

F/V Patty AJ
PO Box 3129
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Pacific Fishery Management Council,

The potential impacts of the exempted activity have been adequately identified by using the data from the cameras and discard chutes. The camera and the discard logbook data provide information useful to management and groundfish fishery resources.

The following information is a completed application in writing:

Date of application: March 10, 2014
Applicants name: Earl Silva and Ronald Silva (F/V Patty AJ)
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Coos Bay, OR 97420

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We feel that we could do without an observer because our camera coverage shows the entire deck. The data collected will be all we need to show maximum retention with little discard. We really don't need an observer now because of the camera coverage and the discard chute.

We can move forward by eliminating the observers and using the cameras and discard logbooks to show the data. We think that the cameras will work out better for our usage. The observer is an added cost factor and we have had discrepancies with discard wastes and unloading weights. Most of the observers feel that this isn't what they expected to be doing in their career.

Observations that I have noticed are that some of them won't get up at night, and then they write you up for not waking them, even though I have given every effort to do so. Most of the time they estimate the poundage of the discard instead of actually weighing the discards. It's hard to get discard weights from them. They tend to take their information home and do it instead of leaving the information with me before they leave. When they do give me information, it has been wrong. There isn't any consistency.

In closing, the Observers are safety issues which add food expenses and other duties for myself and crew. They don't clean up after themselves, do their own dishes, nor do they take off their gloves in the galley so scales and such don't get in food. They also wash their "paper" in the galley sink instead of washing it outside or in the restroom as asked of them. This leads to added work that myself and crew can do without.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Earl Silva
Ronald Silva