

Council motion

D-1 Report on SSC rapid environmental change workshop

April 6, 2023

The Council appreciates the SSC report on its February 2023 workshop titled “*Rapid change in the northern Bering and southern Chukchi seas – Identifying ecosystem responses and effects on the management of Federal fisheries*” and supports the authors working with Council staff to produce a plain-language summary of the workshop.

The Council approves the SSC recommendation to form a subgroup of Council and SSC, and potentially plan team members (2-3 members each, at the Council Chair’s discretion), to develop a roadmap to use assessment and climate science to increase adaptive management capability. Questions for the subgroup to consider include the SSC recommendations as follows:

- Are dynamic reference points an alternative to current management practices reasonable, given the current Council processes under the Magnuson Stevens Act?
- Could/should we incorporate social or economic objectives (e.g., maximum economic yield, biomass thresholds) into adaptive management approaches for some stocks?
- As stocks expand and shift, are regional allocations of catches in the EBS and NBS appropriate and could they be dynamic enough to address temporal variability?
- Can risk considerations be improved upon in the context of both stock assessments (ABC considerations) and management (TAC considerations)?

The subgroup should also discuss capacity and planning for a February 2024 follow-up workshop that focuses on discrete aspects of the key recommendations for science and management summarized in the February 2023 workshop report and options to increase the level and frequency of dialogue between the Council and the SSC on issues that straddle the science-policy interface.