

D5 PCFMAC REPORT



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PARTIAL
COVERAGE
FISHERY
MONITORING
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
(PCFMAC)

- Provides the Council with recommendations specific to the partial coverage observer program (e.g., fees, observer and EM deployment, and cost efficiencies)
- PCFMAC met virtually on September 12, 2022



ANNUAL DEPLOYMENT PLAN

June 2022: Council supported maintaining the stratification and allocation strategy from the 2022 ADP in 2023, to allow time for the cost efficiencies analysis to be completed.

2022 target coverage rates for vessels in partial coverage are:

- Hook-and-line – 19%
- Pot – 17%
- Trawl catcher vessels – 30%
- Fixed-gear EM – 30%
- Trawl EM EFP–100% at-sea EM; plus 30% shoreside monitoring in GOA and 100% shoreside monitoring in BS



NMFS BUDGET UPDATE

- The preliminary budget for 2023 estimates \$5,928,430 in available funds on the partial coverage observer contract with AIS, Inc.
- Additional \$1,579,769 in available funds with PSFMC for recurring costs in the fixed-gear EM Program
- Additional \$2,000,000 awarded as a new 5-year grant to PSMFC to install new EM systems, support vessels which have end-of-life EM systems and pay for other one-time costs.
- 2022 budget was approximately \$5.2 million for the Observer Program and EM.
- Thank you to industry advocates for appropriations



PARTIAL COVERAGE INTEGRATED ANALYSIS

(cost efficiencies analysis)

Purpose: Evaluate deployment designs to more efficiently spend observer fee revenues such that greater coverage and/or improved monitoring is achieved using both observers and EM.

Goal is to develop a scientifically robust sampling plan that will enable collection of the most and best data for a given (and variable) budget.

Timeline: Conducted in 2022, released for public and Council review in 2023, incorporated into the 2024 ADP.

The Council would review draft 2024 ADP at its October 2023 meeting.



PARTIAL COVERAGE INTEGRATED ANALYSIS

Six Proposed Designs:

- *Equal rates design*
- *Status quo design*
- *The Supplement to Environmental Assessment (SEA) Design*
- *Cost-Weighted Design*
- *Shoreside Fixed-Gear EM Design*
- *Paired EM with At-sea Observers Design*



COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

- **For the next committee meeting, the PCFMAC recommends NMFS analytical staff bring back:**
 - **Further description of the level of observer coverage that would be expected under the Paired EM-observers design.**
 - **A detailed description of the domains in the SEA design and the Cost-Weighted Box design.**
 - **An update on which proposed allocation strategies would include ‘optimization days’ after meeting an established baseline coverage under the sample budget scenarios.**
 - **More information on how baseline coverage rates for both observers and EM will be evaluated under the different sampling designs.**
- **Reevaluation of zero coverage**



COMMITTEE FEEDBACK CNTD

- Robust discussion on shoreside fixed-gear EM design
- **Committee recommended the Agency provide a list of some of the known data gaps raised by stock assessment authors (e.g., biological samples for BSAI sablefish) and how each of the proposed designs may address these issues.**
- **Reiterated desire for further detail on the analytical assumptions on key metrics that impact the outcomes of the sampling designs**
- A few additional projects could potentially impact costs



FUTURE SCHEDULING

The Council has already approved a committee meeting in late winter/early spring 2023 for a second update and review of this work.



Questions?

