

## C-1 Council motion

### 2024 Observer Annual Report & 2026 Annual Deployment Plan

June 6, 2025

#### 2024 Annual Report

The Council appreciates the 2024 Annual Report on the observer program and recommends the following for future reports, in addition to SSC recommendations as practicable:

- The executive summary should include program summary statistics, such as the percentage of catch observed as indicated on p. 85:
  - In the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI), all pelagic trawl catch was on trips with 100% or 200% coverage. In the BSAI and Gulf of Alaska combined, **91.2% of pelagic trawl catch was on trips with 100% or 200% coverage and 8.8% was on trips in partial coverage**. All partial coverage trips were in the Gulf of Alaska and 34% of the catch was monitored. This percentage is higher if trawl trips covered by electronic monitoring (EM) are considered.
  - In the BSAI and Gulf of Alaska combined, **95.6% of non-pelagic trawl catch was on trips with 100% or 200% coverage and 4.4% was on trips in partial coverage**. Partial coverage trips occurred in both the BSAI and GOA, with 79.1% and 16.4% of their catch monitored, respectively.
- The executive summary should include identification of any notable changes from the previous year's deployment scheme and resulting changes in trends or conclusions as to their effectiveness.
- Include the amount and timeliness of EM data review for the pelagic gear EM program similar to the fixed gear EM program.
- Highlight the results of the ODDS trip cancellation policy change in 2025 (i.e., ability to edit not cancel selected trips) and its effect on reducing temporal bias.

#### 2026 Annual Deployment Plan (ADP)

The Council supports the following recommendations for the 2026 ADP:

- For the partial coverage program, similar to 2025, use the proximity allocation method (except for pelagic trawl EM) and the following strata for deployment: (observer, EM fixed gear, EM trawl), Fishery Management Plan areas (BSAI, GOA), and gear type (fixed, trawl)
- For pelagic trawl EM, maintain 100% EM at-sea monitoring and the 33% sampling rate of EM deliveries by shoreside observers
- Maintain fixed gear EM selection pool of up to 178 vessels. If needed, prioritize placement in the EM selection pool based on vessel size, fishing effort, minimizing data gaps, and cost efficiency. Remove vessels with repeated problems causing data loss from the EM pool.
- Improve EM video review times with Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and use prioritization rules to better allocate review effort to the fisheries, gear types, times, and areas most dependent on EM data for management.
- As practicable for this or future ADPs, consider revisions to the zero selection pool (currently <40' fixed-gear catcher vessels and jig gear) for cost efficiency purposes to potentially include fixed-gear catcher vessels with: 1-2 annual trips and/or low quota/catch volume.