

C3 Observer Program 2019 ADP

- Report is concise, an well written, and easy-to-understand. Since initiation of the restructured observer program in 2013, the analysts have been very responsive to SSC comments and recommendations for improving the ADP and the observer program.
- The SSC **agreed** with NMFS recommendation to continue use of the five trip selection strata (TRW, HAL, POT, tender TRW, tender POT) for partially observed fleets
- The SSC **recommends** including the allocation scenarios requested by the Fishery Monitoring Advisory Committee (FMAC) in the draft ADP to provide more context for NMFS-recommended allocation criteria, especially when funding is the main constraint on sampling rates

C3 Observer Program 2019 ADP

- The SSC **suggests** that optimization of additional trips be based on discards, and Chinook and halibut PSC rather than discards, and Chinook, halibut and crab PSC
 - Chinook and halibut PSC caps are potentially constraining in some fisheries and should be prioritized over crab PSC in determining sampling rates
- The SSC remains **concerned** about funding levels as this program is foundational to the stock assessments and PSC analyses that utilize these estimates.
 - less than full funding could negatively impact PSC estimates that are critical to Council actions, such as those made for Chinook and ongoing Council action on halibut PSC