Monitored Catch in 2023

Prepared by the NMFS Alaska Regional Office for the Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee (FMAC)
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The Council motion on the Observer Program 2022 Annual Report, recommended future reports include data on the amount of catch monitored by electronic monitoring (EM) similar to data on observed catch. Previous Annual Reports have summarized monitored catch on trips with at-sea observers, EM fixed-gear trips with video review beginning in 2018, and EM trawl exempted fishing permit (EFP) trips with shoreside sampling beginning in 2021. However, these tables differentiated monitored catch by sector, gear, and area, and did not summarize monitored catch by the type of monitoring the catch was subject to nor did they address the different types of monitoring possible on the EM trawl EFP trips.

The following table summarizes catch by selection pool, the type of monitoring that occurred, and area. For trips in full coverage and observer trips selection, this means that an at-sea observer was onboard the vessel. For trips in the EM fixed-gear pool, it means that some of the video was reviewed. For trips under the EM trawl EFP it means whether observers sampled shoreside to collect biological samples and census counts of salmon and halibut PSC or, separately, whether video was reviewed for compliance monitoring.

Because the EM trawl program is operating under an exempted fishing permit, and not as a regulated program until 2025, this table has not been included in this year's Annual Report. With a regulated program, and as data streams are finalized and reporting on issues affecting data review from Service Providers to NMFS is incorporated into the EM Service Provider component of Observer Declare and Deploy System (ODDS), a table similar to this could be included in future Annual Reports.

Please note the following:

- It is anticipated that 100% of video from EM trawl trips will be reviewed for compliance monitoring, but policy decisions have dictated that when there is a backlog of video needing review, fixed gear review is prioritized because it is used for in-season catch estimation. When there is a backlog, current year's video also take precedence over any previous years' video still needing review.
- A "camera on" summary is not included in the table at this time because it is not a binary outcome. Under the EFP a series of cameras are used on the vessel. In the event that a camera has issues, other cameras can be used to review for compliance with maximized retention. Also, the issues a camera experiences may not make the video unusable for all or part of the trip.

The number (n) and percent (%) of trips and the metric tons (mt) and percent (%) of groundfish and halibut catch in the groundfish and halibut fisheries in 2023 by selection pool, type of monitoring, and area.

		GOA				BSAI				All Areas			
		Trip		Catch		Trip		Catch		Trip		Catch	
Selection Pool	Monitoring	n	%	mt	%	n	%	mt	%	n	%	mt	%
Full Coverage	At-Sea Observer	188	100.0	49,572	100.0	1,411	99.7	1,399,154	99.9	1,588	99.7	1,448,727	100.0
	Total	188		49,572		1,415		1,399,868		1,592		1,449,440	
EM Fixed Gear[1]	Video Reviewed	186	22.1	3,099	23.1	6	11.3	370	16.9	188	21.3	3,468	22.2
	Total	841		13,403		53		2,185		881		15,589	
EM Trawl EFP[2]	Shoreside Sampling	188	32.4	23,347	34.3	1,162	100.0	350,216	100.0	1,350	77.5	373,563	89.3
	Video Reviewed	367	63.3	43,140	63.3	632	54.4	198,026	56.5	999	57.3	241,166	57.6
	Total	580		68,150		1,162		350,216		1,742		418,366	
Observer Trip Selection	At-Sea Observer	554	21.4	28,942	29.3	103	22.2	5,812	19.4	654	21.6	34,753	27.0
	Total	2,587		98,674		465		29,963		3,022		128,637	
No Selection	No Monitoring	1,311	0	3,958	0	112	0	112	0	1,420	0	4,070	0
All	**All Monitoring**	**5,507**		**233,758**		**3,207**		**1,782,345**		**8,657**		**2,016,103**	

[1] Trip counts and catch in the EM fixed gear strata reflect video review through 4/14/2024. Data from video review are used in catch estimation.

[2] Trip counts and catch in the EM trawl EFP strata reflect video review through 4/28/2024. Data from video review are used for compliance monitoring.