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**NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**

**COST ANALYSIS OF APPLYING THE LONGSHORE AND HARBOR WORKERS ACT  
TO FISHERIES OBSERVERS**

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## **I. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS**

### **A. Current Program**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Fisheries Service (NOAA-FS) deploys approximately five hundred fisheries observers to more than twenty fisheries nationwide. These observers work independently on commercial fishing vessels for up to three months without direct supervision. The work can be difficult at times due to unpredictable working and weather conditions.

There are two main service models for the fisheries observers (a third model is a cooperative agreement). The first model is for companies under contract to the NOAA-FS. The second model uses NOAA-FS certified observer provider companies which contracts directly with vessel owners.

It is the responsibility of the observer provider company to obtain adequate insurance coverage for fisheries observers. Reimbursement of the costs of insurance is made either by the government (such as in the case where there is a contract between the observer provider and the NOAA) or by the commercial vessel owner. We understand there are no standard coverage provisions or minimum legal requirements for insurance.

At first pass, state workers compensation laws seem appropriate. Most states have extra-territorial provisions. However, there are significant differences by state in coverage provisions and benefit levels. Plus, some states exclude benefits to workers injured at sea or covered by federal law. It is impractical to amend all state laws to be consistent.

Some observer providers purchase Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation (LHWC) coverage, but this coverage is problematic as it is designed for other types of employees and can be denied by insurers following strict coverage definitions to fisheries observers.

Injured fisheries observers have occasionally sought compensation from the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 (commonly called the Jones Act). Indemnity under the Jones Act requires the fisheries observers to be labeled as “seaman” under the definition of the Act. This has resulted in lawsuits with inconclusive outcomes.

Observer provider companies have responded to the lack of clear direction by purchasing insurance coverages that may respond to each situation. It is probable that some (perhaps all) contractor providers have

purchased coverages that overlap or are redundant. It has also added reluctance upon vessel owners to take on observers for insurance liability reasons

Fisheries observers are not federal employees, but Congress attempted to resolve the issue by amending the Manguson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act and extending the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) to observers in 1996. This has been inadequate as FECA does not include overtime pay, does not cover observers in certain work situations and does not prohibit observers from seeking additional damages.

In response to the situation, the observer provider industry and NOAA-FS are considering the feasibility and costs of plainly defining fisheries observers as within the scope of LHWC. In fact, this approach has been recommended by independent study (*Plan to Manage Risks and Minimize Liabilities Associated with the Deployment of Contracted Fisheries Observers*, by David Cox and Roy Goldberg).

One of the benefits to observer providers of being under workers compensation is that in almost all instances it is the exclusive remedy and that the observer providers will not be subject to liability litigation. Injured observers will have the certainty that if a work related injury occurs the observer will be compensated regardless of who caused the injury.

The broad goals of this study are to analyze the costs and implementation issues of applying the proposed Marine Fisheries Observer Compensation Act (FOCA) as shown in Appendix A of the *Plan to Manage Risks and Minimize Liabilities Associated with the Deployment of Contracted Fisheries Observers* prepared by NOAA-FS in March, 2003. FOCA is essentially the extension of LHWC to fisheries observers.

## **B. Projected Costs**

### **1. Brief Discussion of Options**

There are two basic ways that the observer providers can manage the projected costs of FOCA. These are a self-insurance program and commercial insurance.

#### **a. Self-Insurance**

Self-insurance is an arrangement where contract providers fund the costs of claims. It could be on an individual basis or in some type of pooling, captive or risk retention group

organization. The commonality is that the contract providers pay an annual contribution that is designed to pay the projected claims and administer the program. If costs are less than contributions, equity accumulates. If costs are greater than contributions, there is a shortfall that will need to be funded.

As a practical matter, most self-insurance programs purchase some type of insurance. The purpose of the insurance is to limit risk. When insurance is purchased for large individual claims it is known as specific excess insurance. Almost all public entities, industry associations and corporations opt for this approach. A minority of self-insurance programs also purchase insurance above a total loss amount. This is called aggregate or stop loss insurance.

Self-insurance has been used before in similar situations for federal government agencies. Fisheries observers are different in that they are often working for private contractors.

The advantages of self-insurance are usually costs (over the long term) and independent decision making. The key disadvantage is the assumption of risk and the possibility that costs will emerge greater than projected. There is also the task of administration. This requires an understanding of insurance and an appreciation for the financial risks involved.

***b. Commercial Insurance***

Commercial insurance is where contract providers purchase insurance. The contract providers pay a fixed premium to a commercial insurance company. The insurer pays claims and administers the program.

Commercial insurance could be on an individual contractor provider basis or some type of group purchase plan. It has been used before in similar situations for federal government agencies. Fisheries observers are different in that they are often working for private contractors.

The advantages of commercial insurance are that costs are set and risk is minimized. It is a “turn-key” decision completely managed by external professionals. The

disadvantage is that costs (over the long term) are usually greater and a degree of independence is lost.

## **2. Discussion of Self Insurance**

Self-insurance includes the projected ultimate losses (indemnity, medical), loss adjustment expense, administration and specific excess insurance. The projected ultimate losses are the accrual value of losses with accident dates in 2006, regardless of report or payment date. Administration includes claims handling, general overhead and taxes/fees.

We project the cost of self-insurance to be:

**Table I-1  
Projected Cost of Self-Insurance  
2006**

| <b>(1)<br/>Cost Item</b>        | <b>(2)<br/>Projected Cost</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (A) Projected ultimate losses   | \$739,676                     |
| (B) Loss adjusting expense      | 103,555                       |
| (C) Administration              | 147,935                       |
| (D) Specific excess insurance   | 411,905                       |
| (E) Assessments                 | 229,878                       |
| (F) Total (Sum of (A) thru (E)) | \$1,632,949                   |

Notes: (A) is from Exhibit M.

(B) is 14% of (A) per Exhibit L.

(C) is from 20% of (A) based on other similar programs with which we are familiar.

(D) is based on Exhibit M ((b-g) x 125%), per actuarial judgment.

(E) is 21.5% of Exhibit L Total (b).

It is important to understand caveats regarding the projected costs of self-insurance:

- The projected ultimate losses are usually based on an actuarial analysis of historical losses, payroll and changes in operations. In this analysis the actual loss experience, payroll and operations for all observers were not readily

available (A sample of actual data for some observers was provided to PICC). The actuarial work was based in large part on informed judgment and insurance industry statistics. While we believe the projections to be reasonable based on the data available, we emphasize that actual losses may emerge different from projections. They may be higher or lower.

- We have assumed the observer providers will purchase specific excess insurance for losses that exceed \$250,000.
- We have projected administrative costs as a rough guide based on other programs with which we are familiar. Actual costs will vary based on the types of services purchased and other economic factors. The observer providers will need to ascertain actual costs if it moves forward with self-insurance.
- We have estimated the cost of specific excess insurance. The actual costs will depend upon negotiations with insurance brokers and providers. Also, the \$250,000 self insured retention is only an example. The observer providers may be presented with many options and will need to select the optimal retention based on cost and its willingness to accept risk.
- The amounts in Table I-1 do not consider investment income as a revenue source. This may reduce costs by approximately 5% to 7%.
- The amounts in Table I-1 are for all contractor providers combined. We have not calculated costs by individual contract provider.
- The contractor providers will need to consult with insurance and tax experts before initiating a self-insurance program.
- There are additional start-up costs to be considered.
- Capitalization is not addressed.

The actuarial analysis is detailed in Chapter III, Methodology.

**3. Commercial Insurance**

Commercial insurance is typically priced as payroll (in hundreds of dollars) times a rate per \$100 of payroll.

We project the cost of commercial insurance to be:

**Table I-2  
Projected Cost of Commercial Insurance  
2006**

| <b>(1)<br/>Cost Item</b>      | <b>(2)<br/>Projected Cost</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (A) Projected payroll         | \$14,887,862                  |
| (B) Rate per \$100 of payroll | \$11.46                       |
| (C) Total ((A)/100X(B))       | \$1,706,140                   |

Notes: (A) is from Exhibit B

(B) is based on Exhibit L divided by payroll.

It is important to understand caveats regarding the projected costs of commercial insurance.

- Actual payroll information for all observers was not readily available. The amount is an approximation based in large part on informed judgment. While we believe the projections to be reasonable based on the data available, we emphasize that actual payroll may be different. Should the observer providers proceed with commercial insurance it will need accurate payroll information.
- We have assumed insurance will be available at rates as promulgated by the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI). There is no assurance that it will be available at these rates. Insurers charge rates that vary on their own analysis of exposure to loss and risk. The observer providers will need to negotiate carefully for insurance. The rate is intended as a rough guide based on other programs with which we are familiar. The observer providers and NOAA-FS will need to ascertain actual rates if it moves forward with commercial insurance.



- The amounts in Table I-2 are for all observer providers combined. We have not calculated costs by individual observer provider. They may be slightly more as most commercial insurers offer modest discounts based on premium volume.
- We have assumed that investment income and insurer profit are roughly equal.

