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Agenda Item G.5.a
Supplemental NMFS Presentation 1
March 2021

G.5 NMFS Report

PMFC Meeting
March 9, 2021

By Melissa Hooper, NMFS

Date	Implementation	Rulemaking
January 2021	GEMPAC meeting 1 – EM guidelines, manual, video review protocols	EM Rule #2 in development (combined bottom trawl, non-whiting midwater trawl, clean-up rule)
February 2021	GEMPAC meeting 2 – confidentiality, FOIA, FRA, other updates	
March 2021	NMFS consults with Council on EM Program Guidelines	
April 2021	Complete EM Program Guidelines, Manual, infrastructure	Proposed rule publishes with 30 day comment period
May 1, 2021	2021 Provider online applications open	Comment period closes
June 1, 2021	Provider applications due	Final rule in development
August 2021		Final rule publishes
September 1, 2021	Vessel owner applications open	
October 1, 2021	Vessel owner applications due	
December, 2021	Provider permit and EM authorizations issued	
January 1, 2022	EM regulatory program begins	

2021 EM Program Guidelines

- EM Service Plan Guidelines ([NMFS Report 2](#))
- Vessel Monitoring Plan Guidelines ([NMFS Report 4](#))

no changes from 2020



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2021 EM Program Manual

- EM Program Manual ([NMFS Report 3](#))

same as 2020 pending feedback at this meeting on video review protocols

- Video review protocols ([NMFS Report 5](#))



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Other Info

- EM Records Q&A ([NMFS Report 6](#))
- EM Cost Recoverable Tasks ([NMFS Report 7](#))
- EM Costs (NMFS Report 8)
- Next Steps:
 - Finalize and publish 2021 EM Program Guidelines and Manual



Video Review Protocols (NMFS Report 5)

- Current EFP is 100% review
- Regulatory program < 100% review
 - Whiting MWT(at-sea, shoreside): 100%
 - Non-whiting MWT(max retention): 100%
 - Bottom trawl and non-whiting MWT (optimized retention): ?
 - Fixed gear: ?



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Logbook Auditing for EM: Bottom Trawl and Pot Fisheries



Prepared by: Aileen Smith
EM Program Management: Courtney Paiva and Dave Colpo

- Tested 3 criteria
 - High: within 10% or 2 lb for all species (status quo)
 - Mid: within 10% or 2 lb for species of concern, 25% or 5 lb for all others
 - Low: within 25% or 5 lb for species of concern, 50% or 10 lb for all others
- And 3 review rates
 - 25%, 33%, and 50%

<https://www.pcouncil.org/documents/2019/10/agenda-item-h-3-a-psmfc-report-1-logbook-auditing-for-em-bottom-trawl-and-pot-fisheries.pdf/>



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Video Review Protocols (NMFS Report 5)

- High fail rates at any level of review and any criteria, possibly partly due to “noise.”
- Total volume of EM discards is low, so little impact to total discard estimates.
- Need to adjust business rules as well as review rate to increase chances of passing
- Can do this without impact to discard accounting



Video Review Protocols (NMFS Report 5)

- Current Rule: $LB < EM$, by more than 10% or 2 lb of the EM estimate
 - PSMFC looked at 3 criteria at 100% review:
 - High (status quo): 10% or 2 lb for all species → 25% pass rate
 - Mid: 10% or 2 lb for species of concern, 25% or 5 lb for all others
 - Low: 25% or 5 lb for species of management concern, 50% or 10 lb for all others → 48% pass rate
- Based on these results, shift to “mid” criteria, to keep “noise” from triggering additional review.
 - Obs vs. EM = Avg 25% difference
 - Which species should be “species of management concern?”
 - Cowcod and yelloweye are only “priority species”
 - Species w/low ACLs or high attainment (see [GMT Scorecard](#))
 - No “unID rule” because low volume of discards



Video Review Protocols (NMFS Report 5)

- Other business rules would be unchanged from EFP
- Training and outreach before 2022 to improve performance
- Halibut DMRs
 - Working with IPHC staff on additional analysis
 - Finalize via letter at future meeting



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	Observer	EFP	Third Party (Mean)	Third Party (Median)
NMFS Costs				
WCR	N/A	\$202,345	\$202,345	\$202,345
NWFSC	\$366,000		\$378,000	\$378,000
PSMFC	N/A	\$435,000	N/A	N/A
Recovered via cost recovery	-\$190,630		-\$210,286	-\$210,286
NMFS Subtotal	\$175,370	\$637,345	\$370,059	\$370,059
Industry Costs				
Observer sea days	\$1,362,900	N/A	N/A	N/A
Equipment, field services	N/A	\$481,500	\$334,808	\$317,483
Video review, storage, reporting	N/A	N/A	\$253,307	\$229,752
Cost recovery	\$190,630		\$210,286	\$210,286
Industry Subtotal	\$1,553,530	\$481,500	\$798,401	\$757,521
Program Total	\$1,728,900	\$1,118,845	\$1,168,460	\$1,127,580