D2 Crab Conservation Workplan

December 2022

12-10-2022

Council requests the Crab Plan Team add discussion of the following items to their 2023 CPT schedule and provide feedback on the relative prioritization of these issues and their ability to improve stock condition.

- Consider the efficacy and ability to identify areas (static and/or dynamic) for groundfish fishery closures to protect snow crab, and suggested areas that could bring meaningful savings.
- Align crab PSC limit boundaries with the crab stock management area for snow crab
- Remove or revise trawl crab PSC limit floors for Bristol Bay red king crab and Eastern Bering Sea snow crab
- Update trawl crab PSC limits based on status of crab stocks
- Establish non-trawl crab PSC limits

The Council approves the SSC recommendation to form a working group to develop a framework for how to estimate the magnitude of unobserved mortality for crab stocks and how these estimations may be utilized in BSAI crab stock assessments.