Council Motion C1 Economic Data Reporting – Final Action February 8, 2022

The Council recommends the following final preferred alternatives:

Alternative 2: Make revisions, where needed, in the EDR sections of the crab or groundfish FMPs and in the EDR regulations:

Option 1: Remove requirements for third party data verification audits under the existing programs and reduce burdens associated with this process.

Option 2: Revise requirements for aggregation of data across submitters and blind formatting in the crab data collection program to make those data aggregation and confidentiality protections comparable to the requirements under other data collection programs.

Alternative 3, Option 1: Remove EDR requirements for GOA Trawl.

The Council reiterates its April 2021 request for AFSC staff to implement changes to the EDR identified in the stakeholder workshops, March 2021 SSPT report, and/or others in consultation with stakeholders, with the expectation that changes should take effect prior to the 2023 data submissions. The Council requests an update of those changes in a future AFSC/NMFS management report. That update should include a comprehensive listing of the recommended changes from the workshops, SSPT report and consultations, and contain the rationale for the treatment of each of the recommended changes, describing whether the EDRs were modified to incorporate them or if they were not implemented.

The Council deems proposed regulations that clearly and directly flow from the provisions of this motion to be necessary and appropriate in accordance with section 303(c).

The Council authorizes the Executive Director and the Chairman to review the draft proposed regulations when provided by NMFS to ensure that the proposed regulations to be submitted to the Secretary under section 303(c) are consistent with these instructions.