



# NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

605 W. 4th Ave. Suite 306  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 271-2809  
Fax (907) 271-2817

## Action Memo

**File Number:**Cons 15-001

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**Agenda Date**2/2/2015

**Agenda Number:**C2

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**Dan Hull, Chairman**  
**Chris Oliver, Executive Director**

**SUBJECT:**

Electronic Monitoring research plan (SSC and Council only)

**ESTIMATED TIME:**

2 hours

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

SSC and Council review EM Cooperative Research Plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Council's Electronic Monitoring (EM) Workgroup met on January 12-13, 2015, in Anchorage. The Workgroup is composed of representatives of the commercial fishing industry, agencies (Council, NMFS regional office, AFSC Observer Program, IPHC, ADFG, PSMFC, NOAA GC, NMFS Enforcement), and observer service providers, with the intent of working cooperatively and collaboratively to design, test, and develop EM systems consistent with the Council's goal to integrate EM into the Observer Program.

At the January meeting, the Workgroup finalized the 2015 Cooperative Research Plan (attached), which includes fieldwork projects for 2015, and analytical projects for 2015 and 2016, working towards achieving the Council's goal of pre-implementation in 2016 of EM for longline vessels under 58 ft that have trouble carrying a human observer. The projects address the following four elements:

- Deployment of EM Systems
  - Operational testing with standard camera
  - Self-reported data elements
- Research and Development of EM Technologies
  - Assess the feasibility of EM data to estimate catch by weight
  - Pot Gear, IFQ setline, IPHC survey
- Integration of Sensor Data with e-logbook
  - Infrastructure to support EM implementation
  - Application development to support EM data integration into the observer database
- Analyses to support EM implementation decision points

The Council has asked the SSC to review the Cooperative Research Plan at the February meeting. The Council will also receive the EM workgroup report from their January meeting, which, in addition to the Research Plan, includes a discussion of budget and funding for the 2015 fieldwork, and planning for the 2016 pre-implementation year in terms of funding and the timing of the decision-making process.

All materials reviewed by the EM Workgroup are available on the Council website,  
[www.npfmc.org/observer-program/](http://www.npfmc.org/observer-program/) <<http://www.npfmc.org/observer-program/>>.