

Agenda Item G.2 ESA Mitigation Measures for Seabirds – Preliminary Action

Council Action:

- **Review Mitigation Measures for Seabird Interactions in Groundfish Fisheries Pursuant to the 2017 USFWS Biological Opinion and Adopt a Preliminary Preferred Alternative**

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE

G.2 motion for ESA seabirds – moved by Aja Szumylo/Corey Niles

I move that the Council adopt Alternative 1 with options A, C, and D, with the following modifications as its preliminary preferred alternative.

Alternative 1: Require non-tribal vessels 26 feet and greater LOA using bottom longline gear as defined under 50 CFR 660.11, fishing in the limited entry fixed gear or open access fixed gear fisheries, or fishing with longline gear under the gear switching provisions of Shorebased IFQ Program to either use streamer lines according to the Alaska streamer line requirements or deploy gear between one hour after local sunset and one hour before local sunrise when declared into a federal fishery and fishing in Federal waters.

Option A, when fishing south of 36° N latitude, vessels would be exempted from the requirement to deploy streamer lines or night set.

Option C, vessels using floated mainline gear *that do not include streamer lines that are at least 300 feet in length*, would be restricted to deploying gear between one hour after local sunset and one hour before local sunrise

Amendment (Phil Anderson/Christa M. Svensson) insert after the word “gear” *that do not include streamer lines that are at least 300 feet in length*, Amendment passed unan.

Option D, a weather safety exemption for vessels 26 to 55 feet LOA under a National Weather Service Small Craft Wind Advisory (Sustained winds or frequent gusts ranging between 25 and 33 knots) *or greater*. Amendment (Christa M. Svensson/Bob Dooley): add the words “or greater” after the parenthetical Amendment passed unan.

Motion as amended passed unan.

DRAFT-NOT