

FINAL ACTION ON ELECTRONIC MONITORING OF NON-WHITING MIDWATER AND
BOTTOM TRAWL FISHERIES REGULATIONS AND UPDATE ON EXEMPTED FISHING
PERMIT (EFP)

At the September 2014 Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) meeting, the Council selected their final preferred alternative for an electronic monitoring (EM) program for the non-whiting midwater trawl and bottom trawl fisheries. Under this agenda item, the Council is scheduled to confirm or revise its final preferred alternatives for these two fisheries. Some preliminary impact analyses were added to the analytical document (Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1, *Electronic Only*).

Also under this agenda item, the Council will receive an exempted fishing permit (EFP) update from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding activity in the non-whiting midwater trawl and bottom trawl fisheries, including an update on cost information. In addition, NMFS staff are anticipated to provide draft Code of-Federal Regulations-style regulations in support of the current preferred alternatives.

On February 22, 2017, the Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory and Technical Advisory Committees (GEMPAC and GEMTAC) reviewed the EFP information collected from 2015 through 2016 and the current set of preferred alternatives. Feedback was provided to Council staff regarding the industry's preference of alternatives and sub-options. The GEMPAC and GEMTAC will meet again at the April 2017 Council meeting to provide their final recommendations for an EM program (Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental GEMPAC Report).

Council Action:

- 1. Review EFP Results.**
- 2. Confirm or Revise Adopted Council Final Preferred Alternatives for Non-whiting Midwater and Bottom Trawl Fisheries Electronic Monitoring Regulations.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1: An Electronic Monitoring Program for the Bottom Trawl and Non-Whiting Midwater Trawl Fisheries Under the Shorebased IFQ Program (*Electronic only*).
2. *Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 1, EFP Update.*
3. *Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental GEMPAC Report.*
4. *Agenda Item F.2.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2, Draft CFR-style Regulations.*

Agenda Order:

- F.2 Final Action on Electronic Monitoring of Non-whiting Midwater and Bottom Trawl Fisheries Regulations and Update on Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Brett Wiedoff
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Review EFP Results; Confirm or Revise Adopted Council Final Preferred Alternatives for Non-whiting Midwater and Bottom Trawl Fisheries Electronic Monitoring Regulations

PFMC
03/23/17