The commercial insurance analysis is detailed in Chapter III, Methodology.

### **C. Important Issues to Consider in Implementation**

There are many other important issues to consider.

#### ***Legality***

New legislation is required for LHWC to be applicable to fisheries observers.

As we understand the current situation, there is no legal mechanism for NOAA-FS to initiate or administer a program for the contract providers. It is unclear whether NOAA-FS could even serve as an advisor. When FOCA is enacted, each of the current contract providers would individually need to purchase commercial insurance for LHWC or become a qualified individual self-insured in all the jurisdictions in which they operate (assuming this is allowed under FOCA).

If NOAA-FS desires to initiate a self-insurance pool, captive or risk retention group, it will need the legal authority. Of course, the contractor providers could organize a program independent of NOAA-FS.

We understand NOAA-FS is not researching the legality issues at the present time since under FOCA and all options described in this analysis would be undertaken by observer providers.

#### ***Cost Changes***

Currently, the contract providers purchase many different types of insurance coverage for fisheries observers. This is because there is no clear statutory guidance on the indemnification of injured fisheries observers. In some cases, workers compensation has applied. We have been informed that sometimes claims are made through general liability or the Jones Act. Observers have sought relief through the Federal

Employees Compensation Act (FECA). We have learned of instances in which specialized state programs (Alaska Fishermen's Fund) has been used.

It is probable that some (perhaps all) contractor providers have purchased coverages that overlap or are redundant. It was not possible to obtain information sufficient to determine a dollar amount that is currently being spent on insuring fisheries observers.

The cost of initiating benefits payable under LHWC will differ from the current situation. From a pure comparison with workers compensation premiums, contractor provider cost will likely experience an increase. This is especially true for non-Alaska based contractor providers. LHWC benefits are more generous than most states (Alaska being an exception). Some contractor providers, especially those in low benefit states may experience significant increases.

The cost increases will be much more moderate or there may even be savings if the myriad of insurance products for indemnifying injured fisheries observers is coordinated. This will depend on each contractor provider's knowledge and efforts.

### ***Coverage Changes***

There may be some coverage changes. For example, most fisheries observers have some sort of 24 hour coverage for injuries. We believe there have been claims for incidents that appear not to be work related injuries as defined by traditional workers compensation. It is not certain that LHWC will cover all these injuries.

### ***Coordination and Data Sharing***

If there is to be a group self-insurance (such as pooling) or a group commercial insurance program, the contractor providers will almost certainly need to coordinate and share data. This includes employee counts, payroll and loss experience data.

One of the smaller contract providers is already self-insured as it is a division of a large corporation. It will probably be able to qualify as a self-insured. Most others will likely need to purchase commercial insurance at least in the short term. Some are simply too small to ever be self-insured as they cannot bear the risk of self-insurance, start up costs and manage the complexities of an individual self-insurance program.

**D. Recommendations**

The cost of self-insurance is approximately \$1,632,949 (less about 5% to 7% for investment income) and the cost of commercial insurance is \$1,706,140. Therefore, from a pure expected cost perspective, self-insurance is slightly less expensive. Never-the-less, we strongly recommend an insured program at least in the first few years.

There is a paucity of reliable loss experience and exposure data from which to project losses. As such we relied on insurance industry data. The observer provider industry may not be an exact fit to the data. There is significant variance inherent in our projections. By being commercially insured, the observer providers will be able to begin a program to collect statistically reliable data from which to develop projections in the future.

We are concerned about the contractor providers having relatively modest knowledge of workers compensation issues. Again, a few years of commercial insurance coverage will enable them to establish the requisite industry familiarity to manage a self-insurance program.

Capitalization is another bottleneck. A self-insurance program almost always requires capitalization in the event losses emerge worse than expected. The contract providers will need to work out a plan for accumulating capital.

At this point, we recommend interested parties work with the industry to seek to expand the LHWC to include fisheries observers. We recommend the contractor providers pool their efforts and premiums to obtain the lowest cost for commercial insurance coverage. They should begin to collect accurate insurance information and become knowledgeable in the requirements of managing a self-insurance program.

## **II. BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF WORK**

### **A. Background**

NOAA-FS deploys approximately five hundred fisheries observers to more than twenty fisheries nationwide. These observers work independently on commercial fishing vessels for up to three months without direct supervision. The working can be difficult at times due to unpredictable working and weather conditions.

Currently, it is the responsibility of the observer provider company to obtain adequate insurance coverage for observers. Reimbursement of the costs of insurance is made either by the government (such as in the case where there is a contract between the observer provider and the NOAA-FS) or by the commercial vessel owner. There are no standard coverage provisions or minimum legal requirements for insurance.

In the course of our work, we found several complications when trying to compile loss experience data. As mentioned before observers are not consistently considered seaman. We understand some courts have ruled fisheries observers as seaman and others have not. So, the source of compensating injured observers is tangled. It is not just one source and often a mixture of several. These include regular workers compensation, LHWG, contractor providers (out-of-pocket), vessel owners (under general liability), Jones Act and FECA funds.

There is no standardization of injury forms or reporting. In fact, there appears to be no uniform coverage or compensable injury definitions.

### **B. Scope of Work**

The specific scope of work is:

1. Current Program. Review the features and costs of the current program by which observers are compensated for work related injuries.
2. Projected Costs.
  - a. Self Insurance. Project the annual costs of self insurance under coverage similar to that provided to employees with LHWG coverage.

- b. Commercial Insurance. Project the annual premiums for commercial insurance under coverage similar to that provided to employees with LHWC coverage.
- 3. Implementation. Discuss the costs, feasibility and procedures for implementation.

### **III. METHODOLOGY**

Our methodology follows:

#### **A. Introduction**

Insurance costs have three basic cost components:

- The expected cost of claims
- The “overhead” costs
- Provision for profit and/or actual claims costs exceeding expected claims costs.

For most types of insurance and for workers compensation in particular, the largest component of insurance cost is the expected cost of claims (called expected “losses” in insurance industry jargon).

Expected losses are determined using one or both of two fundamental approaches:

- Loss rating approach
- Exposure rating approach

#### **B. Overview of Loss Rating**

In loss rating, the insurer bases its calculation of a loss rate on the historical loss experience of the accounts, individually for large accounts, and by group of similar accounts for smaller accounts. A comparison is made of historical losses and historical units of exposure to loss. For workers compensation, a unit of exposure in the vast majority of instances is payroll (in units of \$100, or payroll in hundreds). Occasionally, hours worked, or employee count, may be an acceptable substitute for payroll data.

After applying a variety of actuarial adjustments to historical data, the adjusted losses divided by payroll results in an expected cost per \$100 of payroll, called an “expected loss rate.” Multiplying the expected loss rate by expected future exposure produces estimated expected losses for the coming period (upcoming year). The addition of provisions for overhead and profit results in a premium to be charged.

**C. Data Available for Loss Rating**

PICC's initial approach at loss rating started with data collection. PICC sent a detailed data request to each observer provider. The data requested sought from each Observer Provider was its historical data on payrolls and claims costs for observers in their employ.

Only one of the observer providers responded with data that appeared suitable for actuarial loss rating (though we did have some questions regarding claims that seemed outside the traditional definition of workers compensation). In the remaining many instances, corresponding payroll and complete loss experience data was not provided. Given the absence of both payroll and complete loss data obtained directly from many observer providers, PICC then elected to substitute relevant data from external sources in order to implement an exposure rating analysis.

PICC analyzed the sample of data provided by observer providers to test the reasonableness of actuarial judgments made in this analysis. Exhibit K-2 WC PP displays the pure premium (PP), the losses per unit of exposure, calculated from the sample data, where PICC removed claims that it believed (based on claims descriptions) are not covered by traditional workers compensation. Exhibit K-3 (PP Incl. Non-WC) displays the same calculation based on all claims in the sample, including claims that may not be covered by traditional workers compensation.

The pure premium used in this analysis is displayed in Exhibit K-1 EL Prog, and it falls between the pure premiums calculated in Exhibits K-2 and K-3. Thus, PICC concluded that the industry data used in this analysis is a reasonable proxy for actual observer provider data that could not be obtained.

An expected loss rate implicitly has two components: an expected frequency of claims (e.g., claim count / payroll), and an expected severity of claims (e.g., total losses / claim count). Multiplying an expected claim frequency by and expected claim severity provides an estimated expected loss rate.

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{Claim count} / \text{payroll}) \times (\text{losses} / \text{claim count}) \\ & = \text{losses} / \text{payroll} = \text{expected loss rate} \end{aligned}$$

The National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) is a workers compensation statistical agent and rate service organization funded by the insurance industry, and licensed by the states in which it provides statistical and rating services. PICC has found that it is a reliable source

of data and provides the widest geographic range of services. Services that NCCI provides include:

- Organization of workers compensation data into classification codes (classification codes includes both four digit code numbers, and phraseology that describes the activities of employers whose data is included within each of the approximately five hundred separate classification codes).
- Calculation and publication of expected loss rates by class code, by state. Included in NCCI's analysis of expected loss rates by class code for individual states are expected loss rates by class code based on "National" data (NCCI's national database includes 35 of the 50 states).
- Compilation and publication of data underlying determination of expected loss rates by class code, including standard actuarial adjustments).

