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Draft 2025 Annual Deployment Plan and Trip Cancellations in ODDS

September 16th, 2024

NMFS Approach

- Implement a monitoring program that collects credible, statistically rigorous scientific data
- Collect the best and most data under variable budgets using all the monitoring tools now available
- Collect data for a wide range of analytic needs (multi-objective program)

Council Priorities

- Efficiently distribute monitoring such that more monitoring is achieved for the available budget
- Increase monitoring on trawl-fisheries for PSC accounting
- Monitoring that has least impact on fishing operations
- A partial coverage program that isn't contentious



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Challenges are to....

- Meet the data needs of users with a wide range of analytic and management objectives
- Collect data that reflects the full range of fishing activities: samples which represent the characteristics of the larger population



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Monitoring Approaches in 2025

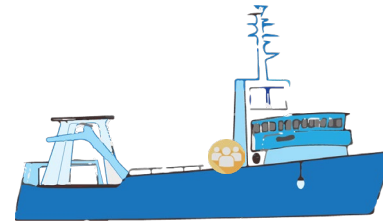
At-sea observers + compliance cameras:

- Catcher-processors (all gear types) & motherships
- 1 or 2 fishery observers plus compliance cameras on all trips



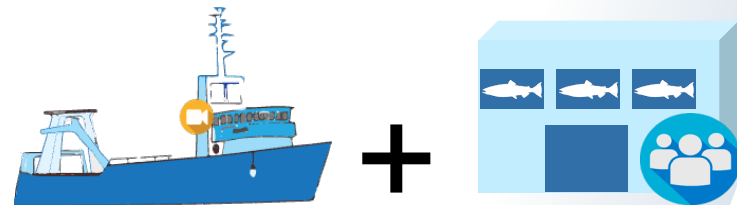
At-sea observers:

- Catcher vessels, all gear types & few catcher processors
- Observers sampling at-sea on either all trips (full coverage) or selection of trips (partial coverage)



EM + shoreside observers:

- Pollock catcher vessels in partial or full coverage fisheries
- At-sea EM for compliance with shoreside observers monitoring and sampling



EM only:

- Partial coverage longline and pot
- EM used for catch estimation



Expected Monitoring the AK Federal Fisheries in 2025

% of Retained Catch Monitored by FMP and Gear-type, Full & Partial Coverage		
	Trawl	Fixed-Gear
BSAI	99.97%	87.69%
GOA	81.20%	16.02%

% of Retained Catch Monitored by FMP and Gear-type, Partial Coverage ONLY		
	Trawl	Fixed-Gear
BSAI	47.36%	27.63%
GOA	76.38%	8.59%



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Preliminary Budget for 2025

- For this analysis, NMFS set a ***preliminary budget of \$4.4M*** to support 2025 monitoring of the partial coverage fisheries.

Budget will be updated for the final 2025 ADP; presented to the NPFMC in December 2024

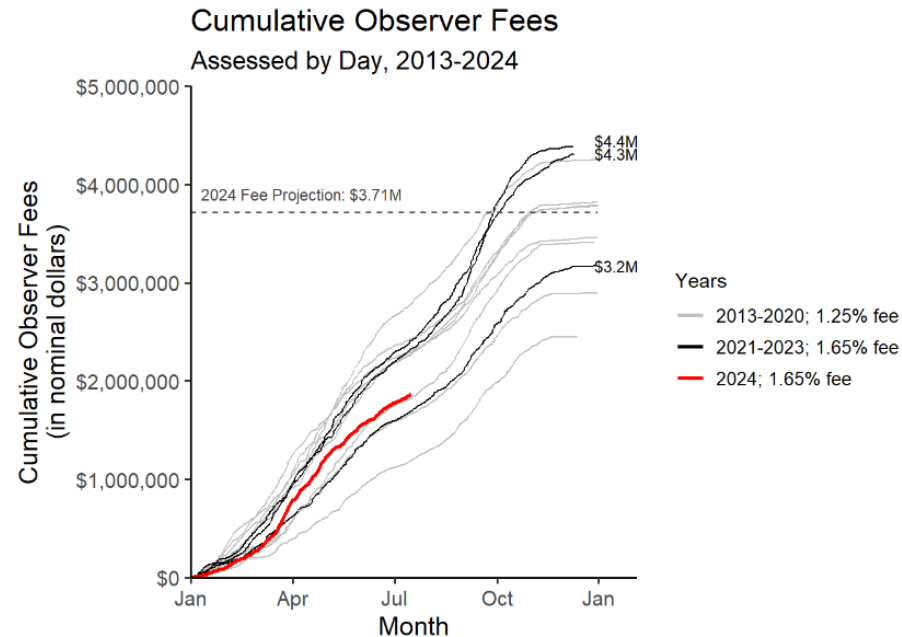
- The **preliminary budget** includes estimated revenues generated from 2024 ex-vessel fees, “carryover” revenue from ex-vessel fees from earlier years; and any federal funding that can be secured for direct monitoring costs
- Assumed no GOA (partial coverage) dockside monitoring needs at Sand Point and False Pass
- **There is still a lot of uncertainty** in the preliminary budget – more than in past years



