*-Draft-*2014 Annual Deployment Plan for Observers in the Groundfish and Halibut Fisheries off Alaska

September 2013





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Chapter 1 2014 Annual Deployment Plan

1.1 Purpose of the Deployment Plan

This Draft 2014 Annual Deployment Plan (ADP) documents how the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS or Agency) intends to assign at-sea and shoreside observers to operations fishing in the North Pacific under the authority of the Fishery Management Plans (FMP) for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish fisheries, and the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982. Data collection by observers is currently the only reliable and verifiable method available for NMFS to gain fishery discard information on fish and data concerning seabird and marine mammal interactions with fisheries. Onboard observers also perform the critically important task of collecting biological data such as species composition, weights, and tissue samples that are important for stock assessment scientists and researchers. Much of this information is expeditiously available (e.g. daily or at the end of a trip, depending on the type of vessel) to ensure effective management.

Details on the legal authority and purpose of the ADP are found in the Final Rule for Amendment 86 to the BSAI FMP and Amendment 76 to the GOA FMP (77 FR 70062). This ADP follows Section 313 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA, 16 U.S.C 1862), which authorizes the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to prepare a fisheries research plan that requires observers to be deployed in the North Pacific fisheries and establishes a system of fees. The intent of the ADP is not to adjust policy, but rather to focus on a science driven deployment of observers to reduce potential bias and meet NMFS's data needs. Some aspects of observer deployment can be adjusted through the ADP, including the assignment of vessels to the selection pools or the allocation strategy used to deploy observers in the partial coverage category.

The ADP describes observer deployment for the partial coverage category (50 CFR 679.61(a)). NMFS and the Council created the ADP process to provide flexibility in the deployment of observers to gather reliable data for estimation of catch in the groundfish and halibut fisheries off Alaska. NMFS and the Council recognized that the amount of observer coverage available for any given year would be dependent on available revenue generated from fees on groundfish landing. The flexibility of the ADP process allows NMFS to adjust deployment in each year so that sampling can be achieved given financial constraints.

In June 2013 the Observer Science Committee (OSC) released its Annual Performance Report that provided a scientific evaluation of deployment for the first quarter of 2013. This Draft 2014 ADP builds off the recommendations provided to NMFS by the OSC through the Annual Performance Review (APR; Chapter 2 of this draft ADP) and Council motion on that review (Appendix A) during its June 2013 meeting. Some items in the Council motion not addressed in the 2014 ADP will be provided through a letter to the Council and management report provided during the Council's October 2013 meeting.

This draft ADP proposes to deploy observers using sampling with randomization to perform their duties that include species identification, quantification and disposition of catch, documenting interactions between fishing gear and marine mammals and seabirds, and collection of biological specimens to support research and assessment of biological resources in the North Pacific.

1.2 ADP Process and Schedule

Analysis and evaluation of the data collected by observers is an on-going process. The ADP process ensures that the best available information is used to evaluate deployment, including scientific review and Council input to annually determine deployment methods. Each year NMFS will develop an ADP to describe how observers will be deployed for the upcoming calendar year and prepare an annual report that evaluates the performance of the prior year's ADP implementation. The ADP process (for 2014) is as follows:

- October-November 2013: The Council and its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will review the Draft 2014 ADP and any associated Plan Team recommendations. Based on input from its advisory bodies and the public, the Council may choose to clarify objectives and provide recommendations for the final 2014 ADP. NMFS will review and consider these recommendations; however, extensive analysis and large scale revisions to the draft 2014 ADP are not feasible. This constraint is due to the short time period before required to finalizing the 2014 ADP prior to the December 2013 Council meeting and practical limitations on planning for deployment (including contracting with an observer provider) and associated processes that need to be in place by January 1, 2014.
- December 2013: Upon final analysis of the Council recommendations from October, NMFS will make any necessary adjustments to finalize the 2014 ADP and release it to the public; ideally the 2014 ADP will be released to the public prior to the December 2013 Council meeting.
- June 2014: NMFS will present an annual report that provides a comprehensive evaluation of observer activities, costs, sampling levels, issues in 2013 and potential changes for 2015. NMFS will evaluate data collected in prior years to identify areas where improvements are needed to (1) collect the data necessary to manage the groundfish and halibut fisheries; (2) maintain the scientific goals of unbiased data collection; and (3) accomplish the most effective and efficient use of the funds collected through the observer fee. It is intended that this review will inform the Council and the public of how well various aspects of the program are working, and consequently lead to recommendations that may adjust sampling methods and priorities for the upcoming year.
- June September 2014: Using information from deployment and Council recommendations, NMFS will release a Draft 2015 ADP containing recommendation for deployment into the partial coverage category. NMFS will release the draft 2015 ADP to allow review by the Groundfish and Crab Plan Teams, as requested.
- October-November 2014: The Council and its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will review the Draft 2015 ADP and any associated Plan Team recommendations. Based on input from its advisory bodies and the public, the Council may choose to clarify objectives and provide recommendations for the final 2015.

