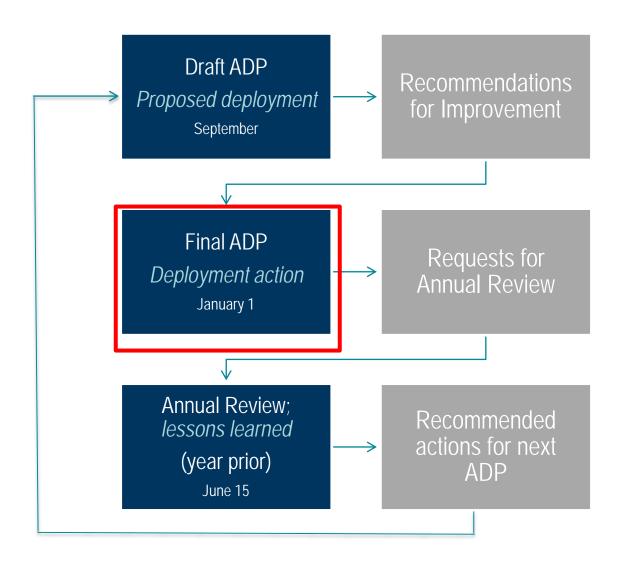




Alaska Fisheries Science Center

2016 Annual Deployment Plan Update for observers in the Groundfish and Halibut fisheries off Alaska:

Annual process: Government & Public (Council)





2016 Partial Coverage in one slide:

- The zero-selection portion of fleet (Jig, troll and fixed gear < 40' LOA) will be increased to accommodate vessels participating in Electronic Monitoring Pre-Implementation and Research (from 10 in 2015 to approx. 65 vessels in 2016- List is finalized Nov. 20th under direction of EM Workgroup)
- Trip-selection will be sole method to assign observers to remaining partial coverage fishing activities.
- 2016 deployment strata will be defined by gear, with <u>preliminary</u> rates as follows:
 - Trawl 29%, Longline 14%, Pot 14% (AFSC-TM-307)
- No change to observer protocols for salmon bycatch in pollock fisheries:
 - 100% in BSAI; at-sea deployment rates in Gulf
 - Genetics collected for 1 of 10 Chinook and 1 of 30 Chum in BSAI (ABL); all encountered bycatch in GOA. (AFSC-TM-288)
- Conditional releases for vessels with four-person life raft and predominant history of four person crew discontinued (<50% release rate in 2014, AFSC-TM-302)
- Maintain ability to log 3 trips in ODDS; continue "Three in a row" exemption

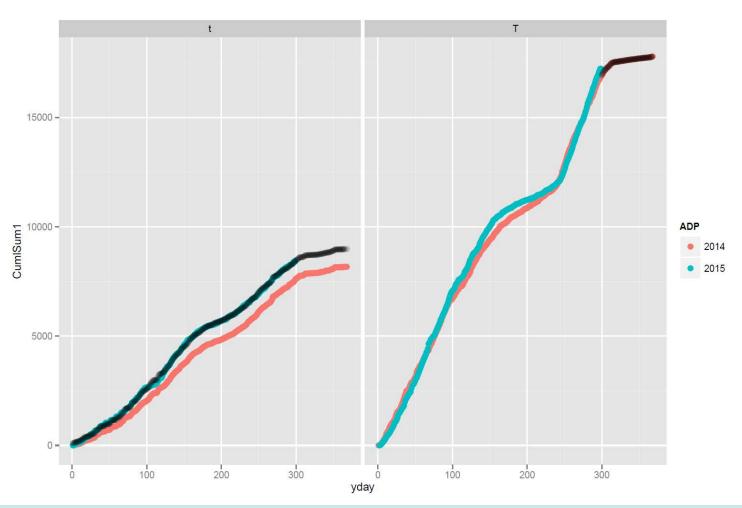


Future direction:

• The Council requests that Observer Program staff evaluate different weighting schemes in the sampling design based on gear with optimal allocation, such that discards are weighted more heavily than retained catch, for the draft 2017 annual deployment plan.