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Uncertainty in Preliminary ADP Budget

- Fee revenue is still being assessed for landings in 2024; as of August 26, \$2.30M in Observer Fees had been assessed out of the projected \$3.71M
- Integrating the costs of Trawl EM into the annual budget
- Unknown costs associated with the competition of the partial coverage observer contract
- Ongoing delays in receiving funding associated with the transition in NOAA's financial systems



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Fishing Year, Fiscal Year, Grant Year, and Contract Year

2024					2025					2026															
J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A
			Federal Fiscal Year 2025										Federal Fiscal Year 2026												
PSMFC Electronic Technologies Grant Year 2										PSMFC Electronic Technologies Grant Year 3															
Year 5 AIS Obs Contract		Year 1 of New Observer Contract										Year 2 of New Observer Contract													

We are here

Contract year will align with Federal Fiscal year



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Clarity Expected for Final ADP Budget

- Near final predictions on the amount of revenue generated from fees for landings in 2024
- Finalized costs of EM hardware servicing through Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (sub-contracted out to EM service providers)
- New partial coverage observer contract awarded; known pricing for “guaranteed,” “option,” and “plant” observer days; known amount obligated to support observer travel
- Expect to be able to obligate off-cycle grants to Pacific States to support Trawl EM implementation with federal funding



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Partial Coverage Deployment Plan



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2025 Partial Coverage Sample Design

- **Sample unit:** Fishing trip/shoreside delivery
- **Stratification:** Sampling strata defined by:
 - Monitoring method (At-sea observer, EM, or none)
 - Gear type (fixed gear or trawl gear)
 - FMP (BSAI or GOA)
- **Allocation:** ‘Proximity Allocation,’ an algorithm that:
 - Reduces spatiotemporal data gaps
 - Guards against low sample size
 - Excluding EM Trawl GOA stratum
- **The Observer Declare & Deploy System (ODDS)** assigns a stratum to each trip and randomly selects trips for monitoring using allocated sample rates.



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2025 Partial Coverage Sample Design

- **Stratification: 8 partial coverage strata**
 - At-sea observers
 - **At-sea Observer Fixed-gear BSAI**
 - **At-sea Observer Fixed-gear GOA**
 - **At-sea Observer Trawl BSAI**
 - **At-sea Observer Trawl GOA**
 - EM at-sea
 - **EM Fixed-gear BSAI**
 - **EM Fixed-gear GOA**
 - EM at-sea w/ Shoreside Observers
 - **EM Trawl GOA**
 - No Selection (vessels < 40 ft LOA and/or using jig gear)
 - **No Selection**



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2025 Partial Coverage Sample Design

- **Stratification: 8 partial coverage strata**

- At-sea observers
 - **At-sea Observer Fixed-gear BSAI**
 - **At-sea Observer Fixed-gear GOA**
 - **At-sea Observer Trawl BSAI**
 - **At-sea Observer Trawl GOA**
- EM at-sea
 - **EM Fixed-gear BSAI**
 - **EM Fixed-gear GOA**

Proximity Allocation

- EM w/ Shoreside Observers
 - **EM Trawl GOA**

Costs estimated and allocated first

- No Selection (vessels < 40 ft LOA and/or using jig gear)
 - **No Selection**



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2025 Partial Coverage Sample Design

- **Costs: EM Trawl GOA**

- **Shoreside Observer costs included:**

- Labor: 5 observers x 144 days each (A + B season) = 720 days to monitor Kodiak plants (day costs based on independent government estimate of day prices)
 - Lodging and food
 - Assumes No GOA deliveries in Sand Point or False Pass

- **EM equipment costs included:**

- Equipment maintenance costs per each GOA-only vessel (\$5,000 each for 39 vessels)
 - EM data storage and review costs
 - Excludes installation/replacement costs, assumed to be covered by the Congressionally Directed Spending funds

- **Total estimated cost: \$795,000**

- **\$4,400,000 – \$795,000 = \$3,605,000 remaining**



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2025 Partial Coverage Sample Design

