Council motion – E1 Staff Tasking February 9, 2015

The Council requests staff develop a discussion paper that evaluates the effects of moving all GOA trawl vessels currently in the partial observer coverage category to the full (100%) observer coverage category. At a minimum, the paper should outline the effect on observer program fee revenues that would support non-trawl fleets that would remain in partial coverage and the potential cost impacts for AFA and non-AFA trawl vessels as a percent of exvessel revenue and daily observer costs. The paper should also identify observer companies currently supplying observers to full coverage fisheries and any observer availability issues.