



Trawl Electronic Monitoring Committee

REPORT

Offices of the International Pacific Halibut Commission, Seattle, WA
November 19-20, 2018

Committee: Bill Tweit (chair)

Appointed members: Julie Bonney (AGDB), Ruth Christiansen (UCB), Tom Evich (F/V Karen Evich), Jared Fuller (SWI), Chris Wilson (DOS), Caitlin Yeager (UFC/DC), Dale Schwarzmiller (PPS), Mike Orcutt (AMR), Nicole Kimball (PSPA)

Agency: Council – Elizabeth Figus

NMFS FMA Observer Program – Jennifer Ferdinand, Lisa Thompson

NMFS Alaska Region – Jennifer Watson, Alicia miller

NMFS AFSC – Farron Wallace

National Observer Program – Jane DiCosimo

NOAA Office of Law Enforcement – Brent Pristas

NOAA General Counsel – Tom Meyer (ph)

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission – Courtney Paiva, Dave Colpo

IPHC – Claude Dykstra

Others attending included: Luke Szymanski (AIS-ph), Brent Paine (UCB), Michael Lake (AOI), Craig Rose (FNR), Ernie Weiss (AEB), Charlotte Levy (AEB), Buck Laukitis, Molly Zaleski (Oceana-ph), Phillip Meintzer (AMR), Jared Yelton (AMR-ph), Josh Wiersma (IM -ph), Dane McFaddon (AMR-ph)

The trawl EM Committee received staff presentations about biological sampling needs; automated image analysis; a recent cross-regional monitoring exchange that took place in New Bedford, MA; and, EM developments on the West Coast. Committee members learned that an agency staff stock assessment subgroup will meet soon to discuss how stock assessment data needs relate to EM. Automated image analysis is making progress each year. A summary document from the New Bedford monitoring exchange meeting is forthcoming. Four outstanding issues with EM implementation on the West Coast were highlighted as relevant for the North Pacific: (1) How long does data have to be kept? (2) Who has access to the data? (3) What type of data needs to be stored? (4) Who can review data once rule-making is complete?

The trawl EM Committee learned both NFWF grant applications submitted by members for 2019 were funded. The Committee then worked as a team to edit and combine a draft [White Paper](#), a draft [Data Streams](#) document, and a [Cooperative Research Plan outline](#) document. The Committee finalized a [Trawl EM 2019 Cooperative Research Plan](#) document for Council review. The Committee set goals for further progress on the cooperative research plan over time, including work on exempted fishing permits for 2020, adding details about the vessels listed in the plan, and adding details about the expected annual flow of information.

The next meeting of the trawl EM Committee is tentatively scheduled for March 4-5, 2019 in Seattle, WA. The Committee will receive presentations from staff about marine mammals and EM data collection; Chrd data updates; and, EM developments on the West Coast. The Committee will discuss Exempted Fishing Permit applications and other necessary exemptions for research; updates to the white paper and data streams document; and, NFWF research updates. The Committee will update the Cooperative Research Plan as appropriate, including formulating a detailed plan for funding development, annual flow(s) of information, and expected timeline(s) for trawl EM implementation.