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

C5 Observer Program

The AP supports the NMFS recommendation to forward the elements of the 2022 ADP to the 2023 ADP.

The AP recommends supporting all four NFWF proposals to 1) sustain the final year of the Trawl EM Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) and 2) advance new efforts in electronic technologies and monitoring. The Committee noted that the timeline of the NFWF RFP process is earlier than usual this year with a deadline of June 7th, prior to the Council meeting.

Motion passed 15-0

Rationale

- This motion is directly responsive to FMAC and Agency staff recommendations. The Observer Program was successful in meeting the majority of its established coverage levels for its various monitoring strata. Where the coverage level was less than the targeted level, this is attributable to Covid restraints and impacts.
- This motion also reflects previous Council support for NFWF project proposals and encourages the Council to continue to do so.