There is a subset of NCCI class codes, called "F" (or Federal) classes that reflect the experience of employers who come under LHWC. Exhibit A displays a list of the "F" classes. PICC has reviewed the phraseologies associated with the full list of "F" classes, and has concluded that there are three classes that seem more likely than others to contain exposures to work place injury similar to that presented by observers. Those classes are:

| <u>Class Code</u> | <u>Phraseology</u>  |
|-------------------|---|
| 6826              | Marinas and Drivers: Coverage Under US Act  |
| 8709              | Stevedoring: Talliers and Checking Clerks Engaged in Connection with Stevedore Work                                       |
| 8726              | Steamship Line or Agency – Port Employees: Superintendents, Captains, Engineers, Stewards or Their Assistants, Pay Clerks |

In reviewing the above list of class codes, it must be kept in mind that for PICC's purposes in this report, it is not relevant whether observers are actually conducting the same activities as employees included under these classes. It is relevant that the expected frequency of job related injuries for employees within these class codes be approximately the same as the expected frequency of job related injuries for observers.



**D. Variation in Frequency and Severity among LHWC Exposures**

By reviewing separately the claim frequency, and the claim severity, of experience under LHWC, PICC has concluded that for employees under LHWC, while claim frequency varies significantly among groups of class codes within the “F” classes, there is much less variation in cost per claim among groups of class codes within the “F” classes.

Row (18), column (h) of Exhibit A displays the frequency of claims per \$1,000,000 of employee payroll. We see that for all types of claims where the worker suffered an injury that required missing work, the claim frequency for selected class codes is approximately 60% of the claim frequency for all “F” classes. Row (18), columns (f) and (g), display the fact that for both serious injuries, and for non-serious injuries, the relative frequency of claims for selected class codes to all “F” classes is approximately the same as for all types of injuries combined (i.e., 65% and 59% vs. 60%).

PICC then reviewed the relationship of the expected loss rates for selected class codes to the expected loss rates for all “F” classes combined. Exhibit A, row (18), column (j) demonstrates that on a national basis the average expected loss rate for the selected class codes is approximately 65% of the average expected loss rates for all “F” classes combined.

Since the difference between selected class codes and all “F” classes as respects frequency is almost identical to the difference as respects expected loss rates (60% vs. 65%), PICC concludes that the major component necessary to evaluate expected costs if observers are covered under the LHWC Act is the expected claim frequency for observers.

Based on the selected class codes, PICC expects, per \$1,000,000 of payroll, 1.24 claims where the injured worker is out at least 7 days (Exhibit A, col. (h). row (17)).

**E. Observer Payroll**

As noted earlier, PICC’s data requests to observer program managers did not produce data suitable for an actuarial analysis. PICC research identified a publication, *“Plan to Manage Risks and Minimize Liabilities Associated with the Deployment of Contracted Fisheries Observers”* that was useful in estimating annual Observer payroll. PICC estimates that total annual observer program payroll is in the range of \$15 million, as derived in Exhibit B. The implication is that there are roughly 500 observers. This is consistent with our understanding of the program.

**F. Observer Expected Claim Frequency Based on Selected “F” Classes**

NCCI in a separate publication displays average frequency of claims per year per 100,000 workers for workers under LHWC. NCCI data for all “F” classes combined indicates 5 injuries where the injured worker is out at least 7 days per 100 workers each year (Exhibit C, row (1)).

Adjusting this rate to be reflective of selected class codes indicates an average frequency rate of 3 injuries per 100 observers per year ( $60\% \times 5$ ). PICC estimates an average annual payroll per observer of \$35,000, and an annual payroll for the “F” class employees of \$50,000. Because the average wage level of observers is lower than that of the average wage level in “F” classes, an adjustment is required to recognize the same frequency of injury per employee will produce a higher claim frequency per \$1,000,000 of payroll, and vice versa.

PICC estimates that claim frequency for observers during “sea-days” will be comparable to claim frequency for “F” classes, while claim frequency for observers during “land-days” will be approximately 10% of the claim frequency for “F” classes as most land days is for class room instruction.

Combining these adjustments, PICC estimates an expected claim frequency of 2.7 claims per 100 observer work years (Exhibit C, row (9)). Converting the expected claim frequency from a per 100 observers basis to per \$1,000,000 of payroll basis results in an expected frequency of 0.78 claims per \$1,000,000 of payroll (Exhibit C, row (11)).

**G. Expected Average Cost per Claim**

Exhibit D displays PICC’s analysis of expected average claim severity. The reported LHWC average cost per claim of approximately \$54,500 trended to January 1, 2006 at an annual increase of 4% results in a trended average cost of approximately \$66,500 (row (7)).

Because indemnity benefits are typically set at 2/3s of wages, and because observer wage levels are generally below the wage that sets the maximum weekly benefit under LHWC, it is necessary to adjust the LHWC average severity to reflect the lower observer wage level. The observer wage level is estimated to be 70% of the LHWC wage level, and indemnity benefits are reported to be 52% of total LHWC losses (an 80% factor was applied to recognize that adjusting severity for relative wage levels may overstate the difference in maximum weekly benefits when higher LHWC wage levels produce a maximum benefit that is capped), resulting in a

12% reduction in expected severity for observers as compared to LHWC claims (Exhibit D, row (11)).

There are some claims under LHWC where medical benefits are provided, but no lost time indemnity benefits are required. The cost of “medical only” claims is 2.0% of total LHWC benefits. Given the small dollar value, PICC did not separately analyze the frequency and severity of “medical only” claims. Rather, PICC has increased the average severity to include the cost of medical only claims, resulting in a final estimated cost per claim of \$59,400 (Exhibit D, row (14)) for observers based on LHWC data.

#### **H. Expected Losses for Observers Based on LHWC Data**

Expected losses are the product of expected cost per claim, and expected number of claims. The expected cost per observer lost time claim based on LHWC data is \$59,400. The expected number of observer claims is calculated as 0.78 claims per \$1,000,000 of observer payroll based on all LHWC data adjusted to observer levels (Exhibit C, row (11)). Combining the expected claim frequency 0.78 per \$1,000,000 of payroll with the expected claim severity of \$59,400 produces PICC’s estimate of annual expected losses for fisheries observers approximately \$690,000 if covered under LHWC (see Exhibit E). Thus, losses are approximately 4.6% of payroll.

In the immediately following section of this report PICC modifies its estimate of the expected number of observer claims to incorporate claim counts reported for the North Pacific Groundfish program.

#### **I. Expected Annual Number of Observer Claims**

Exhibit F, Section A displays PICC’s calculation of the annual expected number of observer lost time claims (23 claims) that would be covered under LHWC based on data from the North Pacific Groundfish program.

Exhibit F, Section B displays PICC’s calculation of the annual expected number of observer lost time claims (12 claims) that would be covered under LHWC based on “F” Class data.

Exhibit F, Section C displays PICC’s final selection of the expected number of lost time claims for observers if they are covered under the LHWC Act (18 claims annually).

**J. Expected Insurance Company Expenses**

The product of expected number of claims and expected cost per claim produces expected losses. To arrive at an expected insurance premium, expected losses must be increased to reflect insurance company overhead, and the cost of adjusting claims. Exhibit G-1 displays PICC's analysis of expected insurance company overhead. As a percentage of premium, insurance company overhead decreases as premium increases due to economies of scale. For premiums under \$5,000 per year, production on average is 17% of premium, and general expense is 6% of premium. For the largest size premiums, production decreases to 8% of premium, and general expense decreases to 1.6% of premium (Exhibit G-1, Section A).

Exhibit G-1, Section B, row (1) displays annual premiums for selected premium sizes. Section B, rows (7) and (8) displays estimated insurance company expense provisions by size of premium as a percent of premium on a "standard basis" and on a "direct basis," respectively. Standard premium is prior to reflection of economies of scale, and direct premium is what the employer pays.

**K. Loss Adjustment Expense**

Exhibit G-2 displays a ten year history of countrywide workers compensation loss adjustment expenses (LAE) as a percentage of losses (i.e., as a percentage of the sum of indemnity and medical benefits), on a countrywide basis. Row (14) displays PICC's selected provisions for allocated loss adjustment expense (ALAE), and for unallocated loss adjustment expense (ULAE). PICC's selected provisions for ALAE, and for ULAE, are lower than the countrywide average because the average cost per claim for claims under LHWC is substantially higher than the countrywide average cost per claim, and LAE expenses are not proportionately higher.

**L. Size of Loss Distribution**

It is important for purchasers of insurance to have some degree of understanding of the likelihood of large claims. NCCI segregates the approximately 500 classifications into four "hazard groups" where hazard group one has the lowest average severity, and hazard group 4 has the highest average severity. The countrywide average hazard group is 2.5, and the average hazard group for observers is estimated to be 3.5 as calculated in Exhibit H.

