

**North Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
**D8 Sablefish Discards**  
**Council Motion**  
**April 8, 2019**

The Council moves to initiate an expanded discussion paper to gather more information on the possible implications of modifying the requirement to retain small sized sablefish in the Alaska IFQ longline and pot fisheries (GOA and BSAI).

The discussion paper should include an evaluation of the following:

- Voluntary versus mandatory release of sablefish
- Single size limits versus area specific size limits
  - Areas to be explored:
    - GOA, BSAI
    - EGOA, CGOA, WGOA, BSAI
- Options for discard accounting relative to ABC and TAC
- The use of proxy DMR options at the initiation of sablefish discarding
  - 12% (Stachura et al)
  - 16% (State of Alaska)
  - 20% (PFMC)
- Use of gear specific DMRs for IFQ fisheries
- Address concerns related to monitoring and enforcement options from:
  - Discards estimated from the survey
  - Discards estimated based on observer and EM data
  - Discards estimated based on logbook reporting

This discussion paper should also explore the implications of these changes on overall stock abundance and allocations to trawl and IFQ fisheries.