

The final plan grew. Five of six selection rates fell.

The budget grew $261,000. Gulf trawl cameras took $359,000.

At-sea observers fell from $3,227,000 to $3,088,000. Fixed-gear cameras rose to $1,520,000. Gulf trawl EM went from $732,000 to $1,091,000.

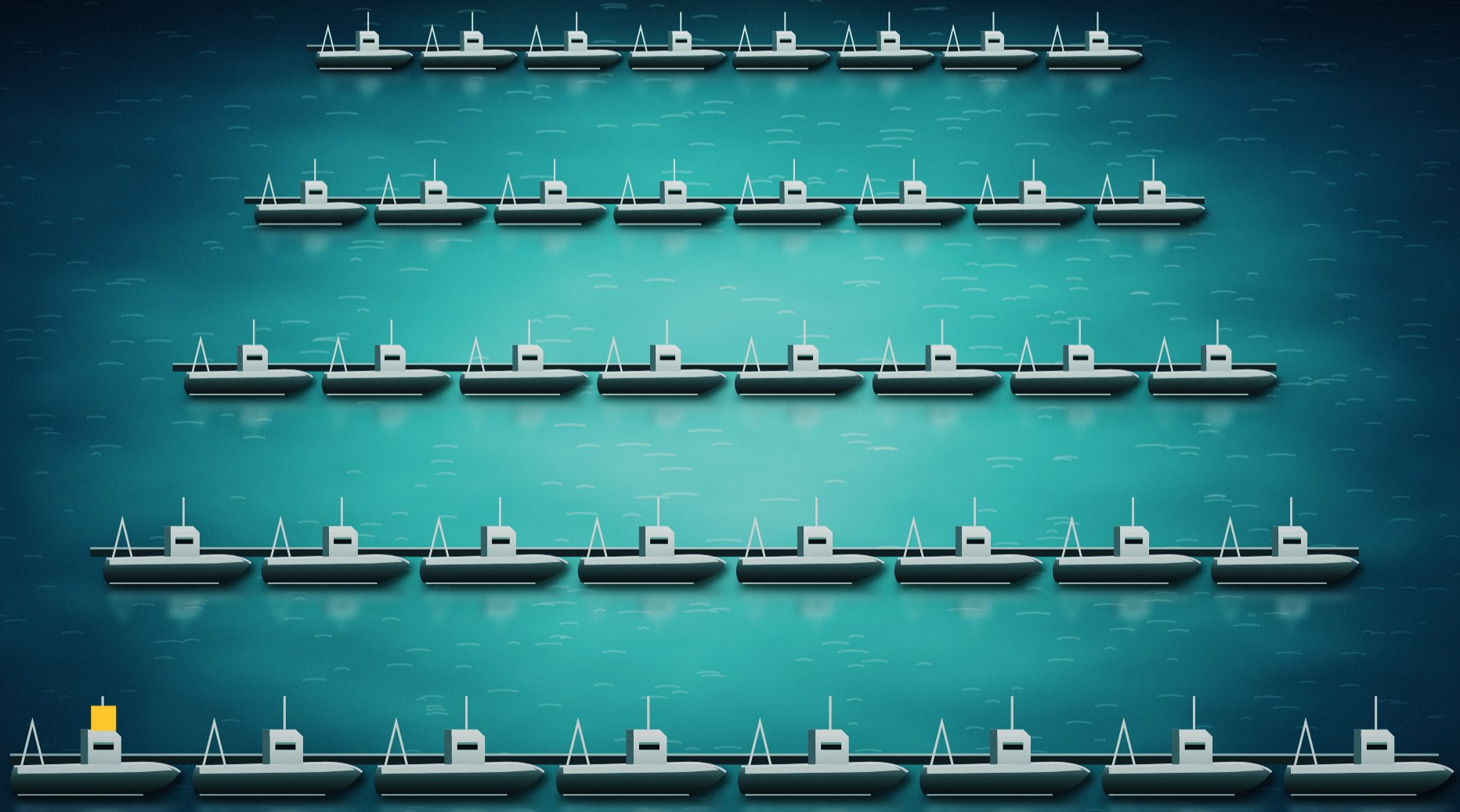




The grant that paid for camera installs runs out.

Congressional money for EM installs and replacements is expected to be spent by the end of this year. The final plan now carries those costs, $5,633.39 a year in equipment for each Gulf trawl EM boat. 40 are expected in the Gulf.

40 GULF TRAWL EM VESSELS



Cameras come off the top. The draw gets what's left.

NMFS deducts about $1.1M for Gulf trawl EM first. About $4.6M is left for at-sea observers and fixed-gear EM, assigned by trips that ODDS selects at random.



About one Gulf fixed-gear trip in 12 gets an observer.

8.34 percent in the final plan, down from 9.31 in the draft, across about 1,900 expected trips. ODDS draws them at random.



EACH RING, ONE EXPECTED TRIP · LIT, DRAWN

POSITIONS ILLUSTRATIVE

False Pass gets an observer ashore. The draft had none.

FALSE PASS

Isanotski Strait

Bering Sea



KODIAK KEEPS FIVE

Six selection rates, draft to final.



Only BSAI trawl observers rose. The final budget, $5,699,000, is 20 percent above the 2026 plan.

The AI that could review camera video waits on staff.

NMFS lists scaling AI tools for EM video among five projects it intends to support in 2027, pending availability of staff resources. Gulf trawl EM boats are on camera every trip.



The Council hears the final plan December 4th to 9th in Anchorage. It consults. It doesn't approve. Partial coverage is paid mainly by a fee on last year's landings.

Which should that fee buy first, more observers or faster camera review?