Exhibit I displays the expected distribution of observer losses by size of claim. As can be seen in column (h), approximately 32% of all observer losses under the LHWC Act would be attributable to the first \$25,000 per claim. Conversely, 68% of all losses would be attributable to dollars in excess of \$25,000 on any claim. 14% of all losses would be attributable to dollars in excess of \$1,000,000 per claim. These are long-range estimates, and given the relatively small volume of observer data, from year to year one would expect substantial differences in the distribution of losses by size of claim.

**M. LHWC Assessments**

LHWC compensation payments are subject to assessments. Exhibit J provides a description of the assessments and a history of assessment rates. PICC estimates that one should expect an average long-term assessment rate equal to 21.5% of losses.

**N. Expected Losses by Observer Program, and in Total**

As explained earlier, expected losses are the product of the expected number of claims, and the expected cost per claim. Exhibit K displays PICC's calculation of expected losses if observers are covered under LHWC. Note that expected losses are allocated proportionately among observer programs based on estimated payrolls. To the extent that actual exposure to claims is not proportional to payroll, these estimates would require adjustment.

**O. Estimated Premium by Program, and for All Programs**

Exhibit L displays PICC's estimate of required premium if observers are covered under LHWC. Col. (e) displays expected losses increased to include provision for loss adjustment expense, and for the LHWC assessment on paid losses. Col. (f) displays expenses prior to adjustment for economies of scale, excluding premium taxes. Similarly, col. (g) displays estimated premium prior to adjustment for economies of scale, excluding premium taxes. Col. (h) displays provision for insurance company expenses including reductions for economies of scale. Col. (h) also includes a 5% provision for premium taxes, based on the countrywide average for this component of cost. Col. (i) displays estimated premium by program, and the sum for all eight programs. Row (8) displays the "consolidated" result. That is, the cost if all observer programs were insured as a single program (i.e., increased economy of scale). The savings from a consolidated program is expected to be about 1.5%.

**P. Premium Credits for Accepting a “Deductible”**

In workers compensation true deductibles do not exist. Rather, there are loss reimbursement programs wherein the insured employer reimburses the insurer for the dollars under the “deductible.” Exhibit M, columns (c) through (g) display expected premium credits if the employer accepts a deductible per claim in one of the amounts listed above row (1). Note that for several programs and deductible amounts, “n/a” (or not applicable) is listed. This is because PICC would strongly recommend that no employer accept a deductible greater than approximately 25% of expected losses. Rows (i) through (m) display estimated premium net of deductible credits. The “consolidated program” (rows (7) and (14)) assumes that the observer providers join together in a single insurance program.

**Q. Self-Insurance**

It is PICC’s conclusion that the size of risk for the observer provider, whether viewed on a provider-by-provider basis, or as a single consolidated provider, should not be self-insured for a number of reasons (including, but not limited to the following).

1. Adequate historical observer program data does not presently exist.
2. There is substantial uncertainty as to the expected frequency and severity of claims if observers are covered under LHWC,
3. There is no information as to whether observer providers have the financial wherewithal to provide sufficient start up capital to operate a self-insurance program
4. There is no indication that individual observer providers are willing to operate under a pooled self-insurance mechanism.

#### **IV. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

In the course of work we relied upon the work of others. In particular, we acknowledge the following:

1. *Review and Evaluation of NOAA-FS Observer Training Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)*, by Deb Ajango, Paula Cullenberg, and Jerry Dzugan.
2. *Plan to Manage Risks and Minimize Liabilities Associated with the Deployment of Contracted Fisheries Observers*, by David Cox and Roy Goldberg.

## **V. CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS**

### **Actual Costs**

This study is intended as a summary of key cost components. Actual costs will necessitate solicited bids for coverage and services.

### **Best Estimate**

These caveats and limitations notwithstanding, the conclusions represent our best estimate of the actuarial status and funding requirements of the program as of the date of this report.

### **Capitalization**

Capitalization is a buffer in the event loss experience emerges worse than expected. The amount varies by retention, size of program and other factors. Some jurisdictions of domicile may require statutory minimums.

Nothing in this report addresses the amount of recommended capitalization or methods of accumulation. As insurance is an inherently risky venture, individuals or entities contributing capital need to understand the possibility of loss of capital.

### **Consistency**

The conclusions are predicated on the assumptions that the selected reporting, reserving, and payment patterns, frequency and severity trends, and claim distributions apply, and will continue to apply, to the program. The risk exposure covered by the program as well as the claim reserving, management, and settlement practices are assumed to be consistent over time, except as noted.

### **Data Reliance**

The data for this study was obtained from a variety of external sources. In the study, we relied on the accuracy and completeness of this data without independent audit. If the data is inaccurate or incomplete, our findings and conclusions may need to be revised.

### **Distribution**

The report was prepared for the sole use of NOAA. Distribution to others without our prior written consent is unauthorized. With our consent, the report may be distributed only in its entirety.



### **Effective Period**

The rating plan features in this actuarial study are intended to be effective January 1, 2006 for one year policies. The data supplied to PICC includes data valued at a variety of other dates.

Rates and insurance industry conditions are dynamic and change over time. Nothing in this actuarial study addresses the likelihood or timing of rating revisions. We recommend periodic reviews (one year maximum). We do not assume responsibility to inform NOAA of events that may warrant a revision.

### **Entire Document**

The conclusions within this study are developed in the accompanying text and exhibits, which together comprise the report.

### **Experience Rating**

Under some conditions, experience rating may apply to contractor providers. We have not reviewed this feature.

### **Investment Income**

There has been no consideration of investment income earned on funds held to pay losses or capitalization. Investment income is a supplemental revenue source that varies by interest rate assumption and payout schedule. It is reasonable to assume approximately a 5% to 10% discount from the base rates due to investment income under self-insurance. This will vary by coverage.

### **Management Reliance**

Information concerning the Observer program structure and risk exposure was provided by the client. In the study, we relied on the accuracy and completeness of this information without independent verification. If the information is inaccurate or incomplete, our findings and conclusions may need to be revised.

### **Significant Digits**

Numbers in the exhibits generally display more significant digits than their accuracy suggests. This purpose is to simplify review of the calculations.

### **Study Foundations**

The study conclusions were based on analysis of the available data and on the estimation of many contingent events. Future costs were developed from the

historical claim experience and covered exposure, with adjustments for anticipated changes.

### **Unanticipated Changes**

Unanticipated changes in factors such as judicial decisions, legislation actions, claim consciousness, claim management, claim settlement practices, and economic conditions may significantly alter the conclusions.

### **Uncertainty**

Due to the uncertainties inherent in the estimation of future costs, it cannot be guaranteed that the estimates set forth in the report will not prove to be inadequate or excessive and that actual costs may vary significantly from our estimates.

### **Underlying Assumptions**

In addition to the assumptions stated in the report, numerous other assumptions underlie the calculations and results presented herein.

**VI. EXHIBITS**

| <b><u>Exh.</u></b>  | <b><u>Exhibit Name</u></b>  |
|---------------------|---|
| A USL ELRs          | Exhibit A - Expected Loss Rates for US Longshoremen & Harbor Workers Act  |
| B Payroll           | Exhibit B - Estimated Annual Observer Payroll                             |
| C Freq USL          | Exhibit C - Claim Frequency Based on Countrywide "F" Classes Claim Counts |
| D Select Severity   | Exhibit D - Selected Severity (Avg. Cost) per Claim                       |
| E Exptd Loss        | Exhibit E - Calculation of Observer Expected Losses Based On USL Data     |
| F No Claims         | Exhibit F - Estimate of Annual Number of Claims Nationally                |
| G1 Expense          | Exhibit G-1 - Expected Insurance Company Expenses                         |
| G2 LAE              | Exhibit G-2 Loss Adjustment Expense                                       |
| H Haz Grp           | Exhibit H - Average Hazard Group  |
| I Loss Size         | Exhibit I - Distribution of Losses by Size of Claim                       |
| J Assess            | Exhibit J - Assessments on Total Paid Losses - USL&HW ACT—SPECIAL FUND    |
| K-1 EL Prog         | Exhibit K-1 - Expected Losses by Program                                  |
| K-2 PP WC           | Exhibit K-2 - Pure Premium Based on Sample Observer Data - WC Only        |
| K-3 PP Incl. Non-WC | Exhibit K-3 - Pure Premium Based on Sample Observer Data - Incl. Non-WC   |
| L Exp Prem          | Exhibit L - Expected Premium  |
| M Deduct            | Exhibit M - Expected Premium Savings from Per Claim Deductible            |

