

ADVISORY PANEL
Motions and Rationale
January 28-31, 2020 - Anchorage, AK

D1 Partial Coverage EFF

AP Motion

The AP recommends the Council support the cost efficiency recommendations and tasking provided by the PCFMAC. The three items prioritized for tasking are:

- To continue the ongoing work on the pelagic trawl EM EFP.
- To initiate an evaluation of how to integrate EM into the overall monitoring of fixed gear, and specifically, to determine the level of observer coverage needed to inform fixed gear EM to obtain average weight data for discards and biological samples. The evaluation should also explore existing data sources as an alternative to a higher observer coverage rate.
- To initiate an evaluation of changes to the zero-selection pool to meet both data needs and improve cost efficiencies for the draft 2021 ADP.

Motion passed 21-0

Rationale in Support of Motion:

- *This motion is simply directed at moving the PCFMAC recommendations forward, which identify three points of focus and prioritization for improving cost efficiencies in the partial coverage observer category.*
- *The pelagic trawl EM EFP is currently moving forward and should continue to be a major focus of the Council as this EFP develops.*
- *Integration of EM into overall fixed gear monitoring for average weight data of discards and biological samples is paramount to the utility and usefulness of fixed gear EM information. The Work Plan outlines some of these specific items in Section 2.2 and it is important to see an evaluation of options such as survey data as an alternative to higher coverage rates since these may be a potentially faster and cheaper solution than setting up a shoreside sampling program for fixed gear.*
- *Evaluation of changes to the zero-selection pool is warranted because of the potential cost savings as well as the realization that some of the data coming from vessels that are currently in the zero coverage pool that could potentially be in the partial coverage category (i.e., evaluation of length-based requirement vs. number of trips taken by a vessel).*