

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Observer Policy Committee

I. STATUS

A. Meetings:

- The Observer Committee met on April 16, 2015 to: review and discuss updated information and analyses for the draft Environmental Assessment for NMFS-led omnibus amendment to establish provisions for industry-funded monitoring (IFM) across all Council-managed fisheries; and to consider additional options for industry-funded portside sampling and electronic monitoring (EM) in the Atlantic herring fishery, which would be implemented immediately in the IFM.
- The Observer Committee is scheduled to meet jointly with the Herring Committee on June 8, 2015 to review updated options/analyses for IFM in the Atlantic herring fishery, to be included in the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Omnibus IFM Amendment.

II. COUNCIL ACTION

- A. Review/approve Observer Committee recommendations about the inclusion of additional options for industry-funded portside sampling and electronic monitoring in the Atlantic herring fishery (see motions from April 16, 2015 Observer Committee Meeting)

III. INFORMATION

1. April 16, 2015 Observer Committee Meeting Summary (Draft, to be distributed when available)
2. *Development of an Electronic Monitoring and Portside Sampling Program for the Herring and Mackerel Fisheries* (GARFO)
3. Presentation Slides: *Development of an Electronic Monitoring and Portside Sampling Program for the Herring and Mackerel Fisheries* (GARFO staff, to be distributed when available)
4. Draft IFM Omnibus Amendment Action Plan
5. April 3, 2015 IFM FMAT Report (Draft)
6. Correspondence