**Exhibit A - Expected Loss Rates for US Longshoremen & Harbor Workers Act**

|      | (a)  | (b)                | (c)         | (d)        | (e)        | (f)   | (g)         | (h)         | (i)  |
|------|--|--------------------|-------------|------------|------------|---|-------------|-------------|--|
|      | Class<br>Code                              | Payroll            | Claim Count |            |            | Claim Frequency per<br>\$1,000,000 of Payroll |             |             | National<br>Expected<br>Loss Rate<br>per \$100<br>of Payroll |
|      |  |                    | Ser.        | Non-Ser.   | Total      | Ser.  | Non-Ser.    | Total       |  |
| (1)  | 6801                                       | 1,786,275          | 0           | 3          | 3          | 0.00  | 1.68        | 1.68        | 1.13   |
| (2)  | 6824                                       | 74,437,810         | 14          | 104        | 118        | 0.19  | 1.40        | 1.59        | 6.48   |
| (3)  | <b>6826</b>                                | <b>42,286,518</b>  | <b>14</b>   | <b>81</b>  | <b>95</b>  | <b>0.33</b>                                   | <b>1.92</b> | <b>2.25</b> | <b>9.48</b>  |
| (4)  | 6828                                       | 39,888,993         | 4           | 61         | 65         | 0.10  | 1.53        | 1.63        | 7.30   |
| (5)  | 6843                                       | 37,846,068         | 14          | 137        | 151        | 0.37  | 3.62        | 3.99        | 11.22  |
| (6)  | 6845                                       | 1,690,248          | 1           | 10         | 11         | 0.59  | 5.92        | 6.51        | 7.81   |
| (7)  | 6872                                       | 65,132,913         | 15          | 190        | 205        | 0.23  | 2.92        | 3.15        | 13.63  |
| (8)  | 6874                                       | 6,154,883          | 6           | 11         | 17         | 0.97  | 1.79        | 2.76        | 17.67  |
| (9)  | 7309                                       | 10,204,351         | 3           | 28         | 31         | 0.29  | 2.74        | 3.04        | 19.42  |
| (10) | 7313                                       | 2,121,786          | 0           | 0          | 0          | 0.00  | 0.00        | 0.00        | 4.00   |
| (11) | 7317                                       | 39,098,814         | 9           | 47         | 56         | 0.23  | 1.20        | 1.43        | 9.31   |
| (12) | 7327                                       | 12,029,838         | 4           | 23         | 27         | 0.33  | 1.91        | 2.24        | 13.59  |
| (13) | 7380                                       | 14,629,928         | 4           | 37         | 41         | 0.27  | 2.53        | 2.80        | 16.53  |
| (14) | <b>8709</b>                                | <b>24,938,487</b>  | <b>2</b>    | <b>11</b>  | <b>13</b>  | <b>0.08</b>                                   | <b>0.44</b> | <b>0.52</b> | <b>4.57</b>  |
| (15) | <b>8726</b>                                | <b>46,527,542</b>  | <b>0</b>    | <b>33</b>  | <b>33</b>  | <b>0.00</b>                                   | <b>0.71</b> | <b>0.71</b> | <b>3.65</b>  |
|      | Tot. or Avg.<br>of All Codes               | 418,774,454        | 90          | 776        | 866        | 0.21  | 1.85        | 2.07        | 9.24   |
| (17) | Tot. or Avg.<br>of Codes<br>in <b>Bold</b> | <b>113,752,547</b> | <b>16</b>   | <b>125</b> | <b>141</b> | <b>0.14</b>                                   | <b>1.10</b> | <b>1.24</b> | <b>6.02</b>  |
| (18) | Ratio:<br><b>Bold</b> / All                | 27%                | 18%         | 16%        | 16%        | 65%   | 59%         | 60%         | 65%  |

Notes:

Col. (a) - (i), rows (1) - (15), from NCCI rate filing in Florida effective 4/1/03.

**Cost Analysis of Applying the Longshoreman and Harbor Workers  
Act to Fisheries Observers**

B Payroll

**Exhibit B - Estimated Annual Observer Payroll**

| (a)                          | (b)             | (c)                           | (d)                            | (e)  | (f)   | (g)   |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| <b>Observer Programs</b>     | <b>Sea-Days</b> | <b>Est. Pay /<br/>Sea-Day</b> | <b>Est. Pay /<br/>Land-Day</b> | <b>Sea-Days<br/>as Pct. of<br/>Sea-Days<br/>and<br/>Land-Days<br/>Combined</b> | <b>Est. No.<br/>Land-Days<br/>(b)/(e) - (b)</b> | <b>Est. Annual<br/>Observer<br/>Payroll<br/>(b)x(c)+(d)x(f)</b> |
| (1) North Pacific Groundfish | 37,000          | \$140                         | \$80                           | 60%  | 24,667  | \$7,153,333   |
| (2) West Coast               | 5,660           | 135                           | 90                             | 60%  | 3,773   | 1,103,700   |
| (3) Northeast Groundfish     | 10,682          | 200                           | 100                            | 60%  | 7,121   | 2,848,533   |
| (4) Southeast                | 2,993           | 250                           | 110                            | 60%  | 1,995   | 967,737   |
| (5) Southwest                | 1,180           | 200                           | 110                            | 60%  | 787   | 322,533   |
| (6) Pacific Islands          | 11,175          | 165                           | 87                             | 60%  | 7,450   | 2,492,025   |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>68,690</b>   |                               |                                |  | <b>45,793</b>                                   | <b>\$14,887,862</b>   |

Notes:

Col. (a), (b), (c), and (d) provided by Client

Col. (e) based on limited sample

**Exhibit C - Claim Frequency Based on Countrywide "F" Classes Claim Counts**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| (1) Frequency per 100 workers - all "F" classes  | 5.0       |
| (2) Relative frequency for selected class codes  | 60%       |
| (3) Estimated annual payroll per worker - all "F" classes                                | 50,000    |
| (4) Estimated annual payroll per Observer  | 35,000    |
| (5) Factor to adjust frequency to Observer annual payroll level = (3) / (4)              | 1.43      |
| (6) Expected frequency per 100 Observers for Sea-Days = (1) x (2) x (5)                  | 4.3       |
| (7) Sea-Days as % of Sea-Days and Land-Days Combined                                     | 60%       |
| (8) Expected % of lost-time claims for Land-Days as compared to Sea-Days                 | 10%       |
| (9) Expected total frequency per 100 Observers = ((7) x (6)) + ([1.0 - (7)] x (6) x (8)) | 2.7       |
| (10) Estimated annual payroll per 100 Observers = (4) x 100                              | 3,500,000 |
| (11) Expected claim frequency per \$1,000,000 of payroll = (9) / (10) x 1,000,000        | 0.78      |

**Notes:**

Row (1) from Annual Statistical Bulletin, 2004 Ed., published by NCCI

Row (2) based on Exhibit A, row (18)

Row (4) based on report to NOAA Contract No. 50-DGNF-1-90089

Row (7) from Exh. B, col. (e)

Row (8) based on PICC judgment

**Exhibit D - Selected Severity (Avg. Cost) per Claim**

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| (1) Avg. cost per indemnity claim - USL  | 54,482   |
| (2) Avg. date of accident for row (1)  | 1/1/2001 |
| (3) Assumed avg. date of accident for analysis   | 1/1/2006 |
| (4) Annual severity trend  | 4%       |
| (5) No. of years between avg. accident date and analysis date = (3) - (2)  | 5        |
| (6) Severity trend factor  | 1.22     |
| (7) Trended avg. cost per indemnity claim - USL = (1) x (6)  | 66,468   |
| (8) Estimated annual payroll per worker - all "F" classes  | 50,000   |
| (9) Estimated annual payroll per Observer  | 35,000   |
| (10) Indemnity losses as a percentage of total losses for "F" classes  | 52%      |
| (11) Adjustment to average severity to reflect Observer wage level = $(100\% - (9)/(8)) \times (10) \times 80\%$ | 12%      |
| (12) Trended avg. cost per indemnity claim - Observer = (7) x (100% - (11))                                      | 58,173   |
| (13) Cost of medical only claims as percent of total losses - USL  | 2.0%     |
| (14) Average severity adjusted to include provision for medical only claims = $(12) / (100\% - (13))$            | 59,400   |

**Notes:**

Rows (1), (2), and (13) from Annual Statistical Bulletin, 2004 Ed., published by NCCI

**Exhibit E - Calculation of Observer Expected Losses Based On USL Data**

| (a)                          | (b)                                | (c)  | (d)                           | (e)  | (f)  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Observer Programs            | Est. Annual<br>Observer<br>Payroll | Selected<br>Claim<br>Frequency<br>Per<br>\$1,000,000<br>of Payroll | Selected<br>Claim<br>Severity | Annual<br>Expected<br>Losses<br>(b)x(c)x(d) /<br>\$1,000,000 | Expected<br>Losses as<br>Pct. of<br>Payroll<br>(e) / (b) |
| (1) North Pacific Groundfish | \$7,153,333                        | 0.78   | 59,400                        | \$331,428  | 4.6%   |
| (2) West Coast               | 1,103,700                          | 0.78   | 59,400                        | 51,137   | 4.6%   |
| (3) Northeast Groundfish     | 2,848,533                          | 0.78   | 59,400                        | 131,978  | 4.6%   |
| (4) Southeast                | 967,737                            | 0.78   | 59,400                        | 44,837   | 4.6%   |
| (5) Southwest                | 322,533                            | 0.78   | 59,400                        | 14,944   | 4.6%   |
| (6) Pacific Islands          | 2,492,025                          | 0.78   | 59,400                        | 115,461  | 4.6%   |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>\$14,887,862</b>                |  |                               | <b>\$689,784</b>   | <b>4.6%</b>  |

Notes:

Col. (b) from Exhibit B, col. (g)

Col. (c) = Exhibit C, row (11)

Col. (d) = Exhibit D, row (14)



**Exhibit F - Estimate of Annual Number of Claims Nationally**

**Section A - Observer Data - Jurisdiction: North Pacific Groundfish**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Percentage of national exposure in jurisdiction  | 65% |
| (2) No. of claims in jurisdiction  | 246 |
| (3) Est. number of claims for all jurisdictions = (2) / (1)  | 378 |
| (4) No. of years in which claims incurred (6/28/99 - 12/15/02)   | 3.5 |
| (5) Est. annual number of claims for all jurisdictions = (3) / (4)   | 108 |
| (6) No. of non-workers compensation claims in jurisdiction   | 68  |
| (7) Percentage of non-workers compensation claims in jurisdiction = (6) / (2)                              | 28% |
| (8) Estimated annual number of workers compensation (WC) claims for all jurisdictions = (5) x (100% - (7)) | 78  |
| (9) Percentage of "F" classes claims requiring lost time benefits  | 29% |
| (10) Estimated annual number of Observer lost time WC claims on sea-days for all jurisdictions = (8) x (9) | 23  |

**Section B - "F" Class Data**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| (11) Est. claim frequency, national, per \$1,000,000 of payroll                   | 0.78         |
| (12) Est. annual Observer payroll   | \$14,887,862 |
| (13) Est. annual number of claims for all jurisdictions (11) x (12) / \$1,000,000 | 12           |

**Section C - Selected Annual Number of Lost Time Workers Compensation Claims for Observers**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| (14) Selected estimate of annual number of lost time workers compensation claims for Observers = ((10)+(13))/2 | 18 |
|--|----|

Notes:

Rows (1), (2), (4) and (6) from "REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF NMFS OBSERVER SAFETY TRAINING FINAL REPORT"

Row (9) from NCCI Annual Statistical Bulletin

Row (11) from Exhibit E, col. (c)

Row (12) from Exhibit E, col. (b)

**Exhibit G-1 - Expected Insurance Company Expenses**

**Section A - Expense Provisions**

| (a)<br>Premium in Interval | (b)<br>From To  | (c)<br>Production                      | (d)<br>General | (e)<br>Sum | (f)<br>Discount |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--|----------------|------------|-----------------|
|                            |                 | <b>Provision for Ins. Co. Expenses</b> |                |            |                 |
|                            |                 |  |                |            |                 |
|                            | 0 5,000         | 17.0%                                  | 6.0%           | 23.0%      | 0.0%            |
|                            | 5,001 100,000   | 9.5%                                   | 3.4%           | 12.9%      | 10.9%           |
|                            | 100,001 500,000 | 8.0%                                   | 3.2%           | 11.2%      | 12.6%           |
|                            | Over 500,000    | 8.0%                                   | 1.6%           | 9.6%       | 14.4%           |

**Section B - Expected Insurance Company Expenses by Premium Size**

|  | (g)    | (h)    | (i)    | (j)     | (k)     | (l)     | (m)       | (n)       | (o)       |
|--|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| (1) Est. Annual Standard Prem.:<br>Premium in Interval | 10,000 | 20,000 | 30,000 | 100,000 | 150,000 | 250,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
|  |        |        |        |         |         |         |           |           |           |
| (2) From To  |        |        |        |         |         |         |           |           |           |
| (2) 0 5,000  | 5,000  | 5,000  | 5,000  | 5,000   | 5,000   | 5,000   | 5,000     | 5,000     | 5,000     |
| (3) 5,001 100,000                                      | 5,000  | 15,000 | 25,000 | 95,000  | 95,000  | 95,000  | 95,000    | 95,000    | 95,000    |
| (4) 100,001 500,000                                    | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0       | 50,000  | 150,000 | 400,000   | 400,000   | 400,000   |
| (5) Over 500,000                                       | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 500,000   | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 |
| (6) Provision for Ins. Co. Expense                     | 1,795  | 3,085  | 4,375  | 13,405  | 19,005  | 30,205  | 106,205   | 154,205   | 202,205   |
| (7) Expense as % of Std. Prem.                         | 18.0%  | 15.4%  | 14.6%  | 13.4%   | 12.7%   | 12.1%   | 10.6%     | 10.3%     | 10.1%     |
| (8) Expense as % of Direct Prem.                       | 19.0%  | 16.8%  | 16.0%  | 15.0%   | 14.3%   | 13.7%   | 12.2%     | 11.9%     | 11.7%     |

**Notes:**

Section A from NCCI rate filing, col. (e) = cols. (c)+(d)

Row (6) = provisions from col. (e) x premium in rows (2) thru (5)

Row (7) = row (6) / row (1)

Row (8) = row (6) / ((100% - provisions from col. (f)) x premium in rows (2) thru (5))

**Exhibit G-2 Loss Adjustment Expense**

|      |                       | (a)<br>Allocated<br>Loss<br>Adjustment<br>Expense<br>(ALAE) | (b)<br>Unallocated<br>Loss<br>Adjustment<br>Expense<br>(ULAE) | (c)<br>Loss<br>Adjustment<br>Expense<br>(LAE) |
|------|-----------------------|---|---|---|
|      | Year                  |   |   |   |
| (1)  | 1994                  | 7.8%  | 7.6%  | 15.4%   |
| (2)  | 1995                  | 8.0%  | 8.0%  | 16.0%   |
| (3)  | 1996                  | 8.4%  | 7.4%  | 15.8%   |
| (4)  | 1997                  | 9.0%  | 7.2%  | 16.2%   |
| (5)  | 1998                  | 9.1%  | 6.7%  | 15.8%   |
| (6)  | 1999                  | 9.1%  | 6.3%  | 15.4%   |
| (7)  | 2000                  | 9.4%  | 6.4%  | 15.8%   |
| (8)  | 2001                  | 9.4%  | 6.9%  | 16.3%   |
| (9)  | 2002                  | 9.8%  | 6.8%  | 16.6%   |
| (10) | 2003                  | 9.8%  | 7.3%  | 17.1%   |
| (11) | Avg. - All Years      | 9.0%  | 7.1%  | 16.0%   |
| (12) | Avg. - Latest 5 Years | 9.5%  | 6.7%  | 16.2%   |
| (13) | Avg. Latest 2 Years   | 9.8%  | 7.1%  | 16.9%   |
| (14) | <b>Selected</b>       | <b>8.0%</b>   | <b>6.0%</b>   | <b>14.0%</b>                                  |

**Notes:**

Columns (a), (b), and (c) are Expressed as  
a Percentage of Losses Excluding Loss Adjustment Expense  
Rows (1) - (10) from NCCI rate filing.  
Row (14) based on PICC judgment

**Exhibit H - Average Hazard Group**

|      | (a)  | (b)                | (c)   | (d)   | (e)                              |
|------|--|--------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
|      | <b>Class<br/>Code</b>                      | <b>Payroll</b>     | <b>National<br/>Expected<br/>Loss Rate<br/>per \$100<br/>of Payroll</b> | <b>Expected<br/>Losses<br/>=(b)x(c)/\$100</b> | <b>NCCI<br/>Hazard<br/>Group</b> |
| (1)  | 6801                                       | 1,786,275          | 1.13  | 20,185  | 3                                |
| (2)  | 6824                                       | 74,437,810         | 6.48  | 4,823,570                                     | 3                                |
| (3)  | <b>6826</b>                                | <b>42,286,518</b>  | <b>9.48</b>   | <b>4,008,762</b>                              | <b>3</b>                         |
| (4)  | 6828                                       | 39,888,993         | 7.30  | 2,911,896                                     | 3                                |
| (5)  | 6843                                       | 37,846,068         | 11.22   | 4,246,329                                     | 4                                |
| (6)  | 6845                                       | 1,690,248          | 7.81  | 132,008                                       | 3                                |
| (7)  | 6872                                       | 65,132,913         | 13.63   | 8,877,616                                     | 4                                |
| (8)  | 6874                                       | 6,154,883          | 17.67   | 1,087,568                                     | 3                                |
| (9)  | 7309                                       | 10,204,351         | 19.42   | 1,981,685                                     | 4                                |
| (10) | 7313                                       | 2,121,786          | 4.00  | 84,871  | 4                                |
| (11) | 7317                                       | 39,098,814         | 9.31  | 3,640,100                                     | 4                                |
| (12) | 7327                                       | 12,029,838         | 13.59   | 1,634,855                                     | 4                                |
| (13) | 7380                                       | 14,629,928         | 16.53   | 2,418,327                                     | 3                                |
| (14) | <b>8709</b>                                | <b>24,938,487</b>  | <b>4.57</b>   | <b>1,139,689</b>                              | <b>4</b>                         |
| (15) | <b>8726</b>                                | <b>46,527,542</b>  | <b>3.65</b>   | <b>1,698,255</b>                              | <b>3</b>                         |
|      | Tot. or Avg.<br>of All Codes               | 418,774,454        |   | 38,705,717                                    | 3.6                              |
|      | Tot. or Avg.<br>of Codes<br>in <b>Bold</b> | <b>113,752,547</b> |   |   | 3.2                              |
|      | Ratio:<br>(18) <b>Bold / All</b>           | 27%                |   |   |                                  |
| (19) | Selected Average Hazard Group              |                    |   |   | <b>3.5</b>                       |

