

**Council Motion**  
**Agenda Item D2 -- Electronic Monitoring and Observer Tasking Priorities**  
**February 11, 2018**

The Council recommends the following order of priority for the EM projects:

1. Deck sorting of halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) with EM for compliance monitoring
2. Evaluation of alternative sampling methods for salmon on CGOA Rockfish trawl CVs
3. Full retention on AFA Pollock CVs with EM compliance
4. Full retention on WGOA pollock trawl CVs with EM compliance
5. Implementation of EM on fixed gear catcher vessels <40-ft Length Overall (LOA)

The EM Workgroup should continue to be a forum for EM development and to inform Council decisions and recommendations to NMFS on EM integration. However, to accommodate the prioritized list of EM projects, the focus of the EM Workgroup should shift its primary focus from fixed gear to trawl gear and membership in the EM Workgroup should be reconfigured to ensure representation of the trawl fleet. As a first task, the Council directs the reconstituted EM Workgroup to assess the ways in which EM can meet monitoring objectives for different trawl fisheries.

The Council also requests that NMFS coordinate with the OAC to review aspects of the fixed-gear EM program and incorporate stakeholder input to continue to improve and support the program.

Regarding the list of analytical priorities, the Council supports the prioritization of the observer fee analysis as the first priority for projects in Council review.