



BERING SEA FISHERIES RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
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FORGING COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS IN THE BERING SEA

## BSFRF Disaster Relief Research Announcement – Friday 1/2/26

**BSFRF is announcing two of its 2026 field projects and an upcoming RFP for Charters (1/7/26) that will be available and open for interested parties on Wednesday 1/7/26.** This announcement includes brief details about the research and charters, and the full RFP will provide the complete scope of work for the first research project, vessel requirements, competitive RFP process, and the timeline for vessel selection. There will be a Q/A meeting during the open period for interested parties to clarify charter requirements and details on the bidding process.

### **Project 1: Bristol Bay Red King Crab (BBR) Winter-Spring Seasonal Distribution Survey (CPS3)**

This project marks the third year of the Collaborative Pot Survey (CPS3), which will focus on core areas of Bristol Bay king crab grounds using both pot and trawl sampling. The approximate duration of the sampling during the project is 25-30 days (approximately Mar 10 – Apr 10). BSFRF will charter two (2) crab vessels, and one (1) trawl catcher vessel for CPS3. The project is expected to be similar to the CPS1 and CPS2 surveys which were completed in 2023 and 2024, respectively.

- Interested parties should watch for the RFP details to be released Wednesday 1/7/26.

### **Project 2: Bering Sea Snow Crab (BSS) 2026 Summer Fall Opilio Pot Survey (OPS1)**

This project marks the first year of an opilio survey, which will build on pilot sampling from 2024 and will focus on larger-scale, core areas of the Bering Sea shelf snow crab grounds using both pot and trawl sampling. The approximate duration of the sampling during the project is 25-30 days (approximately Aug 15 – Sep 15). These dates may change as a portion of this research may be conducted in concert with the 2026 NOAA Eastern Bering Sea (EBS) summer trawl survey charter vessels. BSFRF will charter two (2) crab vessels, and one (1) trawl catcher vessel for OPS1.

- Interested parties should watch for the RFP details to be released in Mar-Apr 2026.

Questions about this announcement can be directed to:

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