



B9 Bering Sea pollock industry report on dynamic spatial closure measures for 2026

December 2025

Action Memo

Council Staff: Anita Kroska
Other Presenters: Susie Zagorski (UCB); Caitlin Yeager, Austin Estabrooks (APA)
Action Required: Receive industry presentations, action as necessary

BACKGROUND

In June 2025, the Council [requested](#) the Bering Sea pollock industry develop dynamic spatial closures for the 2026 A season to protect Bristol Bay red king crab (BBRKC), based on new winter pot surveys, tagging data, and other recent data sources. This request was part of the larger pelagic trawl gear innovation motion and is intended to provide an interim update while gear innovation work continues. The Council indicated that salmon bycatch should continue to be the highest priority for avoidance; thus, the measures should include mechanisms to consider salmon bycatch (e.g., rate-based exclusion) that would override identified closures. The Council requested industry report back at this meeting during B reports.

Presentations will be provided by Susie Zagorski (UCB) on AFA Catcher Vessel (CV) and mothership (MS) fleets, and by Caitlin Yeager and Austin Estabrooks (APA) with updates from the AFA catcher processor fleet.