

**North Pacific Fishery Management Council**  
**Agenda Item C-3**  
**Annual Deployment Plan**  
**October 4, 2018**

The Council supports NMFS' recommendations for the deployment strata and allocation scheme of 15% plus optimized allocation based on discarded groundfish and halibut PSC and Chinook PSC as described in the Draft 2019 Annual Deployment Plan (ADP).

The Council recommends that if additional funds become available that NMFS expand the EM trip selection pool up to 165 vessels using the order of priority as presented in the Draft 2019 ADP. The Council also requests that NMFS include Sitka as a primary port for EM deployment in 2019.

The Council requests that the Agency prioritize staff time to engaging with the Council's EM Committee to develop EM for compliance monitoring and for salmon accounting on pelagic trawl catcher vessels fishing in the BSAI and the GOA as well as vessels delivering to tender vessels.

The Council requests NMFS provide additional information about the cost structure under the observer contract and how costs may be expected to fluctuate at different funding levels.

The Council requests that NMFS provide an update on the following analytical tasks to the FMAC in May 2019:

- 1) an evaluation of how the observer fee will be split between EM and Observers for the draft 2020 ADP; and
- 2) an evaluation of Observer Program performance metrics in the annual report.