

- *The addition of Pacific cod to an expanded discussion paper or any future analyses would add significant complexities and time to an analytical package, which is not in line with the statement that the sablefish overage issue is time sensitive and action should be taken sooner rather than later.*

Rationale in Opposition to Amendment 5

- *The current discussion paper and request for an expanded discussion paper are focused on overages occurring specifically in the trawl sectors; therefore, it is not appropriate to include information related to the directed sablefish fishery within this scope.*

Rationale in Support of Amendment 5

- *The issue of interactions with the unprecedented abundance of small sablefish on the grounds is not just limited to the trawl fleets, but also encompasses the directed sablefish fishery as evidenced by action taken to allow for the careful release of small sablefish in the directed fishery. In order to best understand the full extent and impacts encounters with small sablefish are having across multiple sectors, it is necessary to include similar incidental catch information/data from the directed sablefish fishery.*

Rationale in Support of Amendment 6

- *The intent of this amended language is to remove the focus from just the directed fishery so that the data/information being requested encompasses all fleets/sectors that may be encountering small sablefish.*

Rationale in Support of Amendment 8

- *Given continued use of a fixed apportionment approach for distributing subarea ABCs through 2020, the purpose of the table is to demonstrate whether trawl overages would have occurred if the subarea ABC apportionment methodology more accurately reflected the distribution of the growing and shifting sablefish population as would have been done under the previously used 5-year non-exponential weighted scheme.*

Rationale in Support of Amendment 9

- *The trawl sectors are limited by sablefish MRA levels before being required to discard, and the rate of sablefish to directed target catch will change depending on the abundance of sablefish present in the water. Given the extraordinary increase in sablefish biomass in the last five years, reviewing the intrinsic catch rate for trawl sablefish and determining whether the current MRA is appropriate is warranted.*

D3 BS FEP Report/Climate Change Report

The AP commends the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan Team for progress made during the May 2021 workshop and meetings. The AP recommends the Council encourage the FEP Plan team to continue the work as outlined in the presentation, including the development of ecosystem indicators to inform an Ecosystem Health or Evaluation Report and continued coordination with the Action Module Taskforces. The AP recommends the Council approve the revised work plan presented by the Climate Change Taskforce.

Motion passed 18-0

Rationale:

- *Important progress has been made in advancing the work and goals of the BS FEP. This work should continue to be supported, especially as it relates to the development of ecosystem indicators, as it is an integral to the Council's ability for adaptive management under future ecosystem changes.*