

Northern Bering Sea Research Area Research Plan

Council motion, June 10, 2011

The Council requests a compilation of background information on the northern Bering Sea ecosystem, previous and ongoing relevant research in the northern Bering Sea, chronic or acute effects of bottom trawl studies, and outcomes of the 2010 and 2011 science and community and subsistence workshops.

This background should be put into a white paper, along with a description of the areas within the NBSRA likely to be attractive in the future to commercial trawling interests, in order to help focus any subsequent outreach to, and input from, northern Bering Sea communities.

The white paper should also provide some discussion of the feasibility of conducting additional research into the acute and chronic effects of trawling in the northern Bering Sea region in the existing Modified Gear Trawl Zone.

This is not a high priority, nor does it need to result in subsequent action.