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• December 2014: NMFS will make any necessary adjustments to finalize the 2015 ADP and release it to the public.

1.3 2013 Deployment Review

The 2013 ADP described the deployment methodology for the first year of sampling under the restructured observer program. As outlined in the 2013 ADP, the draft 2014 ADP builds off of analysis and recommendations described in the 2013 Preliminary Annual Performance Review, which was presented to the Council during its June 2013 meeting. The Preliminary Annual Performance Review was the first report on the performance of the newly restructured program. However, because in June 2013 the new program was only a few months old, the Annual Performance Review could only evaluate the first 16 weeks of data under the restructured program.

The Preliminary 2013 Annual Performance Review highlighted deployment attributes that appear to be working well and are improvements in coverage (compared to 2012). The randomized deployment methodology, electronic logging and reporting of trips and notification of selected vessels were working as expected. There were also improvements in coverage in the hook-and-line fisheries in the GOA; specifically fisheries associated with GOA Pacific cod and Pacific halibut. For example, in the hook-and-line Pacific cod fishery in federal reporting 610 nine of the out the ten weeks with effort had observer coverage in 2013; 5 out of 11 weeks with effort had coverage in 2012. In addition, the hook-and-line halibut fishery in area 640 had coverage; no coverage occurred in 2012. Coverage improvements in some trawl fisheries were also observed: for example, coverage was more evenly distributed throughout the year in the federal reporting area 620 Pacific trawl fishery. The amount of coverage in the Bering Sea remained consistent with patterns observed in 2012, which was likely due to the full coverage compliance agreement for BSAI trawl catcher vessels.

The Preliminary Annual Performance Review also noted a number of potential departures from the anticipated sampling design that could be sources of bias (section 2.6); the effect of these changes will be better understood after a full year of information under the restructured program is available. NMFS and the Council can further investigate these items based on the information in the 2014 Annual Performance Review.

Following the conclusions of the Preliminary 2013 Annual Performance Review (Chapter 2), NMFS is not recommending major changes in the sampling design for the 2014 ADP.

1.4 2014 Deployment Methods

This draft ADP proposes to deploy observers into the partial coverage category using random sampling with equal probability specific to either the trip or vessel strata defined in section 1.4.1 and to allocate sampling effort between the trip and vessel strata in the same proportions as were used in the 2013 ADP (section 1.4.1). This allocation between vessel and trip selection is in alignment with the Council recommendation (Appendix A) and the anticipated deployment rate for trip selection is higher than vessel selection. This priority is intended to balance the need to provide inseason managers with information to monitor prohibited species catch (PSC) on larger vessels while not severely compromising sampling rates in the vessel selection pool.

1.4.1 At-Sea Selection Pools (strata)

Deployment into the at-sea selection strata for 2014 will follow the same equal probability method described in the 2013 ADP. The at-sea selection strata applies to vessels in the partial coverage category (50 CFR 679.51(a)) and includes vessels exempted from full coverage requirements (50 CFR 679.51(a)(2)(iv)). For the purpose of observer deployment, deployment strata are defined as follows:

- No selection: Vessels less that 40 ft LOA or fishing with jig gear (which includes handline, jig, troll, and dinglebar troll gear) are in the "no selection" pool. These vessels will not be selected for observer coverage in 2014.
- Vessel selection: Vessels fishing hook-and-line or pot gear and are greater than or equal to 40 ft, but less than 57.5 ft in length overall (LOA) are in the vessel selection pool. NMFS intends to randomly select vessels in the vessel selection pool for mandatory observer coverage approximately 60 days prior to the start of each 2-month selection period. Selected vessels will be required to carry an observer for all trips taken within a selected 2-month period.
- Trip selection: This stratum is comprised of two classes of vessels: (1) all vessels fishing trawl gear and; (2) vessels fishing hook-and-line or pot gear that are also greater than or equal to 57.5 ft LOA. NMFS developed a system, termed the Observer Declare and Deploy System (ODDS), to facilitate the random assignment of observers to trips.

