ADVISORY PANEL Motions and Rationale June 6-8, 2023 - Sitka, AK

C1 BSAI Crab Specs

Motion 1

The Advisory Panel reviewed the CPT report and recommends the Council adopt the updated AIGKC, PIGKC, WAIRKC SAFE report, as well as approve the 2023-24 AIGKC, 2023/2026 OFLs and ABCs as recommended by the SSC.

Motion passed 16/0

Rationale in Favor of Motion:

• The AP appreciates the effort and work-product provided by the CPT and SSC Motion

Motion 2

The AP recommends the formation of an Unobserved Mortality Workshop in addition to the SSC/Council recommended Working Group to address unobserved mortality with the following objectives:

- 1. Incorporate unobserved mortality estimates into BSAI crab stock assessments as recommended by the SSC and Council and
- 2. Assess unobserved mortality estimates based on interaction with all gear types, including ghost fishing pots, to be utilized to inform management decisions.

Motion passed 19/0

Rationale in Favor of Motion:

- It is important to include a workshop as well as a working group in this process to include the public and non-agency users. Preferably a workshop followed by a working group as a workshop leads to a larger array of input which could be narrowed down in working group discussion. The workshop could begin with clear objectives from the Council.
- All gear types should be included when assessing the unobserved mortality of crab. Including the effects of ghost fishing and/or derelict gear.
- It would be helpful to assess contact vs. impact for all gear types as they are not always the same.
- Concern was expressed around the closed nature or a Working Group vs. a public Workshop
 - Inability for fishermen or gear experts to participate and discuss operational realities
 - Decreased stakeholder input due to meeting behind closed doors
 - This topic is extremely sensitive and more transparency should be encouraged