

TRAWL RATIONALIZATION TRAILING ACTIONS – ELECTRONIC MONITORING REGULATORY PROCESS

The Council has been considering the possible use of electronic monitoring (EM) for the trawl catch share program (trawl rationalization). At its November meeting, the Council directed that an EM workshop be held. The announced purpose of the workshop was to develop the policy context and identify necessary elements for a thorough Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) process to consider possible regulatory changes providing for the use of EM in the West Coast groundfish trawl catch share program. If electronic monitoring is implemented, the current 100 percent catch observer coverage requirement could be changed. A workshop Terms of Reference was developed, including a clear purpose statement for the workshop and four specific objectives (Agenda Item D.7.a, Attachment 1). The workshop was held February 25-27, 2013, and the workshop report is provided as Agenda Item D.7.b, EM Workshop Report. The trawl rationalization program goals and objectives and current language pertaining to monitoring of the catch share program fishery are provided in D.7.a, Attachment 2.

As part of the exploration of the potential utility of EM, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) conducted a field study in 2012 and will conduct another such study in 2013. The results of the study for 2012 (Agenda Item D.7.c, PSMFC Report 1) and plans for 2013 (Agenda Item D.7.c, PSMFC Report 2) will be provided in a presentation by Mr. Dave Colpo, PSMFC.

Under this agenda item, the Council will decide whether, and if so, how to proceed with consideration of an electronic monitoring policy, and may wish to provide comment on the fieldwork being conducted by PSMFC.

Council Action:

1. Consider adopting regulatory goals and objectives.
2. Provide guidance on developing a scoping package, including
 - a. initial alternatives for public review and comment
 - b. an option for electronic monitoring co-ops
 - c. consideration of adopting other workshop information requests.
3. Provide comments on PSMFC study.
4. Consider adopting a regulatory process for moving forward.
5. Respond to other workshop recommendations.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.7.a, Attachment 1. Terms of Reference for the Pacific Council Workshop on Electronic Monitoring for Vessels Participating in the Groundfish Trawl Catch Share Program.
2. Agenda Item D.7.a, Attachment 2. Trawl Rationalization Goals and Objectives and Provisions for Tracking and Monitoring.

3. Agenda Item D.7.b, EM Workshop Report. Trawl Catch Share Program Electronic Monitoring (EM) Workshop Report.
4. Agenda Item D.7.c, PSMFC Report 1. Electronic Monitoring Program: Review of the 2012 Season.
5. Agenda Item D.7.c, PSMFC Report 2, Electronic Monitoring Program: Plan for the 2013 Season.

Agenda Order:

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| a. Agenda Item Overview | Jim Seger |
| b. Electric Monitoring Workshop Report | Jim Seger |
| c. Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Report | Dave Colpo |
| d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities | |
| e. Public Comment | |
| f. Council Action: Discussion and Guidance on Electronic Monitoring Issue | |

PFMC
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