



## NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Angel Drobica, Chair | David Witherell, Executive Director  
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January 12, 2024

Jonathan M. Kurland  
Regional Administrator  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

Dear Mr. Kurland:

Enclosed to begin Secretarial review is the proposed rule for Amendment 126 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Management Area and Amendment 114 to the FMP for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) to expand Electronic Monitoring (EM) to the pollock fisheries. This action would allow pollock trawl catcher vessels to use EM instead of carrying an observer at-sea, allow tender vessels to use EM, and shift observer data collection to shoreside or stationary floating processors.

Chairwoman Drobica and I reviewed the draft proposed rule provided by NMFS for the regulatory amendment and determined that it is consistent with the Council's action. Accordingly, please proceed to initiate Secretarial review of this regulatory amendment with the proposed rule enclosed with this letter.

Sincerely,

Enclosures (6)

cc: Gretchen Harrington