



C3 BSAI Crab Harvest Specifications

October 2025

Action Memo

Council Staff: Anita Kroska

Other Presenters: Katie Palof (ADF&G, Crab Plan Team Co-Chair), Dr. Mike Litzow (NMFS, Crab Plan Team Co-Chair)

Action Required:

1. EBS Snow crab – Specify OFL/ABC for 2025/26
2. Bristol Bay red king crab - Specify OFL/ABC for 2025/26
3. Tanner crab – Specify OFL/ABC for 2025/26
4. Pribilof Islands red king crab - Specify OFL/ABC for 2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28, and 2028/29
5. Pribilof Islands blue king crab - Specify OFL/ABC for 2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28, and 2028/29
5. Review Crab Plan Team Report for the September 2025 meeting
6. Review/approve final BSAI Crab SAFE report

Ecosystem Status Report (SSC only)

The ecosystem status report (ESR) will present crab-relevant information for the Bering Sea that was available from 2024 and 2025 with preliminary forecasts for 2025/26.

BSAI Crab Specifications and Plan Team Report

The Crab Plan Team (CPT) met virtually from September 8-12, 2025 to review final 2025 stock assessments for the eastern Bering Sea (EBS) Snow Crab, Bristol Bay red king crab (BBRKC), EBS Tanner crab, Pribilof Islands red king crab (PIRKC), and Pribilof Islands blue king crab (PIBKC) and recommend OFLs and ABCs for these stocks ([Crab Plan Team eAgenda](#)). The 2025 BSAI Crab SAFE Report Introduction, Crab Plan Team Report, and the assessment chapters for snow crab, BBRKC, Tanner crab, PIRKC, and PIBKC are attached.

The Team addressed several additional issues at this meeting, including:

- Updated catch and stock status determination for all other stocks (AIGKC, PIGKC, SMBKC, WAIRKC).
- Summer trawl survey results, 2024/25 fishery summary, EBS Ecosystem Status Report, risk table development, update vs full assessments, Ecosystem and Socio-economic Profiles (ESPs) for Snow crab, BBRKC, and Tanner crab, Bering Sea Fishery Research Foundation (BSFRF) and other research updates, skipper survey updates, model-based indices update for NSRKC, and an update on the economic status of the fishery.

- Topics for review at the November 2025 CPT meeting: AIGKC proposed model runs, NSRKC final SAFE, maturity data flow, and HCR updates.
- Topics for review at the January 2025 modeling workshop, including: GMACS short report on version history, Tanner crab items (GMACS PIN file, head-to-head comparison with TCSAM02 model, working next gen RTMB GMACS prototype, BSFRF/NMFS selectivity analysis, feedback for upcoming CIE review), BBRKC MCMC outputs & diagnostics, model-based indices updates for NSRKC, and snow crab jittering with truncated data.
- Tentative topics for the May 2026 CPT meeting, including: emerging issues around unprecedented hybrid abundance, risk table development, GMACS short report, Jan. Modeling Workshop Report, research updates (BSFRF, others), skipper survey methods discussion, ESP updates, AIGKC final SAFE, CPT self-evaluation, and proposed models for: Tanner crab, snow crab, BBRKC, SMBKC, and NSRKC.