E Staff Tasking Substitute Motion for D5 Partial Coverage Fisheries Monitoring Advisory Committee October 11, 2022

The Council tasks the PCFMAC with considering the potential implications of allowing fishing vessels to contract directly with observer providers as a potential way to reduce costs and/or increase observer coverage in the partial coverage component of the observer program. The Council intends that this work should not begin until the PCFMAC completes the broader cost efficiencies analysis that is currently in progress, and that the PCFMAC will recommend how to prioritize this new tasking relative to other priorities being considered by the committee.

*** END ***

Text of the tabled D-5 motion for reference only:

The Council requests staff develop a discussion paper that would delineate the regulatory changes required to allow the partial coverage fleet to secure their observer coverage directly from the NOAA approved observer companies and be reimbursed at the end of the season from the fees collected from this fleet and their processors.