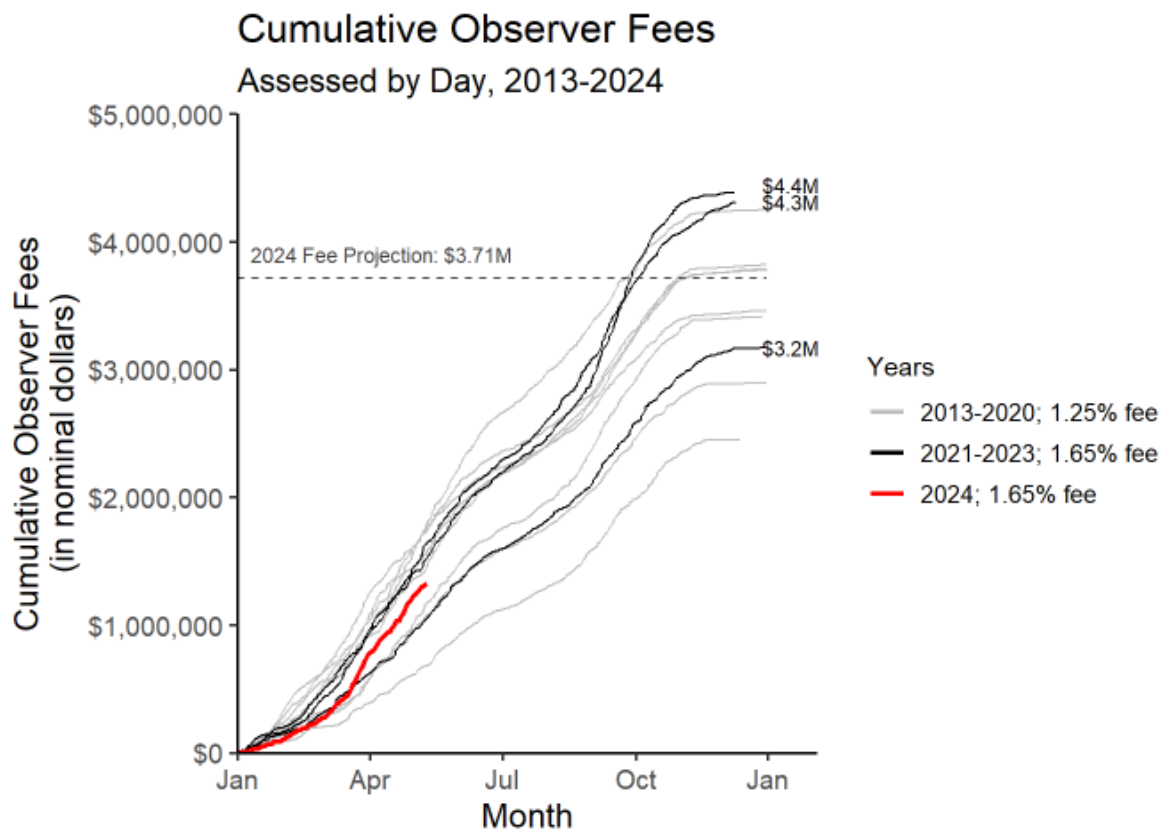


Update on 2024 Observer Fees

Prepared by the Alaska Regional Office for the FMAC

The observer fees assessed to-date for 2024 are \$1,318,712 (as of 5/10/2024). For context, this compares to \$1,644,065 at the same point in time last year, the year with the highest fee collection in this program. The following figure compares cumulative observer fees in 2024 with those in previous years.



The preliminary observer fee projection for 2024 is \$3.71M. This is based on projections of catch for halibut, sablefish, Pacific cod, and Pollock; standard prices published in the Federal Register for [2024](#); and a 1.65% fee percentage. Catch projections are based on allocations in 2024, Inseason management knowledge of harvest in the fisheries, and previous proportions of allocations harvested.

The fee projection for 2024 is less than the fees assessed in 2023 because:

- There is a decrease in IFQ and CDQ halibut allocations and the decrease in halibut standard prices is considerable (i.e., the median halibut standard price is \$1.69/pound lower in 2024).
- There are decreases in both IFQ sablefish allocations and most fixed gear sablefish standard prices.
- There is less Pacific cod harvest subject to Observer Fees with the start of fishing under the new, full observer coverage, BSAI Pacific Cod Trawl Cooperative program.