

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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C1 BSAI Crab Harvest Specifications

June 2023

Action Memo

Staff: Sarah Rheinsmith

Other Presenters: Katie Palof, (ADF&G, Crab Plan Team Co-Chair), Dr. Mike Litzow

(NMFS, Crab Plan Team Co-Chair)

Action Required: 1. Specify OFL/ABC for Aleutian Islands golden king crab for 2023/24

2. Specify OFL/ABC for Pribilof Island golden king crab for 2023-2026

3. Specify OFL/ABC for Western Aleutian Island red king crab for 2023-

2026

4. Review the Crab Plan Team Report from the May 2022 meeting

A. BACKGROUND

The Crab Plan Team (CPT) met in a hybrid format from May 16-18, 2023 in Juneau, AK to review final 2023 stock assessment fishery evaluation (SAFE) reports for Aleutian Islands golden king crab (AIGKC), Pribilof Island golden king crab (PIGKC), and Western Aleutian Island red king crab (WAIRKC), and to recommend OFL and ABC for these stocks (CPT Meeting Agenda). The 2023 BSAI Crab SAFE assessment chapters for AIGKC (Ch 8), PIGKC (Ch 9), and WAIRKC (CH 10) and sections of the SAFE Introduction pertaining to the stock are attached.

The Team addressed several additional issues at this meeting, including:

- Model scenarios to be reviewed by the CPT in September for final 2023 stock assessments:
 - o Eastern Bering Sea snow crab
 - o Bristol Bay red king crab
 - o Eastern Bering Sea Tanner crab
 - Pribilof Island Blue King Crab
- Review of the simpler modeling working group report, catch accounting updates, ESP overview, BSFRF research update, the next steps for the unobserved mortality working group, and other informational items.

The full report from the Crab Plan Team is attached.