



### Agenda Item G.6.a Supplemental NMFS Presentation 1 April 2019

# Electronic Monitoring: Implementation Timeline Update

## **Implementation Plan-January 2021**

New Timeline	Action
May 2019	Council Coordinating Committee Meeting; Updates from NOAA HQ on national policies under development related to the implementation of electronic technologies
June 2019	Publish whiting/fixed gear final rule and bottom trawl/non-whiting midwater proposed rule
August 2019	Publish bottom trawl/non-whiting midwater trawl final rule
September 2019	Consult with the Council on draft EM program guidelines to the Council (first of two meetings). Extend EM EFPs through 2020.
November 2019	Consult with the Council on draft EM program guidelines to the Council (second of two meetings)
December 2019	Post final EM program guidelines on the West Coast Region website; publish EM program guidelines in the <i>Federal Register</i> under notices



## **Implementation Plan-January 2021**

New Timeline	Action
June 2020	EM provider applications due
Summer 2020	Review EM provider applications, certify in September
October 2020	EM vessel applications due
December 2020	Certify EM vessels
January 2021	Final Implementation of the EM Program for Groundfish, including third party video review.



### Regional Technology Implementation Plan: Update

Supplemental Informational Report 7 Regional Electronic Technology Implementation Plan: April 2018 Update Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting, Portland, OR Upcoming Pacific Fishery Management Council and NMFS WCR Actions Integrating Electronic Monitoring in the West Coast Travel Fishery The West Coast Regional Office (WCRO) is developing a final rule to implement EM in the whiting mid water trawl and fixed gear fisheries, which is expected to publish in April 2018. At that time, they will transition vessels from exempted fishing permits (EFPs) to regulations before the start of the whiting season on May 15th. WCRO is also developing a proposed rule to implement EM for the non-whiting midwater trawl and bottom trawl fisheries. The Council took final action on these regulations in November 2017 and the regulations are scheduled to be effective January 1, 2019. The bottom trawl regulations will include a method for estimating Pacific halibut discard mortality on bottom trawl EM vessels based on the amount of time the fish was on deck before discarding. This method was reviewed by the Council at the November 2017 meeting and has been approved by the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee and the International Pacific Halibut Commission. This new method of estimating halibut mortality is expected to make EM more feasible for bottom trawl vessels, which would otherwise be charged 90% mortality for all halibut bycatch. NMFS, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Council continue to work on improvements to the EM program, including developing a method for subsampling video to audit logbooks, and preparing for third-party video review to begin January 1, 2020. Electronic Monitoring in the Drift Gillnet Fishery At its September 2017 meeting, the Council revised its purpose and need for increased monitoring in the drift gillnet fishery to collect information on bycatch in order to inform future discussions on monitoring. WCRO staff have been analyzing the Council's preferred alternatives and the Council will discuss these results at its June 2018 meeting. The WCRO is developing a pre-implementation project for the 2018-2019 season to collect information on the feasibility of EM as a supplement to NMFS-funded observer coverage in the drift gillnet fishery. The results of such a project may open a path for addressing the Council's concern regarding observer bias in existing drift gillnet coverage Electronic Monitoring in the Commercial Rockfish Fishery The Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) is looking to test low-cost, small-scale, and transferrable EM systems to supplement observer coverage in the nearshore commercial rockfish fishery in Oregon and California. It has contracted FlyWire to deploy 5 EM systems in California in spring of 2018.

The NMFS West Coast Region has prepared the Regional Electronic Technology Plan update. The document provides an update on west coast electronic technology programs including electronic monitoring, vessel movement and monitoring, electronic fish tickets, and other pertinent electronic technology information.

The April 2019 ET update is available in the briefing book

The full ET Plan is available on <u>NOAA's</u> website