**Notes:**

Cols. (a) thru (c) from Exhibit A

Col. (e) from NCCI Exhibit H

Rows (16) and (17) are weighted averages where weights are from col. (d)

**Exhibit I - Distribution of Losses by Size of Claim**

| (a)<br>Accident<br>Limitation | (b)<br>Excess Loss Factors (ELFs) by Hazard Group (HG) |       | (d)            |
|-------------------------------|--|-------|----------------|
|                               | Published ELFs   |       | Selected       |
|                               | HG 3   | HG 4  | $=((b)+(c))/2$ |
| 25,000                        | 0.397  | 0.426 | 0.412          |
| 30,000                        | 0.383  | 0.415 | 0.399          |
| 35,000                        | 0.369  | 0.403 | 0.386          |
| 40,000                        | 0.358  | 0.393 | 0.376          |
| 50,000                        | 0.337  | 0.376 | 0.357          |
| 75,000                        | 0.299  | 0.335 | 0.317          |
| 100,000                       | 0.267  | 0.306 | 0.287          |
| 125,000                       | 0.243  | 0.280 | 0.262          |
| 150,000                       | 0.225  | 0.260 | 0.243          |
| 175,000                       | 0.207  | 0.242 | 0.225          |
| 200,000                       | 0.194  | 0.227 | 0.211          |
| 250,000                       | 0.172  | 0.203 | 0.188          |
| 300,000                       | 0.155  | 0.185 | 0.170          |
| 500,000                       | 0.116  | 0.139 | 0.128          |
| 1,000,000                     | 0.076  | 0.090 | 0.083          |

| (e)<br>Range of Losses by Size |           | (g)<br>Expected<br>Percent<br>of Losses<br>Within Range | (h)<br>Cumulative<br>Distribution<br>of Losses by<br>Size of Claim |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| From                           | To        |   |  |
| Under                          | 25,000    | 32%   | 32%  |
| 25,000                         | 30,000    | 2%  | 35%  |
| 30,000                         | 35,000    | 2%  | 37%  |
| 35,000                         | 40,000    | 2%  | 38%  |
| 40,000                         | 50,000    | 3%  | 41%  |
| 50,000                         | 75,000    | 7%  | 48%  |
| 75,000                         | 100,000   | 5%  | 53%  |
| 100,000                        | 125,000   | 4%  | 57%  |
| 125,000                        | 150,000   | 3%  | 60%  |
| 150,000                        | 175,000   | 3%  | 63%  |
| 175,000                        | 200,000   | 2%  | 65%  |
| 200,000                        | 250,000   | 4%  | 69%  |
| 250,000                        | 300,000   | 3%  | 72%  |
| 300,000                        | 500,000   | 7%  | 79%  |
| 500,000                        | 1,000,000 | 7%  | 86%  |
| Over                           | 1,000,000 | 14%   | 100%   |
|                                |           | 100%  |  |

**Notes:**

Cols. (b) and (c) from NCCI

Col. (g) = subtraction of successive factors / 61%

**Exhibit J - Assessments on Total Paid Losses - USL&HW ACT—SPECIAL FUND**

U.S. Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act—Title 33, Chapter 18, Sections 901 through 950

This fund pays for compensation in certain cases in which the employee suffers a second injury. A second injury is an injury to a worker, which, in combination with an existing permanent partial disability, results in the worker's increased permanent partial disability, permanent total disability, or death.

This fund is also available for payments of benefits in certain cases in which payments are in default by reason of the insolvency of the employer and his insurance carrier, payments of 50% of any additional compensation or death benefits paid as a result of the adjustment required in Section 10(h) of the USL&HW Act, payments of vocational rehabilitation services offered employees under the direction of the secretary, and payments to defray the expense of making medical examinations of employees requested by the secretary.

**Historical Assessment Rates on Total Paid Losses**

| <b>Policies<br/>Issued<br/>During</b> | <b>Assessment<br/>Rate on<br/>Total<br/>Paid Losses</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 2000                                  | 23.8%   |
| 2001                                  | 22.1%   |
| 2002                                  | 20.2%   |
| 2003                                  | 20.1%   |
| 2004                                  | 21.1%   |
| Avg.                                  | 21.5%   |
| <b>Selected</b>                       | <b>21.5%</b>  |

**Notes:**

All information from NCCI except selected value

**Exhibit K-1 - Expected Losses by Program**

| (a)   | (b)                                | (c)  | (d)                           | (e)   | (f)                             |
|---|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Observer Programs   | Est. Annual<br>Observer<br>Payroll | Selected<br>Claim<br>Frequency<br>Per<br>\$1,000,000<br>of Payroll | Selected<br>Claim<br>Severity | Expected<br>No. of<br>Claims<br>(b)x(c)/<br>\$1,000,000 | Expected<br>Losses<br>(d) x (e) |
| (1) North Pacific Groundfish  | 7,153,333                          | 1.2  | 59,400                        | 8.6   | 513,730                         |
| (2) West Coast  | 1,103,700                          | 1.2  | 59,400                        | 1.3   | 79,264                          |
| (3) Northeast Groundfish  | 2,848,533                          | 1.2  | 59,400                        | 3.4   | 204,573                         |
| (4) Southeast   | 967,737                            | 1.2  | 59,400                        | 1.2   | 69,500                          |
| (5) Southwest   | 322,533                            | 1.2  | 59,400                        | 0.4   | 23,163                          |
| (6) Pacific Islands   | 2,492,025                          | 1.2  | 59,400                        | 3.0   | 178,969                         |
| (7) <b>Total</b>  | <b>14,887,862</b>                  |  |                               | <b>18.0</b>   | <b>1,069,200</b>                |
| (8) <b>Indicated Pure Premium<br/>Total (f) / (Total (b) / 100)</b> |                                    |  |                               |   | <b>7.18</b>                     |

**Notes:**

(b) from Exhibit E, col. (a)

(c) = sum of col. (e) / sum of col. (b) / \$1,000,000

(d) from Exhibit D, row (14)

**Exhibit K-2 - Pure Premium Based on Sample Observer Data - WC Only**

| (a)                          | (b)                                | (c)                         | (d)                  | (e)            | (f)   | (g)                     | (h)                           | (i)   | (j)                          |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Policy Period                | Est. Annual<br>Observer<br>Payroll | Exposure<br>Trend<br>Factor | Trended<br>Exposures | Losses         | LDF   | Loss<br>Trend<br>Factor | Benefit<br>On-Level<br>Factor | Developed<br>Trended<br>Losses<br>at Current<br>Benefit Level | Projected<br>Pure<br>Premium |
| (1) 08/16/1994 to 08/16/1995 | 1,203,557                          | 1.409                       | 1,695,633            | 136,660        | 1.000 | 1.532                   | 1.116                         | 233,704   | 13.78                        |
| (2) 08/16/1995 to 08/16/1996 | 1,096,742                          | 1.365                       | 1,497,235            | 63,310         | 1.000 | 1.473                   | 1.105                         | 103,077   | 6.88                         |
| (3) 08/16/1996 to 08/16/1997 | 930,994                            | 1.323                       | 1,231,445            | 35,026         | 1.000 | 1.417                   | 1.105                         | 54,828  | 4.45                         |
| (4) 08/16/1997 to 08/16/1998 | 1,408,502                          | 1.282                       | 1,805,286            | 3,512          | 1.000 | 1.362                   | 1.105                         | 5,286   | 0.29                         |
| (5) 08/16/1998 to 08/16/1999 | 2,042,254                          | 1.242                       | 2,536,405            | 27,989         | 1.000 | 1.310                   | 1.105                         | 40,507  | 1.60                         |
| (6) 08/16/1999 to 08/16/2000 | 2,053,867                          | 1.203                       | 2,471,732            | 219,614        | 1.000 | 1.259                   | 1.094                         | 302,569   | 12.24                        |
| (7) 08/16/2000 to 08/16/2001 | 2,587,587                          | 1.166                       | 3,017,220            | 118,948        | 1.000 | 1.211                   | 1.015                         | 146,181   | 4.84                         |
| (8) 08/16/2001 to 01/01/2002 | 1,296,931                          | 1.141                       | 1,480,119            | 21,919         | 1.000 | 1.179                   | 1.004                         | 25,942  | 1.75                         |
| (9) 01/01/2002 to 01/01/2003 | 3,884,441                          | 1.117                       | 4,338,116            | 241,985        | 1.164 | 1.147                   | 1.002                         | 323,849   | 7.47                         |
| (10) <b>Total</b>            | <b>16,504,875</b>                  |                             | <b>20,073,190</b>    | <b>868,963</b> |       |                         |                               | <b>1,235,941</b>  | <b>6.16</b>                  |

