in the *Federal Register* shortly.

Sincerely,

Jonathan M. Kurland  
Regional Administrator

