

paper on the observer endorsements issue as described in items 1a-d in the letter, and 2) a presentation from the agency on the data deletion issue as described in the letter.

Note there was additional discussion, and strong opposition from one committee member, to the recent Council motion to require Level 2 Observers for pot cod CPs operating in the BSAI. The Council has already taken final action on this issue, but the committee encouraged interested stakeholders to provide public comment on the proposed rule.

Ms. Sarah Williamson (Saltwater, Inc.) presented results from an informal survey she conducted on workload and operational or communication issues in shoreside plants under the trawl EM EFP and discussed ideas for future steps to address concerns, such as having cameras monitor offloads for pollock vessels to allow observers to focus on biological sampling. The agency is also looking at observer plant duties and trying to reevaluate the data points they are asking observers to collect to try to address some of these issues. The committee appreciated Ms. Williamson sharing her results and passing ideas onto the EFP project PIs and the agency.

Lastly, the committee recommended that the PCFMAC's September agenda include a space for proposals to change the service delivery model for the partial coverage program, to eliminate the federal contract and provide market-based alternatives. This was in response to a proposal from a committee member at this meeting as well as in response to the Council's October 2022 motion tasking the PCFMAC with considering the potential implications of allowing fishing vessels to contract directly with observer providers as a potential way to reduce costs and/or increase observer coverage in the partial coverage component of the observer program. This timeline is appropriate as the Council intended that this work should not begin until the PCFMAC completes review of the broader cost efficiencies analysis. In September, the PCFMAC will recommend how to prioritize this proposal relative to other priorities being considered by the committee.

7. Public Comment

Opportunities for public input were provided throughout the meeting. The committee received oral comment from Todd Hoppe, Hannah Heimbuch, and Bob Alverson. There were also two written comments posted to the eAgenda.

8. Timeline and Future Scheduling

The next fisheries monitoring committee meetings will be scheduled for September 2023. It is likely the FMAC meeting will have a half day meeting to focus on EM projects. This meeting will be scheduled in conjunction with a full day PCFMAC meeting. The PCFMAC will be reviewing the draft 2024 ADP, making recommendations on the final design for implementation, and taking up other topics as needed.