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# Update on Partial Observer Coverage Cost Efficiencies Integrated Analysis

March 2022

For the Partial Coverage Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee

# Partial coverage cost efficiencies analysis for the Draft 2024 ADP

- **Objective:**

- Design a deployment plan that can be used to monitor federally managed fisheries throughout the EEZ of Alaska in order to provide the best scientific information available (MSA National Standard 2) while adhering to the remaining National Standards.

- **Goals, Outcomes, Deliverables**

- To produce a **sampling design** for use in 2024 (Final 2024 ADP) that:
  - Uses multiple monitoring tools in a manner that is consistent with their capabilities
  - Collects the best scientific information available consistent with National Standard 2:
    - Provide data in a timely fashion
    - Undergo peer review (e.g. FMSC and SSC)
    - Work through Council processes
  - Supports National Standards 3, 7, 9 and 10



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# Partial coverage cost efficiencies analysis for the Draft 2024 ADP

- **Goals, Outcomes, Deliverables continued**

- To produce an **analytic document** that evaluates sample designs and recommends one design (2024 ADP) for use in future years, while identifying trade-offs between different monitoring deployment designs, including:
  - Relative per unit cost efficiency of each sample design
  - Statistical efficiency of each sample design
  - Relative impact to fishing operations
  - Relative scalability of each sample design
- Identify **regulatory changes** that will be necessary to achieve preferred sampling designs
- Inform future federal contract Performance Work Statements: observer sea days; shoreside observer days; electronic monitoring infrastructure and support; deployment ports for observers and EM; other issues if identified



# Partial coverage cost efficiencies analysis for the Draft 2024 ADP

- Evaluated sampling designs will be compared for scientific integrity and cost efficiency
  - Design elements to be evaluated include stratification, allocation, cost efficiency, logistics, compliance and workflow elements
- Evaluated sampling designs will be complete packages and components will not be interchangeable
- One sampling design will be the 2022 deployment model with the trawl EM program implemented under regulation
- At least one sampling design will not require regulatory changes (with the exception of trawl EM)



# Partial coverage cost efficiencies analysis for the Draft 2024 ADP

- Evaluated sampling designs may include elements which require regulatory changes in the future (e.g., port-based deployments; hail-in system enabling shoreside monitoring)
- Evaluated sampling designs may disregard traditional budget constraints (e.g., fixed costs required to maintain a static fixed gear EM pool; 2000-day minimum observer sea day contractual requirement) in order to explore how to collect the most data for the least cost



# Partial coverage cost efficiencies analysis for the Draft 2024 ADP

- Observer cooperatives or voucher programs
  - These programs are not elements of a sampling design, and would not affect the evaluated designs
  - These programs only impact the method of procuring of observer services
    - The OAC's September 2017 Low Selection Rates Discussion Paper explored both these ideas and concluded that internal fleet management costs associated with cooperatives would likely outweigh benefits and that voucher programs could shift inequitable “over and above” costs to harvesters.



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# 2021 Annual Report

- NMFS recommends releasing an abbreviated 2021 Annual Report inclusive of:
  - Chapter 1 (Introduction, Background Information)
  - Chapter 2 (Fees and Budget)
  - Chapter 3 (Deployment Performance – TABLE 3.3 only)
  - Chapter 4 (Descriptive Information)
  - Chapter 5 (Compliance and Enforcement)
- This approach will allow analytic staff to focus on the 2024 sampling designs.
- The Fishery Monitoring Science Committee will not review or provide additional recommendations.



# Questions



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