

ADVISORY PANEL
Motions and Rationale
February 1-5, 2021 - Anchorage, AK

C2 SBRM

The AP recommends the Council request that NMFS update the FMPs for Scallop, Salmon, and BSAI Crab for consistency with national guidance on Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology as outlined in the Council analysis and as required by the MSA.

Motion passed 20-0

Rationale:

- *This action is largely a housekeeping item to bring state bycatch monitoring and reporting requirements into the federal FMPs. Councils, in coordination with NMFS, must review their FMPs and make any necessary changes so all FMPs are consistent with the guidance by February 2022.*
- *This action will amend the FMPs for Scallop, Salmon, and BSAI Crab to incorporate state monitoring and reporting requirements for bycatch accounting into the federal FMPs to describe the SBRM requirements explicitly in the FMPs (the Council determined in Feb 2020 that the Arctic, BSAI Groundfish, and GOA Groundfish FMPs are all consistent with current SBRM guidance and that no amendments to those FMPs are necessary).*
- *The MSA requires that FMPs establish a standardized reporting methodology to assess the amount and type of bycatch occurring in the fishery, and include conservation and management measures that, to the extent practicable and in the following priority— (A) minimize bycatch, and (B) minimize the mortality of bycatch which cannot be avoided.*
- *The national guidance defines a standardized reporting methodology as “an established, consistent procedure or procedures used to collect, record, and report bycatch data in a fishery.” Regulations require that an FMP identify the required procedure that constitutes the standardized reporting methodology for the fishery and explain how the procedure meets the purpose to collect, record, and report bycatch data.*