

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region (WCR) will provide a report on recent groundfish and halibut notices posted in the *Federal Register* (Agenda Item E.1.a, NMFS Report 1) and intends to update the Council on rulemaking plans for 2018.

At the September 2018 meeting, the Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) informed the Council that due to the amount of time that has passed since Vessel Movement Monitoring was approved by the Council in April 2016 ([April 2016 Decision Summary](#)), it was reevaluating costs and capabilities of type-approved Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS). OLE intends to update the Council on costs associated with type-approved systems and whether the VMS reimbursement program can be used to reduce the costs associated with moving from one hour to fifteen minute ping rates. Additionally, OLE plans to continue the discussion with the Council on whether “enhanced VMS” technology (i.e., devices not NMFS type-approved) can, indeed, be type-approved and will provide a recommendation for implementing the "enhanced VMS" requirement.

The Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFS) plans to provide updates to the Council on groundfish-related science and research activities.

Council Action:

Discussion.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.1.a, NMFS Report 1: Groundfish and Halibut *Federal Register* Notices.

Agenda Order:

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------|
| G.1 | National Marine Fisheries Service Report | Todd Phillips |
| a. | Regulatory Activities | Aja Szumylo |
| b. | Fisheries Science Center Activities | Michelle McClure |
| c. | Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies | |
| d. | Public Comment | |
| e. | Council Discussion | |