

# Agenda Item G.5 Electronic Monitoring Program Review

## Council Action:

Provide Guidance on Regulatory Changes,  
Exempted Fishing Permit Extensions, or Other  
Issues, As Appropriate.

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES

I move that the Council adopt for public review the following regulatory amendments to the groundfish electronic monitoring regulations, and an extension of the EM Experimental Fishery Permit for 2021, and guidance relative to the process NMFS uses in the development and comprehensive review of the program guidelines and manual:

1. As recommended by the GEMPAC in [Agenda Item G.5.a, Supplemental GEMPAC Report 1](#), regarding Items 1-8 in [Agenda Item G.5.a, NMFS Report 1](#):

Item 1: Hard Drive Deadline: Support the NMFS recommendation to increase the hard drive submission deadline to 72 hours from the beginning of the offload.

Item 2: Reusing Hard Drives: Support the NMFS recommendation to require EM data is removed before reusing hard drives only if end-to-end encryption is not used.

Item 3: Limit on Switching Between EM and Observers for Whiting: Support the NMFS recommendation to remove the limit on switching between observers and EM for whiting vessels.

Item 4: Mothership/Catcher Vessel Endorsement: Support the NMFS recommendation to remove the requirement for a MS/CV endorsement to use EM on mothership catcher vessel trips.

Item 5: Pre-departure Test: Do not support the NMFS recommendation to remove the pre-departure requirement as this test is a useful requirement for the vessel operator to ensure that systems are working before leaving the dock on a trip.

Item 6: Logbook Processing: Support the NMFS recommendation allowing EM providers to receive and enter logbook information, rather than go through NMFS.

Item 7: Reporting Deadlines for EM Service Providers: Support the NMFS recommendation to require deadlines for EM service provider reports of technical assistance, logbook data, vessel operator feedback, EM summary and data compliance reports, and other as specified elsewhere.

~~Item 8: Retention of EM Data: Support the NMFS recommendation to amend the retention requirements for EM data in the final rule to align with the requirements proposed in the NMFS National Procedural Directive on EM Data Retention.~~

**Amendment: Marci Yaremko; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Virgil Moore**

**Strike item #8**

**Amendment passed on Roll Call Vote: voting no - Bob Dooley, Louis Zimm, Maggie Sommer, Christa M. Svensson, Phil Anderson and Brad Pettinger. 7 yes and 6 no. Vice Chair voted yes.**

2. Correct the reference to “a NMFS-accepted EM Service Plan” under 660.603(a)(1) to 660.603(b)(1)(vii).
3. Change the implementation date, for both the electronic monitoring provider permits and responsibilities, and the vessel and first receiver responsibilities, to no earlier than January 1, 2022 in the regulations as amended.

- Further, the Council recommends NMFS approve the continuation of the existing EM exempted fishing permits (EFPs), modified as necessary, until the effective date of the amended regulations. This with the understanding that new entrants will be allowed to join the extended EM EFPs.
- The Council also recommends NMFS, in consultation with the council, conduct a comprehensive review of program guidelines and manual consistent with the revised proposed rule that will reflect the proposed changes and the final procedural directive on data retention, and any other relevant directives.

Amendment by Marci Yaremko; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Louis Zimm

Strike out the last bullet under item #3

Amendment failed. Mr. Ryan Wulff abstained.

Main motion as amended carried. Mr. Ryan Wulff abstained.

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES