

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT ON ELECTRONIC MONITORING COST RECOVERABLE TASKS

NMFS has determined that the regulatory program for electronic monitoring (EM) is cost recoverable because it is designed to replace 100% human observer coverage necessary for discard monitoring and individual accountability, required by the Trawl Rationalization Program. Below is a list of tasks for the EM program that have been determined to be recoverable, and information on which NMFS groups to date have recovered costs related to carrying out those tasks. Further details on direct program costs recovered under the cost recovery program are contained in the Annual Cost Recovery Reports ([April 2020](#), [April 2019](#), [November 2018](#)). The report on management costs for 2020 will be presented to the Council in April 2021. Additionally, specific cost estimates for EM tasks were provided in [Supplemental NMFS Report 6 for the November 2019](#) meeting and are not repeated here.

Recoverable Program Development and Implementation Tasks

- Development of EM rulemakings (Permits & Monitoring, Groundfish)
 - Prepare materials and participate in Council meetings and the Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory and Technical Advisory Committee meetings.
 - Rulemaking for midwater trawl vessels in the Pacific whiting fishery and fixed gear vessels in the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota Program (final rule published June 28, 2019, was scheduled to begin January 1, 2021).
 - Prepare associated analysis and administrative requirements for EM rulemaking (e.g., Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) approval packages).
 - Rulemaking to delay implementation until 2022.
 - Rulemaking for bottom trawl and non-whiting midwater trawl expansion, regulation “clean-up”, associated analyses and administrative requirements (e.g., PRA).
- Implementation tasks (Permits & Monitoring, Groundfish, Scientific Data Management, NWFSC)
 - Development of the EM Program Guidelines and EM Program Manual.
 - Design and development of EM databases, including labor, licensing, and overhead.
 - Outreach and assistance to service providers and others in understanding EM requirements, via phone, email, or webinar.
 - Data storage associated with secondary review or other tasks related to Trawl IFQ quota management.

- Reviewing EM service provider and vessel applications, service and vessel monitoring plans, issuing permits, and associated recordkeeping and administrative tasks (e.g., PRA renewal packages).

Expected Post-Implementation Recoverable Tasks

- Development of EM rulemakings, if any (Permits & Monitoring, Groundfish)
 - Prepare materials and participate in Council meetings and the Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory and Technical Advisory Committee meetings.
 - Rulemaking and associated analysis and administrative requirements.
- Operation tasks (Permits & Monitoring, Groundfish, Scientific Data Management, NWFSC)
 - Updates to EM Program Guidelines and EM Program Manual, as necessary.
 - Maintenance of EM databases, including labor, licensing, and overhead.
 - EM data processing, QA/QC, secondary review, and follow-up with providers and vessel operators and owners.
 - Labor, licensing, overhead, and data storage costs associated with secondary review.
 - Review and renewal of EM service provider permits and EM vessel authorizations.
 - Outreach and assistance to EM service providers, vessels, and others in understanding EM requirements, via phone, email, and webinar.