

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON INITIAL SCOPING OF BIENNIAL  
SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) has reviewed the documents and attachments pertaining to Agenda Item E.4. The EC also received a briefing on this agenda item from Ms. Heidi Taylor of National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and has the following comments.

Regarding applicability of increased vessel monitoring system (VMS) ping-rate, as is being considered under this meeting's Groundfish Omnibus Regulation Changes agenda item, the EC recommends increased VMS ping-rate be applicable to the California drift gillnet (CGDN) fishery. This is consistent with the EC's statement in support of the NMFS Office of Law Enforcement report at the March 2014 PFMC meeting. The EC does not recommend the increased VMS ping-rate be applied to vessels equipped with VMS under the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) resolution requiring VMS on tuna-fishing vessels over 24 meters operating in the eastern Pacific Ocean. Vessels equipped with VMS pursuant to the IATTC requirement are not subject to time and area closure and continuous transit requirements that would be enforced from the increased ping rate.

PFMC  
06/22/14