

## ELECTRONIC MONITORING UPDATE

At the June 2021 Council meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will receive an update from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding implementation of the West Coast electronic monitoring (EM) program. Implementation is set for January 1, 2022. In addition, NMFS will provide an overview of a new draft directive regarding the applicability of several Federal acts while using EM such as the Magnuson-Stevens Act's confidentiality rules, the Federal Records Act, and the Freedom of Information Act (Agenda Item G.3.a, NMFS Report 1). NMFS intends to publish the final directive and guidance in the fall of 2021; therefore, NMFS requests input from the Regional Fishery Management Councils by July 15, 2021. The Council is scheduled to provide comments on the draft directive during the June meeting.

NMFS will submit a supplemental report that provides updated EM program cost estimates along with other information the Council requested during the March 2021 meeting. The report will provide the Council with information to compare cost estimates between the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission video review costs under exempted fishing permits, third-party review cost estimates from a range of potential providers, NMFS cost estimates for 2022 and projected annual costs thereafter, as well as costs per sea day by gear type (*Agenda Item G.3.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2*).

### **Council Action:**

**Provide Guidance on Program Implementation and Comments on the Procedural Directive.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item G.3.a. NMFS Report 1: Draft NOAA Fisheries Procedural Directive for Council Review.
2. *Agenda Item G.3.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2: Electronic Monitoring Implementation Update.*
3. If Received, Public Comments are Electronic Only ([see e-portal](#)).

### **Agenda Order:**

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| G.3 | Electronic Monitoring Program Review   | Brett Wiedoff |
| a.  | NMFS Report on the Draft Electronic Monitoring Procedural Directive on Applying Information Law            | Brett Alger   |
| b.  | Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies  |               |
| c.  | Public Comment   |               |
| d.  | <b>Council Action:</b> Provide Guidance on Program Implementation and Comments on the Procedural Directive |               |