Notes:

(b) Data from Client

(c) based on Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Statistics

(d) = (b) x (c)

(e) Data from Client

(f) from 2004 ASB - Alaska 2 Year Average

(g) = factor to trend losses to 1/1/2006 based on 4% annual severity trend

(h) based on benefit changes in 2004 NCCI Annual Statistical Bulletin for AK

(i) = (e) x (f) x (g) x (h)

(j) = (i) / ((d) / 100)



**Exhibit K-3 - Pure Premium Based on Sample Observer Data - Incl. Non-WC**

| (a)                          | (b)                                | (c)                         | (d)                  | (e)              | (f)   | (g)                     | (h)                           | (i)   | (j)                          |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Policy Period                | Est. Annual<br>Observer<br>Payroll | Exposure<br>Trend<br>Factor | Trended<br>Exposures | Losses           | LDF   | Loss<br>Trend<br>Factor | Benefit<br>On-Level<br>Factor | Developed<br>Trended<br>Losses<br>at Current<br>Benefit Level | Projected<br>Pure<br>Premium |
| (1) 08/16/1994 to 08/16/1995 | 1,203,557                          | 1.409                       | 1,695,633            | 146,710          | 1.000 | 1.532                   | 1.116                         | 250,890   | 14.80                        |
| (2) 08/16/1995 to 08/16/1996 | 1,096,742                          | 1.365                       | 1,497,235            | 65,692           | 1.000 | 1.473                   | 1.105                         | 106,955   | 7.14                         |
| (3) 08/16/1996 to 08/16/1997 | 930,994                            | 1.323                       | 1,231,445            | 66,507           | 1.000 | 1.417                   | 1.105                         | 104,106   | 8.45                         |
| (4) 08/16/1997 to 08/16/1998 | 1,408,502                          | 1.282                       | 1,805,286            | 12,257           | 1.000 | 1.362                   | 1.105                         | 18,448  | 1.02                         |
| (5) 08/16/1998 to 08/16/1999 | 2,042,254                          | 1.242                       | 2,536,405            | 73,859           | 1.000 | 1.310                   | 1.105                         | 106,892   | 4.21                         |
| (6) 08/16/1999 to 08/16/2000 | 2,053,867                          | 1.203                       | 2,471,732            | 308,591          | 1.000 | 1.259                   | 1.094                         | 425,155   | 17.20                        |
| (7) 08/16/2000 to 08/16/2001 | 2,587,587                          | 1.166                       | 3,017,220            | 140,009          | 1.000 | 1.211                   | 1.015                         | 172,063   | 5.70                         |
| (8) 08/16/2001 to 01/01/2002 | 1,296,931                          | 1.141                       | 1,480,119            | 125,200          | 1.000 | 1.179                   | 1.004                         | 148,178   | 10.01                        |
| (9) 01/01/2002 to 01/01/2003 | 3,884,441                          | 1.117                       | 4,338,116            | 342,934          | 1.164 | 1.147                   | 1.002                         | 458,949   | 10.58                        |
| (10) <b>Total</b>            | <b>16,504,875</b>                  |                             | <b>20,073,190</b>    | <b>1,281,759</b> |       |                         |                               | <b>1,791,638</b>  | <b>8.93</b>                  |

Notes:

(b) Data from Client

(c) based on Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Statistics

(d) = (b) x (c)

(e) Data from Client

(f) from 2004 ASB - Alaska 2 Year Average

(g) = factor to trend losses to 1/1/2006 based on 4% annual severity trend

(h) based on benefit changes in 2004 NCCI Annual Statistical Bulletin for AK

(i) = (e) x (f) x (g) x (h)

(j) = (i) / ((d) / 100)

**Cost Analysis of Applying the Longshoreman and Harbor Workers  
Act to Fisheries Observers**

L Exp Prem

**Exhibit L - Expected Premium**

| (a)                                 | (b)                  | (c)           | (d)           | (e)  | (f)   | (g)   | (h)   | (i)  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|--|---|---|---|--|
| Observer Programs                   | Expected<br>Losses   | ALAE          | ULAE          | Expected<br>Losses<br>Incl. LAE<br>and USL<br>Assessment | Provision<br>for Ins. Co.<br>Expenses<br>Excl. Prem.<br>Taxes<br>as % of<br>Standard<br>Premium | Estimated<br>Standard<br>Premium<br>Excl. Prem.<br>Taxes<br>=(e)/(100%-(f)) | Provision<br>for Ins. Co.<br>Expenses<br>Incl. Prem.<br>Taxes<br>as % of<br>Direct<br>Premium | Est.<br>Direct<br>Premium<br>=(e)/(100%-(h)) |
| (1) North Pacific Groundfish        | 513,730              | 8%            | 6%            | 695,899  | 23%   | 903,765   | 15.8%   | 826,562                                      |
| (2) West Coast                      | 79,264               | 8%            | 6%            | 107,371  | 23%   | 139,443   | 17.8%   | 130,662                                      |
| (3) Northeast Groundfish            | 204,573              | 8%            | 6%            | 277,114  | 23%   | 359,889   | 16.9%   | 333,342                                      |
| (4) Southeast                       | 69,500               | 8%            | 6%            | 94,144   | 23%   | 122,266   | 18.1%   | 114,919                                      |
| (5) Southwest                       | 23,163               | 8%            | 6%            | 31,377   | 23%   | 40,749  | 19.4%   | 38,931                                       |
| (6) Pacific Islands                 | 178,969              | 8%            | 6%            | 242,432  | 23%   | 314,847   | 17.0%   | 291,931                                      |
| (7) <b>Total</b>                    | <b>1,069,200</b>     |               |               | <b>1,448,338</b>   |   | <b>1,880,959</b>  | <b>16.6%</b>  | <b>1,736,347</b>                             |
| <br>(8) <b>Consolidated Program</b> | <br><b>1,069,200</b> | <br><b>8%</b> | <br><b>6%</b> | <br><b>1,448,338</b>                                     | <br><b>23%</b>  | <br><b>1,880,959</b>  | <br><b>15.1%</b>  | <br><b>1,706,140</b>                         |

Notes:

(b) from Exhibit K, col. (f)

(c) and (d) from Exhibit G-2

(e) = (b)x(100%+(c)+(d))+(b)xExhibit J

(f) from Exhibit G-1, col. (e) at \$5,000

(h) from Exhibit G-1, interpolated and/or estimated, plus 5% added for premium taxes

**Exhibit M - Expected Premium Savings from Per Claim Deductible**

| (a)<br><b>Observer Programs</b>  | (b)<br><b>Expected<br/>Losses</b>         | (c) (d) (e) (f) (g)<br><b>Expected Premium Credit for Following Per Claim Deductibles:</b> |                  |                  |                  |                |
|----------------------------------|---|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                                  |   | <b>25,000</b>  | <b>50,000</b>    | <b>100,000</b>   | <b>200,000</b>   | <b>250,000</b> |
| (1) North Pacific Groundfish     | 513,730                                   | 166,752  | 213,072          | 272,024          | n/a              | n/a            |
| (2) West Coast                   | 79,264                                    | n/a  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (3) Northeast Groundfish         | 204,573                                   | 66,402   | 84,847           | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (4) Southeast                    | 69,500                                    | n/a  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (5) Southwest                    | 23,163                                    | n/a  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (6) Pacific Islands              | 178,969                                   | 58,092   | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| <b>(7) Consolidated Program</b>  | <b>1,069,200</b>                          | <b>347,052</b>   | <b>513,567</b>   | <b>566,150</b>   | <b>699,362</b>   | <b>739,676</b> |
| (a)<br><b>Observer Programs</b>  | (h)<br><b>Est.<br/>Direct<br/>Premium</b> | (i) (j) (k) (l) (m)<br><b>Net Premium After Deductible Credit</b>                          |                  |                  |                  |                |
|                                  |   | <b>25,000</b>  | <b>50,000</b>    | <b>100,000</b>   | <b>200,000</b>   | <b>250,000</b> |
| (8) North Pacific Groundfish     | 826,562                                   | 659,810  | 613,490          | 554,538          | n/a              | n/a            |
| (9) West Coast                   | 130,662                                   | n/a  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (10) Northeast Groundfish        | 333,342                                   | 266,940  | 248,495          | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (11) Southeast                   | 114,919                                   | n/a  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (12) Southwest                   | 38,931                                    | n/a  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| (13) Pacific Islands             | 291,931                                   | 233,839  | n/a              | n/a              | n/a              | n/a            |
| <b>(14) Consolidated Program</b> | <b>1,736,347</b>                          | <b>1,389,295</b>   | <b>1,222,780</b> | <b>1,170,197</b> | <b>1,036,985</b> | <b>996,671</b> |

**Notes:**

Col. (b) and (h) from Exhibit L

Col. (c) thru (g) = col. (b) x Exhibit (I), col. (h)

Col. (i) thru (m) = col. (h) - cols. (c) thru (g)