

Council Updates

BSAI CRAB PLAN TEAM

May 11th, 2026

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Reminders and Deadlines

Minutes guidance

- Review docs, associated SSC/CPT requests for the last two CPT and SSC meetings
- Final assessments - draft edits to the intro chapter
- Help facilitate discussion and questions during the presentation
 - Concise summary, and if any Recommendations or requests:
 - What is requested, when it would be good to see the request, and
 - why the request is helpful/important
- If extensive PT discussion and/or recommendations, characterize discussion and bold any consensus recommendations
- Add links to applicable assessments/documents
- Draft minutes should be entered into the Google doc as soon as possible

Deadlines

- **May 18** - draft minutes due in Google doc, COB
- **May 19** - final SAFE docs due
- **May 20** - CPT Report finalized



Jan Modelling Workshop, Jan CPT mtg, GMACS updates

- **January Modelling Workshop Report included:**
 - GMACS versions and updates
 - Research topics: modelling episodic natural mortality, update on transitioning to RTMB version of GMACS, BSFRF SBS analysis
 - GMACS Scallop assessment model
 - Plans for Hybrid crab topic
- **GMACS Updates short report** is now available (thanks Buck!) - for reference in SAFE documents
 - Report update frequency- Annually every May?
 - If different version used in Sept, provide description of what is different
- **Jan CPT Meeting Report:** special mtg to cover HCR & maturity workflow (which will be revisited at this meeting)
 - “The CPT requested that Chionoecetes stock assessment authors present a comparison of results from models using the legacy versus new workflow data sets at the May 2026 CPT meeting.”



Stock rolling over

- WAIRKC rolling over due to prioritization of reduced staff capacity, overfishing status will be reported at Sept CPT mtg
- How to report in interim year(s)? No guidance in the SAFE.
 - Include: OFL, total retained catch, and overfishing status, fill in Table 1 and Table 2 from Executive Summary?



General SSC Recommendations

General Crab Comments

The SSC recommends continued progress towards making SAFE documents as consistent in structure and content as practicable. The SSC recognizes that assessments vary among stocks; however, documents that are as similar as possible will facilitate review and ensure accessibility to a wide audience.

Oct 2025
SSC Report

The SSC notes that crab stock assessment authors currently use the overfishing limits (OFL) for catch projections. The SSC recommends that the authors and CPT provide a justification if catches are set to the OFL in projections, or use a more realistic estimate of future catches as is done in groundfish assessments.

In SAFE docs (and translated to graphics in ESP): Soc/econ indicators modifications for patterns of comm. engagement, dependency:

- Augment “Number of Active Vessels” to include count of active vessels by community
- Add “shoreside processing community” indicator

Is this included in Econ SAFE, and if so, at what frequency?



Scallop Plan Team

Recommended that continuing model development be contingent upon:

- 1) devising a means to implement a model-based assessment that only covers a portion of the stock
- 2) having dedicated access to quantitative expertise at the plan team through joint meetings or merging with a different plan team

SPT general recommendations:

- Via Amendment 18, switched to 3 year assessment cycles - next one April 2029
- Attrition in membership, only 3 non-Council staff, limited capacity to evaluate
- CPT is most aligned with scallops given development of size-structured model and federal/state co-management structure
- Joint plan teams or merging would solve SPT capacity issue

We will bring this to the Council in June. CPT feedback?



Future CPT Meetings in 2027

- With new Council meeting timing, will need to shift CPT meeting schedules accordingly
- May 2027 CPT meeting - proposing last week of April (week of April 26).
Feedback?

2026

June 1-9, 2026 / Hilton Hotel – Vancouver, Washington

October 5-13, 2026 / Possibly Virtual

November 30 – December 8, 2026 / Anchorage, Alaska

2027

February 22 – March 2, 2027 / Anchorage, Alaska

May 17-25, 2027 / TBD

October 4-12, 2027 / Possibly Virtual

November 29-December 7, 2027 / Anchorage, Alaska



Related Council Actions at the June Council meeting

- C5 GOA Tanner crab protections, Initial Review, June 2026 Council meeting - action to consider potential closures on the east side of Kodiak Island
- D1 Pelagic trawl gear research updates – 4 group presentations, to include crab research updates
- E2 Harvest Control Rules [Discussion paper](#) - harvest control rules, risk and uncertainty in harvest specs process