- **Costs: At-sea observers:**
 - **At-sea Observer costs included:**
 - Labor, number and per-day costs of guaranteed and optional days and contract year (day costs based on independent government estimate of day prices)
 - Travel (based on actual costs in recent years)
- **Costs: EM fixed-gear:**
 - **EM fixed-gear costs included:**
 - Equipment maintenance costs per vessel (\$4,770.95 per vessel for 177 vessels)
 - EM data storage and review costs
 - Excludes installation/replacement costs, assumed to be covered by the Congressionally Directed Spending funds

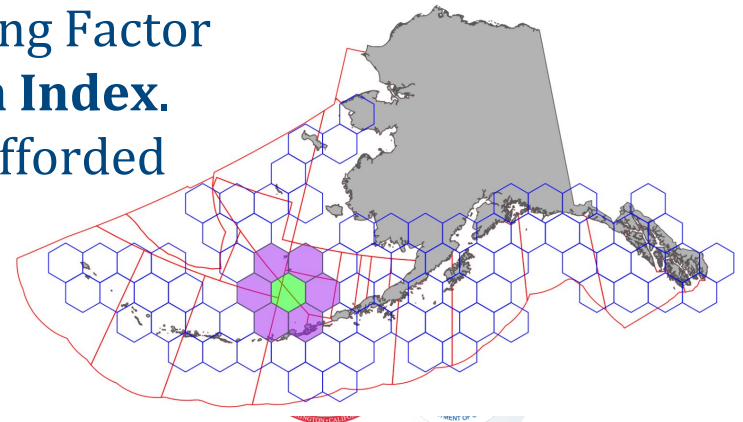


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2025 Partial Coverage Sample Design

Proximity Allocation

- Fishing effort (number of trips in each stratum and when/where they fished) assumed to be the same as August 6th 2023 through August 5th 2024.
- For each stratum, determine the relationship between sample rate and:
 - the proportion of fishing trips that will be monitored or nearby a monitored trip in space or time (**Proximity Index**)
 - measure of uncertainty in stratum-level estimates as a function of sample size (**Variance Scaling Factor**)
- The Proximity Index and Variance Scaling Factor combine into the **Proximity Allocation Index**. Determine the maximum value that is afforded by all strata.



2025 Partial Coverage Sample Design

- Table B-1.** Preliminary budget and funds allocated to the monitoring pools

Draft 2025 ADP

Partial Coverage Monitoring Budget (\$)

At-sea Observer	\$3,605,000	\$2,628,000
EM Fixed-gear		\$977,000
EM Trawl GOA		\$795,000
Total		\$4,400,000



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Dockside Monitoring – Full Coverage

- Objectives
 1. salmon bycatch count
 2. halibut bycatch count
 3. salmon genetic samples
 4. biological samples from non-salmon species
- BSAI trawl pollock fishery - catcher vessels both EM & non-EM Trawl
 - every offload: all objectives
- GOA Trawl Pollock
 - EM - delivering shoreside and tenders
 - every EM offload: objectives 1- 3
 - 33% offloads for objective 4

For more information - see Table 3 in ADP



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Preliminary Full Coverage Sample Size and Rates

Component	Pool	Stratum	Selection Rate (%)	Number of Trips Expected to be Observed
Full Coverage	Full Coverage	Full Coverage	100	918
	EM Trawl BSAI	EM Trawl BSAI	100	1,672



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Preliminary Partial Coverage Sample Size and Rates

Pool	Stratum	Selection Rate (%)	Number of Trips	Number of Trips Expected to be Observed
At-sea Observer	Fixed-gear BSAI	23	257	59
	Fixed-gear GOA	7	1,855	136
	Trawl BSAI	47	24	11
	Trawl GOA	12	314	37
EM Fixed-gear	EM Fixed-gear BSAI	48	70	33
	EM Fixed-gear GOA	13	883	111
EM Trawl GOA	EM Trawl GOA	100	984	984 (at-sea EM)
		100	984	984 (salmon & halibut PSC accounting)
		33	984	328 (Biologicals)
No-selection	No-selection	0	1389	0



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Questions?



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Trip Cancellations in ODDS



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Problem

- Current rules in ODDS are not sufficient to ensure monitoring is occurring at rates specified in ADPs.
- The cancellation and inheritance process as currently implemented in ODDS results in moving monitored trips forward in time relative to total fishing trips resulting in a bias.



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Charge

- June 2024 NPFMC and NMFS recommended
NMFS work with the PCFMAC to develop an ODDS trip cancellation policy for the 2025 ADP
- “...develop an ODDS trip cancellation policy...that will not significantly impede industry, affords the observer provider adequate time to deploy an observer, and reduces impacts to coverage rates and non-random monitoring.”



