

North Pacific Fishery Management Council Motion
Agenda Item C-7 Observer Fee Analysis
April 6, 2019

The Council adopts the following revised alternatives for analysis with deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~ and new language is underlined.

Alternative 1: Status Quo. The observer fee of percentage at 50 CFR 679.55(f) is 1.25 percent
~~applies equally to all landings in the partial coverage category.~~

Alternative 2: Increase the observer fee up to 2 percent (~~analyze a range~~), ~~to apply equally to all~~
~~landings in the partial coverage category.~~

Option 1: Set the observer fee percentage at 1.5 percent.

Option 2: Set the observer fee percentage at 1.75 percent.

Option 3: Set the observer fee percentage at 2 percent.

Alternative 3: ~~Maintain the 1.25 percent observer fee applying equally to all landings in the~~
~~partial coverage category, and additionally, raise the fee up to 2 percent (analyze a~~
~~range) by fishery sector (longline, pot, jig, trawl).~~

Increase the observer fee percentage by fishery sector (hook-and-line, pot, jig, and
trawl) up to 2 percent.

Option 1: Set the observer fee percentage for the hook-and-line, pot, and jig
fisheries at 1.5 percent and set the observer fee percentage for the trawl
fishery at 1.75 percent.

Option 2: Set the observer fee percentage for the hook-and-line, pot, and jig
fisheries at 1.5 percent and set the observer fee percentage for the trawl
fishery at 2 percent.

Option 3: Set the observer fee percentage for the hook-and-line, pot, and jig
fisheries at 1.75 percent and set the observer fee percentage for the
trawl fishery at 2 percent.

The Council recommends releasing the analysis for public review after the following revisions and additions:

- Include 2018 data in the tables and figures that describe possible fee revenues and resulting gap analysis.
- Additional discussion of the impacts and benefits of increasing the observer fee for each of the alternatives and options.

Staff should consider and incorporate comments from the SSC, AP, and FMAC to the extent practicable.