



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Action Memo

File Number: Cons 16-008

Agenda Date 6/6/2016

Agenda Number: C1

Dan Hull, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:

Observer Program: (a) Annual Report, (b) Estimation Methods for Variance (*SSC only*), (c) OAC Report

STAFF CONTACT: Diana Evans

ACTION REQUIRED:

Update on Observer Program; action as necessary

BACKGROUND:

(a) Observer Program Annual Report for 2015

The North Pacific Observer Program 2015 Annual Report was distributed to the Council in mid-May, and is attached here. The report provides a scientific evaluation of the deployment of observers in 2015, to assess whether the objectives of the Observer Program have been met. The report also includes descriptive information on the program, including enforcement trends and outreach efforts, and agency recommendations for the 2017 Annual Deployment Plan, which will be developed over the summer.

(b) Review Estimation Methods for Variance (SSC Only)

At the request of the Council, agency staff have been working on methods for estimating variance in observer data collected from the partial coverage fleet. A verbal report and powerpoint presentation will be provided to the SSC, documenting work to date and preliminary results.

(c) OAC Report

The Observer Advisory Committee met on May 12-13, 2016, in Seattle, and their report is attached. The Committee reviewed the Annual Report and received the presentation on methods for estimating variance. The Committee also received a presentation from the NOAA Acquisition and Grants Office on the Federal contracting process, as context for considering ways to address efficiencies in the partial coverage observer provider contract. Finally, the Committee reviewed the status of analytical projects affecting the Observer Program, and their relative priorities. The Committee's recommendations are included in the OAC report.