A set of Frequently Asked Questions about trip and vessel selection pools can be found at <u>http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/observers/faq.htm</u>.

1.4.2 Projected At-sea Deployment (sample size)

In this draft 2014 ADP, NMFS estimates the projected number of days that will be observed and the deployment rate for the at-sea partial coverage fleet. Without 2014 data, NMFS cannot project with certainty the amount of observer coverage or sample size that can be achieved in 2014. However, sample sizes are required in order for NMFS to conduct vessel selections and determine trip selection rates for ODDS. Therefore, NMFS estimates the projected number of days that will be observed and the deployment rate through simulation using the best available information and then adjusts the estimated coverage rate during the year, if necessary, based on the actual effort to date relative to the funds available. The actual (realized) coverage rates and actual numbers of days covered in 2014 will be included in the Annual Performance Review.

The basic components of the analysis to estimate coverage levels in 2014 include (1) the amount of fishing effort projected for 2014, (2) estimates of observer costs, and (3) a target budget for 2014. For these calculations, NMFS needs to make assumptions. These assumptions include the

number of fishing activities (effort days) the partial coverage fleet will engage in during 2014 and the amount of travel funds expended by the contractor for deploying observers in 2014. The following is a description of the assumptions and how NMFS uses them to determine sample sizes and anticipated rates of coverage for the draft 2014 ADP.

NMFS projects fishing effort for the upcoming year by using data from the most recent full year. For the 2013 ADP, NMFS used effort data from 2011 to project effort for 2013. Similarly, for this draft 2014 ADP, NMFS used data from eLandings to generate a list of vessel activity from 2012 to estimate the amount of fishing effort for 2014. This dataset was merged with data queries from the Catch Accounting System to define vessel activity (e.g. CP or CV, state GHL fishery). The landings made by catcher vessels and exempted catcher processor vessels that would have constituted the partial coverage category under the 2013 ADP were identified from 2012 data, and assigned to either the trip-selection or vessel-selection stratum. Since the rules governing observer coverage in 2012 were not identical to those that will govern observer deployment in 2014, activities from 2012 were re-coded using the fields such as vessel length, target fishery, program management code (e.g. IFQ), vessel activity and GHL fishery into full, partial or zero coverage categories. For partial coverage categories, NMFS placed activities into either the vessel- or trip-selection stratum using the rules defined in this ADP. Activities in 2012 re-coded as belonging to the vessel-selection stratum were assigned a two-month time period. Unique trips in 2012 were identified using the fields report id, vessel id, and trip-start date following the results of past analyses (see 2013 ADP Appendix 2.2). Using 2012 data, the estimated effort in the partial coverage fleet is 37,097 days. This is an increase from 31,803 days that was estimated for 2013 using 2011 data.

Cost estimates are based on the costs of an observer day and a "not-to-exceed" travel budget for 2014 derived from confidential contract information negotiated between NOAA's acquisition and grants office and the selected observer provider. NMFS assumed that the entire not-to-exceed amount of travel in the observer provider contract would be expended in 2014. Under this assumption, this not-to-exceed amount was deducted from the target budget available to deploy observers.

The actual budget available for 2014 will be based on revenue generated from an ex-vessel value-based fee, plus any additional Federal funding allocated to deploying observers in 2014. Revenue from the fees is generated by applying a standard ex-vessel price against landings of federal groundfish species and Pacific halibut. NMFS publishes the standard ex-vessel prices each December in the Federal Register

(http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/observers/). Standard ex-vessel prices for groundfish are calculated by averaging the three most recent year's volume and value from the State of Alaska Commercial Operators Annual Report, *e*Landings reports, and methods established by the Commercial Fishery Entry Commission. Standard ex-vessel prices for halibut IFQ and CDQ and sablefish IFQ are calculated by averaging the previous year's volume and value from the IFQ Buyer's Report (submitted to NMFS by registered buyers). NMFS will know the actual amount of funds available for deploying observers in late December 2013.

