

OBSERVER PROGRAM

Situation: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will provide an update on implementation of the observer program for the groundfish fishery. At the March Council meeting, NMFS staff expressed concern the program might be delayed due to the federal hiring freeze.

Council Action: Council discussion.

Reference Materials: None.

Groundfish Fishery Strategic Plan Consistency Analysis

The Groundfish Strategic Plan envisions an observer program as part of a comprehensive data collection program, including bycatch and discard.

PFMC
03/19/01