

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council and AP Members

FROM: Chris Oliver
Executive Director

DO FOR

ESTIMATED TIME
2 HOURS

DATE: March 26, 2013

SUBJECT: Observer Program

ACTION REQUIRED

- (a) Report from NMFS: Outlines of first year report and EM strategic plan.
- (b) Review OAC report.

BACKGROUND

- (a) Report from NMFS: Outlines of first year report and EM strategic plan.

During the Council's October 2012 review of the 2013 annual deployment plan, the Council requested specific evaluations be included in the first year report on the restructured observer program, scheduled for June 2013. The Council also asked that NMFS develop a strategic plan for electronic monitoring (EM), a draft of which is also planned for June 2013. In preparation for the substantive discussion the Council is anticipating in June, the Council (last December) asked that NMFS provide an outline or framework of both the first year report and the EM strategic plan, for discussion in April. The Council clarified that the intent of receiving these outlines at this meeting is to provide feedback as to whether the appropriate analytical method and required data to evaluate the Council's requests will be included in the June first year report and draft EM strategic plan. The first year report outline will be distributed at the meeting; the EM strategic plan outline is attached as **Item C-1(a)(1)**. For your reference, **Item C-1(a)(2)** also provides a short synthesis of the Council's discussions and motions with respect to expectations for the first year report.

- (b) Review OAC report.

The Observer Advisory Committee (OAC) is meeting April 1, in Anchorage. The agenda for the meeting focuses on electronic monitoring, and is attached as **Item C-1(b)**. The OAC report will be available by the time this agenda item comes up before the Council.