Stocks flagged for Nov 2026 BRD discussion:

Sablefish (BS, AI)
BSAI BSRE
GOA Shortraker
GOA Thornyhead
GOA REBS

Stock would need to be flagged each year by Council to prompt Plan Team/ Council discussion.

C-5c Council motion
Process for Spatial Apportionments of Groundfish TACs
October 7, 2025

The Council supports the process described by staff for spatial apportionment of groundfish in the harvest specifications process and requests Council staff provide written guidance to the Plan Teams and SSC as appropriate:

- Spatial apportionment of ABCs will be renamed BRDs (biologically-informed recommended distributions) instead of subarea ABCs, to indicate that the spatial apportionment is based on SSC recommendations to spatially apportion the harvest based on survey or catch data, consistent with status quo.
- SSC calculations for spatial apportionment (BRDs) will continue to be based only on biological information, not socio-economic information (status quo).
- SSC recommendations for spatial apportionment (BRDs) will continue to inform the Council's recommendations on spatial apportionment of TACs. The spatial apportionment of TACs can also include socio-economic factors (status quo).
- The overall intent is for the Council to continue apportioning TACs to mirror the BRDs, similar to past practice.
- If the Council anticipates any stocks or stock complexes where it may want to deviate from BRDs when setting TACs, it intends to use the October/December harvest specifications process to seek quantitative or qualitative input from the Plan Teams and SSC. Useful information from the SSC could include whether the previous year's BRDs, or small changes from the current SSC-recommended BRDs, would be likely to result in biological impacts to the stock or stock complex.

- *Council is interested in PT/SSC advice:*

  Would deviations in catch from BRDs be likely to result in biological impacts at the level of the stock?

  (Regional TACs must still sum to ≤ ABC)

To inform discussion:

- What are implications of exceeding TAC in an area(s) (e.g., changes in retention, fishery behavior)
- What is known about stock structure/movement/survey distribution?
- Is this stock a target or incidentally caught stock?
- Is this a complex with specific species of concern?
- Team advice on whether TAC can deviate from apportionment recommendations; In what areas?