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Current State

User	ODDS Process			
	Log Trips in advance	Change Pending Trip Information	Delay a trip	Cancel a trip
Vessel operator or designated ODDS user	Required. Up to three. If a trip selected for monitoring is canceled, then limited to one.	Yes. If a trip is selected for monitoring, changes must be done by the monitoring provider.	Yes. If a trip is selected for monitoring, changes must be done by the monitoring provider.	Yes. If a trip selected for monitoring is canceled, then a future trip inherits the monitoring.
Observer or EM provider		Only for trips selected for monitoring at the request of vessel operator or designated ODDS user	Only at the request of vessel operator or to accommodate logistics (72 hours from trip logged to trip departure)	Only if a selected trip is delayed by operator for > 48 hrs

Excerpt from Table 1



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Trip Cancellations

- Logged but never taken
- Disproportionate cancellation of trips selected for monitoring compared to trips not selected for monitoring has a large negative impact on ADP selection rates
 - ⇒ Biased data



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Inheritance

- Moves the monitoring status of canceled trip to a future trip
- Attempts to
 - mitigate bias introduced when selected trips are canceled
 - ensure NMFS meets monitoring goals set out in the ADP
- Fixed Gear EM
 - Next **pending** trip inherits monitoring
- At-sea Observers
 - Next **newly logged** trip inherits monitoring
- Delays monitoring
 - ⇒ Biased data



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Proposed Solutions

Option 1. Limit the number of pending trips to two (2).

- This would reduce the time between when a trip selected for monitoring was canceled and when the subsequent trip was actually monitored and, thus, reduces bias.
- Current - max. 3 pending trips
- Original purpose to provide flexibility for trawl vessels
- Implementation of the regulated trawl EM program reduces the need for this flexibility



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Proposed Solutions (cont'd.)

Option 2. Apply inheritance to the next pending trip in the observer strata.

- This would reduce the time between when a trip selected for monitoring was canceled and when the subsequent trip was actually monitored and, thus, reduces bias.
- Provides consistency with inherit rule in EM strata.



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Proposed Solutions (cont'd.)

Option 3. Prohibit cancellations by user.

- Canceling trips is largely unnecessary
- Trip replacement in ODDS allows flexibility to change trip logistics (e.g., dates, landing ports, etc.)
- ODDS will apply the new selection rate with a warning to the user if trip moves to new ADP stratum
- This would eliminate the canceling of trips and inheritance process for most trips
 - exception: delayed trip

The observer provider could cancel the delayed trip after 48 hours

Next trip inherits the monitoring



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NMFS Preferred Solution

Option 1: Limit the number of pending trips to two (2)

- Least impact on ODDS users:
 - With implementation of Trawl EM, the need to log 3 trips has been reduced
 - Discourages logging more trips than necessary to harvest quota each year
 - Encourages use of trip replacement option in ODDS over cancelation
- Reduces potential to delay monitoring
- In combination with outreach emphasizing ODDS flexibilities



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How to maximize ODDS for your trip

1. Log trips at least three (3) days or more in advance.
2. Log accurate information - this will reduce the number of problems you encounter.
3. Update your fishing plans in ODDS when they change, rather than canceling and logging new trips.
4. Close past fishing trips.
5. Log only the trips you intend to take.

Partial coverage trips are required to be logged in advance through the ODDS website (<http://odds.afsc.noaa.gov>) or by calling the ODDS call center at 1-855-747-6377



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Reminder of Important Dates for ODDS

- Annual opt-in for trawl catcher vessels to be placed in Full Coverage must have been completed prior to October 15
- Opt-in and Opt-out request period for EM: September 1 - November 1
- For partial coverage vessels, ODDS users may indicate a preferred EM service provider - this is not guaranteed
- NMFS selects EM provider based on cost efficiency (e.g., location of home port, EM technician availability, installation cost, annual maintenance cost, etc.)
- Vessels requesting EM will be evaluated based on cost efficiency (e.g., fishing effort history, location of home port, etc) and ability to carry an observer (e.g., limited bunk space or life raft capacity, etc)
- Fixed-gear vessels accepted into the EM pool are in the EM pool until they opt-out or - in rare cases - are removed for failure to adhere to their Vessel Monitoring Plan
- Trawl-gear vessels accepted into the EM pool must request to opt-in each year



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Acknowledgments

- Thank you to the observers, observer providers, captains, crew members, EM providers, video reviewers, and agency staff who make fishery-dependent data collection possible
- Thank you to the members of the FMAC and PCFMAC for their input, feedback, and dedication to sustainable fisheries management
- Thank you to the AFSC, AKRO, and PSMFC staff who have developed the Draft 2025 ADP and the ODDS Improvements document



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