At the time of releasing this draft 2014 ADP, the fisheries were ongoing and therefore NMFS does not know the actual budget available for deploying observers in 2014. Instead of projecting

fee revenue for mid-July through December 2013, NMFS identified a target budget of \$4.8 million to use for the simulations. This target budget aims to ensure that the coverage rate and number of days observed between 2013 and 2014 are comparable.

Sample size and resulting coverage rate estimates were generated through simulation using the identical approach used for the 2013 ADP. This approach is considered the best available science because each and every vessel in both pools of the partial-coverage fleet do not undertake identical numbers of trips and days in a year, and the approach provides NMFS with a full range of potential outcomes from random sampling (selections) of different vessels and trips. The simulated deployment rate was determined from an evaluation of estimated annual program costs assessed against the risk of exceeding the observer program's available funds. Only 2012 data re-coded as belonging to the trip- or vessel- selection strata were used in simulations. One simulation consisted of a random draw of unique trips (*i*) within the trip-selection stratum, and unique vessel (ν) and time period (p) combinations in the vessel-selection stratum. Total program costs from a single simulation trial (C_S) were determined by summing the number of simulated days in the trips that would have been sampled in the trip-selection stratum (d_{TS}), multiplying these by the cost per day (c), and adding these trip-selection costs to vessel-selection costs that were similarly determined by multiplying the cost per day by the sum days for all trips (d_{VS}) made by selected vessels (ν) in each time period, or

$$C_{S} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_{TS} + \sum_{P=1}^{6} \sum_{\nu=1}^{V} \sum_{i=1}^{n} d_{VS}\right) \cdot c$$

In this way each simulation trial mimics an ADP selection draw for the year. If NMFS applied the maximum rate possible with available budgets in simulations, the outcome would be a mean value among C_s that equals the total available budget. Thus there would be equal probability that spending by the observer program during 2014 would be over- or under-budget. To reduce the likelihood of the latter outcome, simulations were performed in an iterative fashion until their outcomes reached a critical value. Specifically, an initial distribution set of 1000 C_s with a high starting value for the deployment rate was evaluated against the desired outcome that the number of simulations whose total costs exceeded the available budget divided by 1000 was below 0.12. If the desired outcome was not achieved, the initial rate of sampling was adjusted downward by 0.001, another set of simulations was generated, and the evaluation was conducted again. This entire process was repeated until a set of simulations achieved the desired outcome. In each simulation, the deployment rate for vessel-selection was set to 0.74 that of the rate in tripselection- preserving the weighting used in the 2013 ADP.

Based on the final set of simulation trials, NMFS estimates it can afford 4,718 observer days in 2014 in the partial coverage category. This is an increase of an additional 596 observer days relative to the projected number of observer days in 2013. Based on these calculations, NMFS projects a deployment rate of 0.1370 (13.7%) of trips for trip-selection and 0.1019 (10.2%) of vessels for vessel-selection when averaged across the year. The anticipated deployment rate is projected to decrease slightly in 2014 compared to 2013 (anticipated deployment rate in 2013 was approximately 14-15% in trip selection and 11% in vessel selection). This change is due to the increase in anticipated effort from 2013 to 2014 since, as noted above, the effort calculations

from 2011 (used in the 2013 ADP) to 2012 (used in this 2014 ADP) increased from 31,803 to 37,097.

The estimated deployment rates for 2014 works out to be equivalent to 3,662 days from 999 trips taken on 292 vessels in the trip-selection pool and 1,056 days from 284 trips from 83 vessels in vessel-selection pool. NMFS will program a rate of 0.1370 into ODDS for the trip-selection pool at the start of 2014 and Table 1-1 gives the estimated sample size of the number of vessels for each two-month time period in the vessel selection pool.

Table 1-1The estimated number of vessels that NMFS will be trying to observe in the vessel selection pool ineach time period in 2014. For reference, the total number of vessels that fished, and the simulated number of trips anddays anticipated to be observed are also provided.

