

C-9 EM Integration
Final Motion - North Pacific Fishery Management Council
December 12, 2016

The Council adopts Alternative 2, Allow use of EM for catch estimation on vessels in the EM selection pool, with Option A, Allow EM as a monitoring tool when IFQ fishing in multiple regulatory areas.

Alternative 2 includes the nine components identified in section 3.1.2 of the Analysis.

The Council deems proposed regulations that clearly and directly flow from the provisions of this motion to be necessary and appropriate in accordance with section 303(c). The Council authorizes the Executive Director and the Chairman to review the draft proposed regulations when provided by NMFS to ensure that the proposed regulations to be submitted to the Secretary under section 303(c) are consistent with these instructions.

Revised tasking for the Fixed Gear Electronic Monitoring Workgroup (Workgroup)

The Council recognizes that the Workgroup's purpose has changed with the successful development of the EM Integration analysis. The Council continues to see a need for the Workgroup to track the EM program over the next two years through the transition to implementation. Specifically, the Council directs the Workgroup to focus on the following tasks:

- Review the proposed rule for EM integration and provide comments to the Council
- Provide input to the Council about policy considerations that NMFS should address when developing the Request for Proposals for an EM service provider contract
- Continue to consider EM program efficiencies, costs and cost optimization, working closely with the Observer Program, including:
 - Develop the appropriate tools and metrics to evaluate the performance of the EM selection pool for the Annual Report.
 - Compare the EM selection pool and the human observer pool for purposes of allocating observer fees and optimizing EM deployment in the Annual Deployment Plan.
- Review and provide feedback on EM research and development projects

The Council concurs with the Workgroup's recommendation to initiate a Discussion Paper to identify the practicality of moving vessels <40 ft fleet out of the zero selection pool and into EM coverage. The Council assigns this discussion paper as the last priority on the Council's observer analytical project list.