

ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGIES PLAN UPDATE

In November of 2014, National Marine Fisheries Service developed a policy to provide guidance on the adoption of electronic technology solutions in fishery-dependent data collection programs (Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1). Since then, NMFS developed the West Coast Region's (WCR) Plan in consultation with the Council and its advisory bodies. The Plan includes electronic fish tickets for all FMP fisheries, electronic logbooks for some fisheries, and use of electronic monitoring for some fisheries.

At the March 2015 Council meeting, the Council received an update regarding the final Plan and current activities through January 2015 (Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2). Under this agenda item, the Council will receive the annual update regarding the 2015 FMP activities, 2016 Council and regulatory activities, grant funding awards, and an overview of the status of WCR/Council planned activities (Agenda Item C.5.a, NMFS Report). The Council is scheduled to discuss the NMFS update and provide guidance regarding projects listed in the Plan such as a prioritization of listed items or adding items to the list. If a project is to move forward, it's expected that Council advisory bodies would provide recommendations for fishery management plan (FMP) amendments or regulatory amendments to the appropriate FMP.

Council Action:

Discussion and Guidance.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1: NMFS Policy on Electronic Technologies and Fishery-Dependent Data Collection.
2. Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 2: Regional Electronic Technologies Implementation Plan for West Coast Marine Fisheries.
3. Agenda Item C.5.a, NMFS Report.

Agenda Order:

C.5 Electronic Technology Plan Update

- a. NMFS Report
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Discussion and Guidance

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