Time Period	Total vessels	Vessels observed	Trips observed	Total days observed
January February	85	9	58	162
March April	154	16	40	151
May June	233	24	57	242
July August	177	18	45	198
September October	200	20	70	255
November December	48	5	14	49

The histogram of C_S (total cost or budget) values from the final set of simulated trials is depicted in Figure 1-1. Based on the final set of simulations, it is expected that on average NMFS would spend \$172,500 less than the total available budget. Any cost savings realized will be used in the following year of deployment.



Figure 1-1 Anticipated cost distribution (in dollars) of observer deployment in the partial-coverage category for 2014. The mean value is depicted in the vertical dashed line, while the budget at which 90% of the expected costs are below is depicted as the red vertical line, which is set close to the total budget (blue vertical line).

1.4.3 Tender Deliveries

Some issues associated with the complexity of sampling tender deliveries were raised in the Annual Performance Review (Chapter 2) and the Council's June 2013 motion (Appendix A). The Annual Performance Review indicated that vessels fished longer and made more deliveries when delivering to a tender unobserved than under the opposite conditions.

From a sampling perspective, defining sampling strata for catcher vessels delivering to a tender is complex due to the flexibility and unpredictability of the operation type. For example, throughout the course of a year, catcher vessels may deliver to tenders, shoreside processors, or even both during a single trip (split delivery). The quantity and identity of catcher vessels delivering to tenders will also change between years, depending on economic conditions. In addition to the complications from the diverse and potentially ephemeral fishing scenarios involving tenders, the types of adjustment NMFS may make to sampling through the ADP are constrained by regulations. In particular, tenders are not defined in current regulations in either the full or partial coverage category, therefore certain regulations governing observer activities (e.g., observer safety, ODDS, etc) are not extended to tender vessels. Modifying the definitions of the full and partial coverage categories to include tenders would require a regulatory amendment. Changing the definition of a trip for a catcher vessel delivering to a tender also constitutes a regulatory change. For all of these reasons, it is not possible to create a new deployment stratum for tender deliveries in the ADP without a change in regulations.

NMFS recognizes that tender activity may represent an important source of variance and/or bias in catch data. Therefore we recommend assessing tender activity once a full year of information is available and, if warranted, evaluate regulatory strategies to address the issue.

1.4.4 BSAI Full Coverage Compliance Agreement

In 2013 NMFS implemented an industry proposal for trawl vessels fishing Pacific cod to carry an observer at all times when fishing in the BSAI (section 2.2.2). The additional coverage benefited the management of that fishery and reduced the population of trips in the partial coverage category thus increasing the coverage rates for the trips remaining in partial coverage. This opportunity will be extended for 2014, recognizing this activity would be best addressed in the long-term through a regulatory change.

As was noted in the 2013 ADP, if full coverage is not implemented correctly it has the potential to undermine the catch estimation process. Deployment of observers under a voluntary coverage rate where vessels get to choose when they have full coverage would undermine the goal of the restructured observer program to obtain unbiased, independent information on the activities of the fleet. In addition, it is necessary to modify the stratification methods in the Catch Accounting System to match the change in the sampling stratification. A stratum has to be created that is specific to the voluntary 100% vessels and the criteria used to define the full coverage strata must programmable into the Catch Accounting System.

Entities participating in the BSAI Pacific cod trawl fishery that want full coverage in 2014 must submit a signed compliance agreement to NMFS on or before December 1, 2013 (Appendix D). Vessels operating under a full coverage compliance agreement would pay partial coverage observer fees as required in regulation, but would also need to contract directly with observer providers and also directly pay for those observer costs. In addition, vessels operating under the full coverage compliance agreement must comply with the partial coverage regulations, including logging trips into ODDS.

1.4.5 Chinook Salmon Sampling in the Gulf of Alaska

The sampling of Chinook salmon for genetics in the GOA is a priority for NMFS in 2014. This information is used to identify the origin of Chinook salmon caught as bycatch in groundfish fisheries and is important for the management of Chinook PSC. NMFS proposes to revise the 2013 methods for collecting Chinook salmon are collected in the GOA to improve the representativeness of samples.

