

Council Motion

C-1 BSAI Crab Harvest Specifications

June 8, 2023

The Council approves formation of an inter-agency working group to develop a framework for how to estimate the magnitude and extent of unobserved fishing mortality for crab stocks from all gear types and guidance for explicitly incorporating these estimates in BSAI crab stock assessments and to inform other council documents related to conservation and management of crab stocks.

The Council approves the objectives of working group as follows:

- Identify data sources, major data gaps, and assumptions to estimate unobserved mortality for stock assessments and to better understand temporal/spatial extent across fisheries and gear types.
- Provide research priority recommendations and/or needed research projects.

The anticipated products include:

- Framework for estimating unobserved fishing mortality and explicitly incorporating into stock assessments.
- Report on specific research priorities and data needs.
- Recommendations for approaches to investigate spatial/temporal extent of unobserved mortality over fisheries and gear types to the extent practicable.

The Council will consider a public workshop on the working group progress and/or products in the future.