



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668  
January 7, 2015

Oystein Lone  
2400 NW 80<sup>th</sup> Street  
PMB #250  
Seattle, WA 98117

Dear Mr. Lone:

Thank you for your letter of December 30, 2014, regarding the placement of the *Pacific Sounder*, ADFG 00991, in the partial observer coverage category for 2015. Specifically, you request the placement of the *Pacific Sounder* in partial coverage because it processed no groundfish in 2014 and meets the requirements of 50 CFR 679.51(a)(2)(iv)(B), which provides:

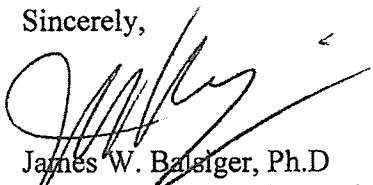
An owner or operator of a catcher/processor that processes no more than one metric ton round weight of groundfish on any day, may be included in the partial observer coverage category in lieu of the full coverage category for the following calendar year.

We have reviewed our records and confirm that the vessel *Pacific Sounder*, ADFG 00991, processed no groundfish in 2014 and meets the requirements in 50 CFR 679.51(a)(2)(iv)(B) for placement in partial coverage for 2015.

By selecting the partial coverage category for 2015, you are required to comply with all of the applicable regulations in 50 CFR 679 that apply to the partial coverage category, including 50 CFR 679.51(a)(1), which requires vessels to log every trip into the Observer Declare and Deploy System (ODDS), and carry an observer if a trip is selected for coverage. In addition, you will be responsible for the 1.25% observer fee liability under 50 CFR 679.55.

If you have any questions about the Observer Program requirements, please contact Mary Alice McKeen at (907) 586-7322, [mary.alice.mckeen@noaa.gov](mailto:mary.alice.mckeen@noaa.gov), or Sally Bibb at (907) 586-7389, [sally.bibb@noaa.gov](mailto:sally.bibb@noaa.gov).

Sincerely,



James W. Balsiger, Ph.D  
Administrator, Alaska Region



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MAMcKeen 1/5/15

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GAberle 1/6/15