The 2013 ADP set a priority to monitor salmon in the GOA pollock fishery at the time of offload, including salmon offloaded from unobserved trips. This priority followed the implementation of Amendment 93 to the Fisheries Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska, which required all vessels fishing for pollock in the central and western GOA to retain salmon until delivery to a processing facility. While this facilitated dockside sampling by

observers, it did not provide a method to verify at-sea that all salmon were retained on unobserved trips. Unlike the Bering Sea pollock fishery, pollock trawl vessels delivering to shoreside plants in the GOA operate under full coverage observer requirements. Since at-sea verification of full-retention requirements are not in place in the GOA pollock fishery, salmon bycatch sampling by observers represents an incomplete census that carries the potential for bias.

To obtain the best possible information and make efficient use of funds in 2014, NMFS investigated alternative sampling of Chinook bycatch on observed GOA pollock trawl trips (Appendix B). The analysis showed that the number of genetic samples is anticipated to increase under the new method compared with sampling methods used in 2013 (Appendix B).

Based on this analysis, in 2014 NMFS will sample Chinook salmon from randomly selected trips for both pollock and non-pollock trawl vessels fishing in the GOA. Under this sampling protocol, NMFS anticipates salmon bycatch genetic samples will be obtained from a census of Chinook salmon for observed trips on trawl vessels delivering pollock shoreside. For vessels in the full coverage category, including catcher processors and vessels participating in the Rockfish Program, Chinook salmon genetic samples will be collected from the at-sea samples. At-sea sampling methods will also be used to collect salmon bycatch samples from vessels in the GOA non-pollock fisheries and vessels delivering to tenders. The number of genetic samples obtained from these fisheries is likely to be low, however sampling at-sea will follow the sampling protocol that enables catch to be extrapolated to the fishery and will provide some information on Chinook bycatch from these operations. As described in section 1.5.2, changes to deployment and sampling involving tender operations would require regulatory amendments. NMFS will continue to explore alternative sampling methods.

The change in the Chinook salmon genetic sampling protocol also changes the way funds are spent on observer coverage since dockside observers previously did genetic sampling. Under the 2014 ADP NMFS will not deploy dockside observers and instead puts all funding towards at-sea coverage, which is anticipated to result in considerable cost savings for each salmon sampled (Appendix C).

1.4.6 Conditional Release Policy

The 2013 ADP provided conditional releases from observer coverage for vessel operators who provided reasonable information that accommodating an observer would displace crew members or additional IFQ permit holders. In 2014 NMFS plans to continue to implement this Council policy. Please note, however, that NMFS only intends to issue releases to vessels in the vessel selection stratum in 2014. NMFS experience in 2013 has been that vessels within the trip selection stratum have been able to accommodate observers, with one exception when an IFQ holder was brought aboard 1 vessel on single trip, thereby displacing the observer. Within the vessel selection stratum, NMFS will continue to review accommodation issues on a case-by-case basis, recognizing that in some situations reasonable accommodations for an observer can be made with minor modifications to vessel operations (e.g., removing stored equipment from an existing bunk or augmenting existing sleeping areas similar to crew's). As noted in the Chapter 2, conditional releases issued by NMFS have the potential to cause biased estimates of catch and discard. Therefore on-going assessment of this policy will be needed as the program continues to mature.

1.5 Communication and outreach

NMFS will continue to communicate the details of the ADP to affected participants though public meetings and posting information on the internet. Information about the observer program is available at:

http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/observers/default.htm and Frequently Asked Questions are available at: http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/observers/faq.htm

NMFS will conduct a series of public outreach meetings to answer questions about the program and gain insight from vessel operators and processors about their experience with the first year of the program. Our goal is to reach a broad range of communities while operating within budget constraints. As such, for economical efficiency, some meetings may be conducted via phone and WebEx. We envision the outreach events occurring between the end of November 2013 and February 2014 and have proposed locations and timing based on feedback that we received from the Council and the Observer Advisory Committee last year (Table 1-2).

Location	Timeframe	
Seattle, Fish Expo	Nov 20-22	
Petersburg	End of November	
Anchorage (evening session during Dec Council meeting)	Dec	
Homer	Dec	
Kodiak	Dec	
Newport	Jan	
Sitka	Jan	
Juneau	Jan	

Table 1-2 Proposed public outreach meeting locations and timeframe

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