

ELECTRONIC MONITORING PROGRAM CHANGES – FINAL PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

In November 2022, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) adopted a [range of alternatives](#) to modify the Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program regulations related to creating more flexibility for EM video review providers through extension of deadlines for video review and logbook submissions and more clarity on the video review process. The Council also directed staff to conduct an analysis of the alternatives and schedule Ad Hoc Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory and Technical Advisory Committees (GEMPAC/TAC) meetings in preparation for final action at the March 2023 Council meeting.

On January 31st and February 3rd, 2023, the GEMPAC/TAC received a presentation from Council staff regarding the forthcoming draft analysis that contained a draft purpose and need statement, summary of the alternatives, and the potential impacts of the proposed alternatives. The GEMPAC provided recommendations regarding the preferred alternatives along with other considerations (F.5.a, GEMPAC Report 1).

An executive summary with an overview of the alternatives and summary of the impacts is provided in Attachment 1. The *Draft Analytical Document for a Regulatory Amendment Under the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan - West Coast Electronic Monitoring Program* will be provided in the supplemental briefing book.

Under this agenda item, the Council is scheduled to adopt a final preferred alternative and provide any guidance regarding implementation. The Council should consider scheduling an agenda item in June 2023 that includes an EM update and an opportunity to provide additional guidance to National Marine Fisheries Service prior to implementation of the EM program in 2024.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt a final preferred alternative, as appropriate.**
- 2. Provide guidance as appropriate.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.5, Attachment 1: Executive Summary - Draft Analytical Document for a Regulatory Amendment - West Coast Electronic Monitoring Program.
2. Agenda Item F.5.a, GEMPAC Report 1: Electronic Monitoring Program Changes – Final Preferred Alternatives.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- F.5 Electronic Monitoring Program Changes – Final Preferred Alternative
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative, As Appropriate

Brett Wiedoff

PFMC
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