

ELECTRONIC MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

In March 2023, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) provided guidance to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that the Electronic Monitoring Program Manual (EM Manual) should specify the minimum EM video review for optimized retention fishing trips (e.g., bottom trawl, fixed gear, and non-whiting midwater trawl that are allowed to discard certain species) to be a random selection of ten percent of hauls per trip (minimum one per trip). NMFS recently adjusted the [EM Manual](#) (see page 15) to reflect this change.

During the March meeting, the [GEMPAC](#) provided draft language to address potential changes to business rules for documenting non-allowable discards under the new review rate. The new language is intended to clarify protocols for inclusion in the EM Manual. As part of this potential change, the Council recommended the Ad Hoc Groundfish Electronic Monitoring Policy Advisory and Technical Advisory Committees (GEMPAC/TAC) and Enforcement Consultants consider the draft changes and conduct a GEMPAC/TAC meeting to provide any further refinements and recommendations to the Council at the June 2023 meeting.

On June 16th, 2023, the GEMPAC/TAC will discuss potential revisions to the EM business rules regarding video review. A supplemental GEMPAC report is anticipated.

Under this agenda item, the Council is scheduled to receive an EM Program implementation update from NMFS, consider revisions to the EM business rules and provide guidance to NMFS regarding implementation of the EM program for 2024.

Council Action:

- 1. Receive Implementation Update, Consider Revised Business Rules, and Provide Guidance, as Appropriate.**

Reference Materials:

1. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

H.5 Electronic Monitoring Implementation Update

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- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Receive Implementation Update, Consider Revised Business Rules, and Provide Guidance, as Appropriate