

## ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON ELECTRONIC MONITORING

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) have reviewed reports associated with electronic monitoring and have the following comments.

Members of the EC attended the Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory Committee/Technical Advisory Committee meeting on October 24th and 28th. The EC appreciates the work of everyone involved to ensure accountability in our West Coast fisheries. The EC recommends the percentage of video review not be reduced from the level it currently is (100 percent and 25 percent)--as documented in the program manual H.7, Attachment 3. There is a recommendation to lower the 25 percent review down to 10 percent in the draft manual H.7, Attachment 6. The EC has briefed the Council on past violations investigated, charged, and adjudicated in these fisheries. There continue to be violations detected with ongoing investigations. The EC cautions against lowering the level of video review or observer time simply because one sector or another has not had a detected violation over a period of time. The electronic monitoring program is currently in the spotlight here at the Council. It is the EC's experience that when scrutiny fades and things return to normal, violation rates often increase. The EC recommends a 5-year delay after full implementation before considering lowering the video review. This will allow sufficient time to analyze compliance after the spotlight fades.

PFMC  
11/06/22