

B2 Letter to NPFMC Amendment 126/114 Approval JUNE 2024 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668

April 15, 2024

Mr. David Witherell, Executive Director North Pacific Fishery Management Council 1007 West Third, Suite 400 Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Witherell:

We have approved Amendments 126/114 to the Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska and for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (RIN 0648-BM40). These amendments expand Electronic Monitoring (EM) to the pollock fisheries under the North Pacific Observer Program. The trawl EM category would allow for compliance monitoring to be conducted by an EM system on board the vessel combined with sampling by observers deployed at shoreside or stationary floating processors, instead of at-sea observers.

Sincerely,

Jonathan M. Kurland Regional Administrator