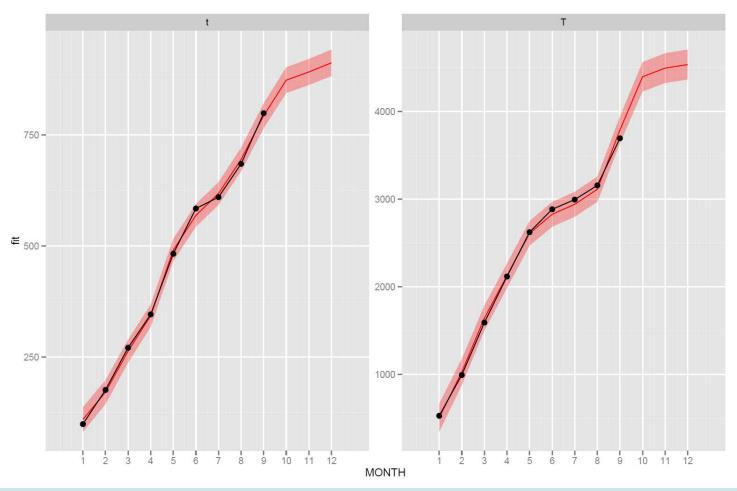


Updated prediction of partial coverage fishing effort in 2015

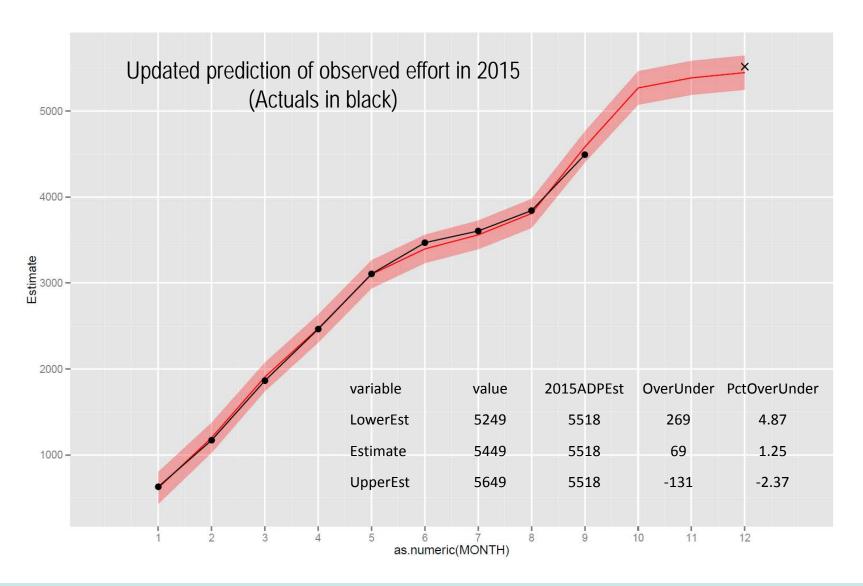




Updated prediction of observed effort in 2015 (Actuals in black)

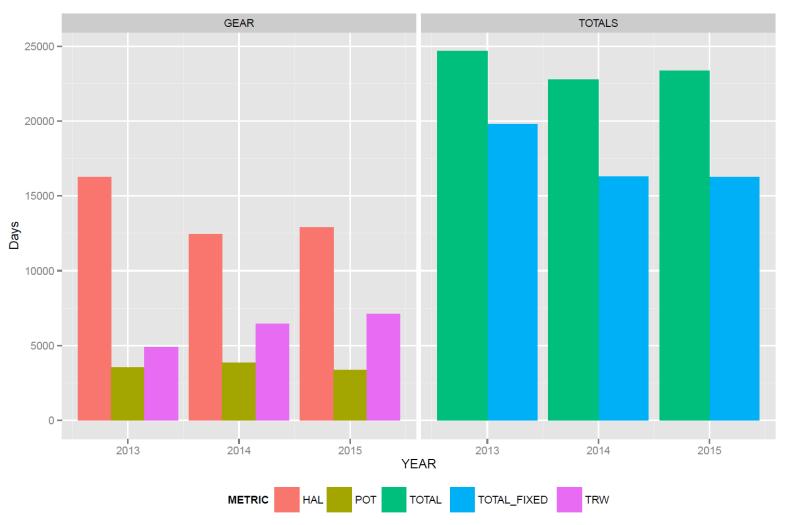








Partial Coverage '2016' effort through Oct 25th each year





Changes to EM stratum for Hook and Line Vessels (basis year = 2014)

STRATA	Days Stratum	Days Strata16	Proportion Stratum	ProportionStrata16
EM	68	1236	0.003	0.058
FULL	1213	1184	0.057	0.055
t	7730	6565	0.36	0.306
Т	6606	6635	0.308	0.309



For more information:

http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/observers/default.htm