

**ADVISORY PANEL**  
**Motions and Rationale**  
**June 7-10, 2022 - Sitka, AK**

**C4 Trawl EM**

The AP recommends the Council release the document as a Final Review draft with Alternative 2 (electronic monitoring implemented on pelagic trawl pollock catcher vessels and tenders delivering to shoreside processors in the BS and GOA) as the PPA and maintain the current timeline for final action in October 2022. The AP supports the recommendations from the Trawl EM Committee and recommends the analysis focus on the following elements to help guide final policy decisions for the program:

- The partial coverage 1.65% fee pay for EM for those vessels that only participate in the GOA pollock fishery;
- GOA processor costs for housing and feeding shoreside observers be absorbed by the partial coverage monitoring budget within the 1.65% fee; and
- A threshold approach where vessels would be required to use their EM systems for 25% to 50% of all pollock fishing trips (pelagic trawl) in the GOA during a calendar year.

*Motion passed 13-0*

*Rationale:*

- *This package will create an effective EM program in the United States' largest fishery by volume, which will incorporate a diverse group of participants and management structures across the two different regions. Implementation of a fully regulated pelagic pollock trawl EM program will provide multiple benefits to the fishery and its participants, including greatly improving the data quality and overall monitoring cost efficiency.*
- *There has been an unprecedented level of stakeholder, agency, and private sector commitment and collaboration that has worked for several years to consistently adjust and adapt the various components of this program to meet the compliance monitoring objectives and needs of the fishery.*
- *The first two bullet recommendations are included to provide equitable treatment across partial coverage fishery participants (fixed and trawl gear EM participants) so that GOA trawl participants who will continue to be assessed the 1.65% fee are not financially burdened when other partial coverage participants are not. Not only will this address equity but it will also allow for cost efficiencies when using the same EM system across multiple partial coverage fisheries. Additionally, GOA processors currently contribute half of the 1.65% partial observer coverage fee and will continue to do so under a regulated program. GOA processors are also making substantial investment into monitoring costs through the existing fee, complying with the CMCP requirements, and observer sampling stations.*
- *The third bullet is included as a new component for analysis based on recommendation made at the Trawl EM Committee and in public comment. It is recommended as a balance between the efficiencies the Agency is looking for in comparison to incentives for GOA pollock trawl vessels to select EM as a monitoring option. The threshold approach is intended to incentivize participation in the program and allow the Agency to plan budgets, while still providing vessels*

*needed flexibility. Under this approach, if a vessel does not meet the participation threshold for pelagic pollock trips, they would not be allowed to participate in the trawl EM program in the GOA for the following year.*

- *The intent of this motion is not to remove any current options for potential policy choices by the Council at the time of final action. Based on stakeholder input during the Trawl EM Committee meeting and in public comment, the three issues identified addressed in the bullets of this motion are the ones most focused on and garnering the most conversation. As such, the Final Review Analysis will benefit from a thorough analytical discussion in order to best inform the Council in October.*