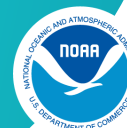




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# Monitoring Requirements for BSAI Pot CPs & Medical Transfer Limits

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# Revising Monitoring Requirements for Pot CPs Participating in BSAI Groundfish Fisheries

- **BSAI Pot CP Fishery**

- Non-CDQ vessels targeting Pacific cod
- NMFS concerned with data availability for management
  - Small fishery, short seasons
  - Errors in data collection have large impact on catch estimates

- **Feb. 2021 Council Meeting**

- Council supported NMFS work on improving observer data collection through NMFS authority under section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and report back at a later date

- **Today:** Seeking input from Council on draft analysis to revise monitoring requirements



# Alternatives

- **Alternative 1: No Action**
- **Alternative 2: Implement additional monitoring requirements for pot CPs participating in the BSAI groundfish fisheries**
- Two required elements:
  - **Element 1: Require a min. of one Level 2 observer on board at all times**
    - Reduced collection errors through experience
    - Small possibility of reduced observer availability
  - **Element 2: Require vessel comply with pre-cruise notifications**
    - Opportunity for conversation: AFSC FMA staff, vessel crew and a newly assigned observer
    - Reduced collection errors through clarified expectations, advice about anticipated sampling scenarios, and communication strategies
    - Costs of vessel time and personnel



# Alternatives Cont.

- **Element 3:** Additional *voluntary* monitoring options:
  - **Option 1: Allow a certified observer sampling station with motion compensated platform (MCP) scale for the observer's use**
    - Organized workspace; more precise weight estimates
    - Costs of installation, maintenance, and inspection
  - **Option 2: Allow a motion-compensated, NMFS-Certified Scale (e.g. flow scale) to measure total catch of Pacific cod, in conjunction with an MCP scale for testing, electronic logbook, and video monitoring**
    - Removes uncertainty when extrapolating haul samples to total catch
    - Costs of installation, maintenance, and inspection
  - **Option 3: Allow a vessel to carry additional onboard observers**
    - Shared workload; more hauls sampled
    - Costs of additional observer; observer availability
- Although voluntary, regulations for these options would include requirements necessary to ensure data quality for management



# NMFS Recommendation

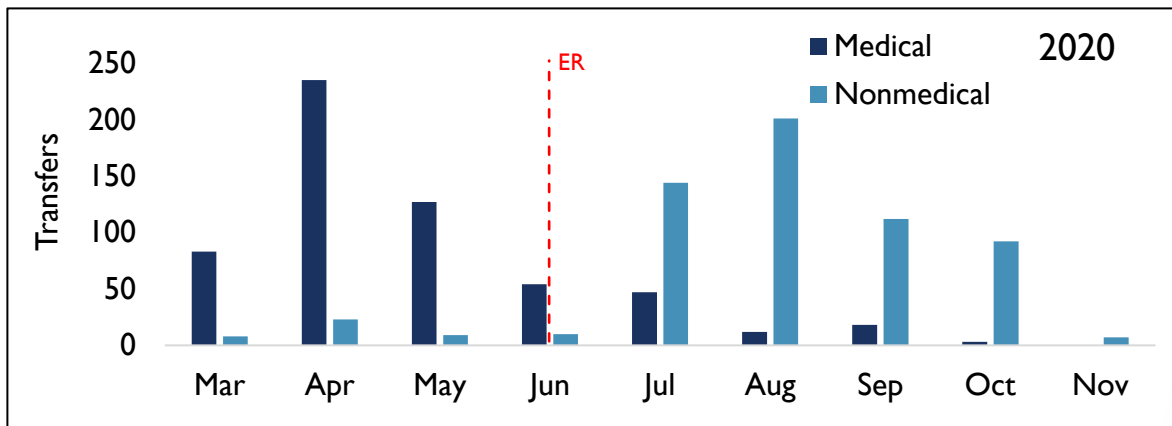
- **Recommendation:** Alternative 2
  - Would reduce likelihood of collection errors through improved experience, collaboration, and work environment
  - Industry support
- NMFS action under section 305(d) of Magnuson-Stevens Act
- Not necessary for the Council to make a recommendation for this action to move forward, but feedback is welcome, and the Council may request the review of a later draft of the analysis or draft regulations
  - If no further review requested, questions and concerns from the Council and/or public would be addressed in a draft proposed rule



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# Medical Transfer Limit Waivers

- **Medical Transfer Provision**
  - Allows IFQ transfer when a medical conditions prevents participation
  - Limitation: not allowed if used in any 3 of the past 7 calendar years
- **2020-2021**: high rate of medical transfers during COVID-19
  - Emergency rules authorized widespread use of temporary transfers

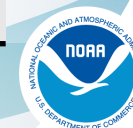


- **April 2022 Council Meeting**: NMFS sought Council support to analyze benefits and costs of waving medical transfers approved in 2020 and 2021
  - Today: Seeking input from Council on draft analysis

# Medical Transfer Limit Waivers

- **Alternative 1:** No action
- **Alternative 2:** Waive medical transfers in the following years:
  - **Option 1:** 2020 (326 participants)
  - **Option 2:** 2021 (67 participants)
  - **Option 3:** 2022 (unknown)
    - 351 participants used in *either* 2020, 2021
    - 42 participants used in *both* 2020, 2021
      - If used a 3rd time in 2022, will be unable to use in 2023

		Year									
		2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Prior Years Identical Permits Used	2021	<b>67</b>									
	2020	42	<b>326</b>								
	2019	19	125	<b>187</b>							
	2018	15	83	112	<b>164</b>						
	2017	12	55	71	84	<b>118</b>					
	2016	9	37	47	53	68	<b>112</b>				
	2015	9	27	34	37	42	59	<b>78</b>			
	2014	7	21	25	26	27	34	39	<b>58</b>		
	2013	4	12	15	16	16	18	20	22	<b>39</b>	
	2012	4	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	17	<b>36</b>



# Medical Transfer Limit Waivers

- **NMFS Recommendation:** Options 1 (2020), 2 (2021), and 3 (2022)
  - Would benefit at least 351 total individuals
  - Most benefit to at least 42 individuals
- Proposed under section 305(d) of Magnuson-Stevens Act
  - Authorizes Secretary to develop regulations necessary to implement FMPs
- Not necessary for the Council to make a recommendation for this action to move forward, but feedback is welcome, and the Council may request the review of a later draft of the analysis or draft regulations
  - If no further review requested, questions and concerns from the Council and/or public would be addressed in a draft proposed rule

