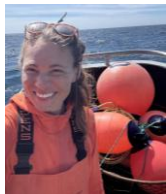




C1 PCFMAC Report

Sara Cleaver, NPFMC

October 2026



Partial Coverage Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee (PCFMAC)

- September 15 Meeting Agenda:
 - Draft 2027 ADP
 - Budget information
 - Updates from the Center for Independent Experts (CIE) Review of ADP
 - Inclusion/exclusion criteria for fixed gear EM.
 - Analysis of zero coverage pool
 - Additional updates from public



Draft 2027 ADP

2027 preliminary selection rates for vessels remaining in partial coverage are:

- At-sea observer:
 - Fixed gear, BSAI: 31%
 - Fixed gear, GOA: 9%
 - Trawl, BSAI: 47%
 - Trawl, GOA: 15%
- EM:
 - Fixed gear, BSAI: 43
 - Fixed gear, GOA: 15
 - Trawl EM GOA: 100% EM coverage at-sea and shoreside salmon and halibut accounting, plus 33% shoreside sampling for biological data



Draft 2027 ADP

The Committee:

- **Supported agency recommendations on the Draft 2027 ADP**
 - Retain the same sampling unit (trip or delivery), stratification (8 partial coverage strata based on monitoring method, gear type, and FMP) and allocation method (proximity, except for trawl EM GOA) as the Final 2026 ADP.



Scientific Review of the ADP by the CIE

- Committee noted significant undertaking of CIE review
- **Committee recommended the Council explore opportunities to better communicate the groundfish fisheries monitoring conducted in the North Pacific to the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC).**
- Final reports and all associated resources from the review can be found at: <https://noaa-afsc.github.io/CIE-Review-Observer-ADP-AnnualReport/>.



Fixed gear vessel minimum effort analysis

- The PCFMAC supported the agency's recommendation for an annual evaluation of vessel participation in the fixed gear EM pool. As part of this review:
 - In 2027, vessels who have not complied with requirements to update and submit EM VMPs for the past 3 years would be removed from the fixed gear EM pool.
 - Beginning with the 2028 ADP:
 - Vessels would be removed and placed in observer pool if they average < 3 trips per year over the prior 3 years. Must return EM equipment
 - Vessels requesting to rejoin the fixed gear EM pool need at least 5 trips per year over the prior 3 years.
 - NMFS should establish a waiver process for active vessels that fish fewer < 3 trips that are proposed to be removed from the fixed gear EM pool if they can prove they do not have bunk space for an observer.
 - The committee clarified that there should be no obstacles (such as prior trip history) to a vessel joining the fixed gear EM pool for the first time.



Evaluation of Low-Effort Fixed Gear Vessels for No-Selection Eligibility

Revisions to the no-selection (zero coverage) have been an ongoing priority for committee and Council.

The committee:

- Appreciated this evaluation, noting results showed no meaningful cost efficiencies
- Noted that there are <40' vessels currently in the no selection pool who have substantial fishing activity, and recommended the agency review fishing effort among vessels in the no-selection pool to determine whether some have sufficient activity to warrant consideration for inclusion in partial coverage.
 - Also noted that vessels unable to accommodate an observer due to size could apply to participate in the EM program.



Other updates to committee

- Sarah Williamson, APU FAST Lab
 - Machine learning and EM video review to improve fish length estimation, species ID with the goal of supporting more accurate catch accounting, integrate data into assessments
 - Emphasis on industry collaboration and feedback
- Eric Torgerson, Chordata LLC
 - NFWF proposal on collecting real-time gear deployment and retrieval data through EM systems in AFA pollock fleet



Future Scheduling

- FMAC May 2027, review presentation on annual report
 - Agency will provide written report Oct 2027 under NMFS B report
- PCFMAC normally meets September to review next ADP
- **Committee would like FMAC to review Lead Level 2 analysis, TBD**



Questions?

